



Parish News

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

**March
2020**

A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Hear ye! Hear ye!

I can hear a circus crier calling, inviting the crowds to enter a tent to explore the delights under the big top. There aren't so many circuses anymore... imagine a similar crier inviting us to explore the riches and blessings of Lent, the 40-day season of reflection and renewal that leads to the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at Easter.

This year's theme for our mid-week Hatfield ecumenical worship services is *By Faith*, based on Hebrews 11. See the schedule later in the newsletter.

As has been our custom at Grace for a number of years, during the weeks of Lent, we'll gather a second offering for those who are hungry, both nearby, across the US and around the globe – the offerings are split for local food pantries and for the ELCA's World Hunger appeal, which is used both here in the United States and in many locations internationally.

Historically, the Church has used Lent to prepare candidates for baptism. We'll be exploring baptism and membership with several families at Grace.

These are just three examples of how you might want to use the precious gift of time, these 40 days that the Church sets apart for renewal, reflection and repentance. What do you need this year?

- Is the pace of your life hectic? Do you need

Cont..

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some time set apart? Would planning for 10 minutes or more for quiet or for prayer in the morning or evening help to anchor you?

- Would it be easier for you if you did that with someone else, a family member or friend, either together, or knowing that another was also trying to establish the rhythm? Who might you ask?
- Do you need to be reminded of something larger than your own life? Would you like to be in touch with someone who has a hard time getting out, who could use a friendly call?
- Do you need something to DO?

If you'd like support with any of these ideas, or any others, ask!

There is not one way to observe Lent but can be a deeply enriching time when we take the opportunity to observe it. I invite you to consider how you might like to use this sacred time this year. You're invited!

Pastor Janet S. Peterman

Laurel House Thank YOU

The Giving in Service Team would like to thank the congregation for supporting our Laurel House project. Your gifts not only provide those items that are most needed by the women and children cared for by the Laurel House staff but also share the love and concern of others for them. Special thanks to Laura Slugg for delivering our gifts to Laurel House.



INreach Sponsored Events this Spring!

Keep an eye out in upcoming newsletters and bulletins for more details about some exciting events this spring!

- ♦ Mother's Day dinner – May 14th...Bruce Schmidt has planning well in the works and we can anticipate another delicious meal and wonderful evening of fellowship!
- ♦ Spring Fling Yard sale – May 16th...clean out your closets and get ready for a fun morning of selling your treasures at our 3rd annual yard sale!

Council Corner

In January, Council spent the majority of their time preparing for our Annual Meeting. We were excited that such a large group of our members came to hear what we have done in 2019 and our plans for 2020. It also was time to honor Joyce Salter, Harold Shaffer and Dan and Wendy Walter for the time that they dedicated to Grace.

As I am writing this, we have not had our February meeting. This meeting will be super exciting because we will move to appoint our Call Committee. That means we are another step closer to calling a new Pastor and moving forward on our mission for Grace. The Call Committee, will consist of a member of Council, a member from the Transition Team and 4 congregational members. It is a significant commitment for the summer but the end goal is a new Pastor for the fall!

In addition to Council business, at each meeting we begin our with our mission statement and then a devotion. Each Council member takes a turn on sharing a prayer, a passage or personal experience that is meaning to them. This month it is my turn and i wanted to share with you a passage from "Word in Season" that I felt was speaking to us at Grace.

"After the water subsided, God offered a promise, a covenant, to never unleash destruction of this capacity again. God gave a rainbow to Noah and to all God's people. For us today we may not experience the magnitude of loss and destruction of Noah, but we weather plenty of storms in our lives, loss of income, loss of friends and family, or loss of a dream. In each of our losses and sorrows, God's promise to Noah is our promise: I am with you. I am walking beside you, Look to the sky, see the rainbow and my array of colors, trust that new life will emerge form the storm."

I hope that you too trust in God for us to emerge stronger from this.

Peggy Schmidt , Council President

YOGA (Hatha) **CLASS**, 6:30pm-7:30pm in Fellowship Hall. All-levels. \$5 per class. Questions contact Kathy Stawasz. Next session for Yoga will start on 4/1/20 thru 5/20/20 and then off for the summer.



In Our Prayers:

John Fischer, Bob Kaler, Marilyn Homan, Wendy Amparano, Suzanne Colville, Pam Matolicz, Paige Haldeman, Nancy Sellers, Laura Cooper, Liz Bauer, Beth Brown, Xavier Jackson, Gerry Maso, Joe Hopkins, Doug Boldon, Carol Buffone, Cassi Lambert, Kristopher Yoder, Annette Beyer, Dorene Bobb, Keira Drissel, Cindy Kunkel, Mandie and Emmett, Ron and Karen Hudson, Lisa Kane, Andy Armstrong (Friend of the MacDonald's), Diane Graham, Miller(Friend of the Walter Family), Cindy Mancuso, Anne Lewis, Joyce Salter, Jim Pluda, John and Bonnie Stangl, Ken Seiler, Sr (Ken's dad), Terry Stringfellow, friend of Dale and Mary Jane Moyer

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; Marilyn Homan; Barbara Masser (Ray's wife); Joan Lattanze; Family of Samuel Barndt, cousin of Andrea Roney

For all who serve other, including those in active duty, deployed oversee and their families:

Matthew Smyrl; Jessica Murphy (Joan Amundsen's granddaughter-in-law and Liana Murphy's aunt.) Robert McNulty (Active duty in the Marines, basic training)

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.

Minister of Music

During Advent, the scriptures we hear and the music we sing, stir up the anticipation leading to joyous celebration of Jesus' birth. Christmas can perhaps be reflective for some families as it may be a time to remember loved ones who passed on to be with God during a holiday season. That bitter sweet thought can draw our hearts to a place where music seems overwhelming to our spirits. If you're someone who relates to that experience you're not alone. I share my thought with you because through music, during the Lenten and Easter season, music has a long history of comforting our spirits. So much beautiful music and their texts remind us of God's love for us. I'm sure you know the words, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son". I can't speak for you, but I can give to you my certain and most hopeful wish that you will find music at Grace during lent and Easter to take us on a journey to find a moment to reflect.

Through traditional old hymns like The Old Rugged Cross, In the Garden, and many others, some with a more contemporary setting and I hope you find yourself blessed with peaceful assurance of God's love. I'd like to introduce the use of music refrains, which by their short and simple nature, allow contemplation on your own level of participation and reflection.

I'm planning to include music from our hymnal sung by the Taize Community in Europe and America. This group of Christians go back to the early 1940s where both Catholics and Protestants from over 30 regions throughout the world came together to form a contemplative community using music as a means to quiet their mind and spirit by short, repeated refrains and texts from holy scripture.

If you have a hymn or song that you'd love to hear or sing during lent, please share that thought with me and I will provide a way to include it in either my keyboard or singing leadership.

Prayerfully, Kevin Freaney



WELCA will meet Wednesday, March 4th at 10am at Grace for a Bible Study, prepare Easter Cards for shut-ins and enjoy a brown bag lunch. Dessert will be provided. Come and join us with your brown bag and Easter card!

March Serving Schedule

| Mar | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Communion Assist -1st | Karen Seiler | Anna Walter | Ken Seiler | Andrea Roney | Karen Seiler |
| Lector - 1st Service | Mickey Koffel | Karen Seiler | Dave Kunkel | Peggy Schmidt | Andrea Roney |
| Acolyte - 1st Service | Ken Seiler | Walter Family | Bob Smyrl | Dave Kunkel | Bob Smyrl |
| Ushers -1st Service | Ken Seiler & Bob Smyrl | Walter Family | Dave Kunkel & Bob Smyrl | Peggy & Bruce Schmidt | Ken Seiler & Bob Smyrl |
| Greeters - 1st Service | Peggy Schmidt | Ken & Karen Seiler | June Detweiler | Dan & Wendy Walter | Peggy Schmidt |
| Altar Guild - 1st Service | Wendy Walter | Wendy Walter | Wendy Walter | Wendy Walter | Wendy Walter |
| Comm. Assist- 2nd | Frank Stone | NA | NA | Bob Reilly | NA |
| Lector - 2nd Service | Frank Stone | Laura Slugg | Jean Shaffer | Joyce Salter | Richard Badman |
| Acolyte - 2nd Service | Olivia Stone | Olivia Stone | Seth Hercolini | Micah Slugg | Kaler Family |
| Ushers -2nd Service | Harold Schaefer & Kathy Stawasz | Carol & Paul MacDonald | John & Bonnie Stangl | Kaler Family | Harold Schaefer & Rich Woltmann |
| Greeters - 2nd Service | Kay Deussing | Liz Bauer | Crystal Tula | Karen Heacock | Kay Stone |
| Altar Guild - 2nd Service | Lori Pluda | NA | NA | Lori Pluda | NA |
| Flower Delivery | Lori Pluda | MC Reilly | Kathy Stawasz | Kay & Frank Stone | Jeff & Beth Krout |
| Nursery | Jeff & Beth Krout | Kerry & Lindsay Stone | Jaime Kaler & Crystal Tula | Kay Stone & Kathy Stawasz | Slugg Family |
| Council Duties: | | 8am 10:30am | Laura Kratz Rich Woltman | | |

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.

Sun Mar 1, 2020

Regular Worship Schedule

Tue Mar 3, 2020

7:00pm Stitches

Wed Mar 4, 2020

10:00am WELCA

6:30pm Yoga

7:30pm Community Lenten Service @EEC

Thu Mar 5, 2020

6:30pm Cub Pack 510

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun Mar 8, 2020

Regular Worship Schedule

2:30pm Telford Lutheran Community Service

Mon Mar 9, 2020

7:30pm Christian Connections

Tue Mar 10, 2020

7:15pm Worship and Music

Wed Mar 11, 2020

6:30pm Yoga

7:30pm Community Lenten Service @ Heidelberg UCC

Thu Mar 12, 2020

6:30pm Cub Pack 510

7:15pm Communication Team Meeting

Sun Mar 15, 2020

Regular Worship Schedule - Parish News Items Due

Tue Mar 17, 2020

7:00pm Council

Wed Mar 18, 2020

6:30pm YOGA

7:00pm Community Lenten Service @Grace

Thu Mar 19, 2020

6:30pm Cub Pack 510

7:30pm Property Committee

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Sun Mar 22, 2020

Regular Worship Schedule

Wed Mar 25, 2020

6:30pm Yoga

7:30pm Community Lenten Service @ Church of the Brethren

Thu Mar 26, 2020

6:30pm Cub Pack 510

Fri Mar 27, 2020

5:00pm Stitches setup

6:30pm Cub Pack 510

Sat Mar 28, 2020

8:00am Stitch-In

Sun Mar 29, 2020

Regular Worship Schedule - fill eggs for egg hunt

9:30 am Mini-Seder for Sunday School



EASTER LILIES 2020



Orders for Easter Lilies are now being taken. The flowers will be used for the Easter Services. The DEADLINE for ordering is Sunday, 3/29/2020.

You may pick up your plant after the 10:30 am Easter Sunday Service. The plants will be tagged with your name and in memory or in honor of information. Regrettably, we are not able to deliver the Lilies to friends or shut-ins.

Please place your order form along with your check in the basket marked for Easter Flowers in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Stawasz 215-760-6297. Thank you.

| | Quantity | Total Cost |
|------------------------------------|----------|------------|
| Lilies - \$9.50/7" pot, 4-5 blooms | _____ | \$ _____ |

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

☐ **Check here if you will NOT be taking your Lilly home with you.**

Ordered by: _____

Phone No. _____

Make checks payable to: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church



By Faith

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1

The ecumenical pastors of Hatfield will be working with Hebrews 11 and some of the examples of faith in that chapter for our Lenten reflection this Lenten season. You are invited to the series, or to whatever services you are able to attend. All services are on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.

| Date | Host | Preacher | Example of Faith |
|--------|---|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mar 4 | Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church (EEC) 100 S. Main St | Rev. Robert Tufton | The Faith of Noah |
| Mar 11 | Heidelberg UCC 1101 Cowpath Road | Pr. Glenn Lambert | The Faith of Abraham |
| Mar 18 | Grace Hosts (refreshments, ushers, greeters, singers needed!) Right here! | Deacon Peter Niche | The Faith of Moses |
| Mar 25 | Church of the Brethren 1333 Cowpath Road | Pr. Janet Peterman | The Faith of Rahab |
| Apr 1 | Saint Maria Goretti Catholic Church 1601 Derstine Road | Rev. Clay Moyer | Jesus, the Perfecter of our Faith |

Our newly installed 2020 Church Council Members

Peggy Schmidt - President
Bob Smyrl - VP
Jaime Snyder - Secretary
Tami Sarm - Treasurer
Janet Peterman - Interim Pastor

Joyce Salter; Rich Woltman; Kay Deussing; Carol MacDonald;
Laura Kratz; Joanne Moyer; Jean Shaffer; Jeff Krout; Dan Walter

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**.

The **Hatfield Food Cupboard** provides food to people in the Hatfield who are in need of food. Shoppers at the Food Cupboard may pick out the foods they need for their family. Our church members donate food to the Hatfield Food Cupboard continually throughout the year.

Manna provides meals for the homeless and those in need. They provide a free 12-week training program in culinary, life and work skills helping individuals regain economic stability. As of 2/3/20, Manna began providing meals for Montco SAAC's daily group meals and Meals On Wheels programs in Norristown, Glenside and Ambler. Manna is receiving support from Generations of Indian Valley--provider of Meals on Wheels to Indian Valley and North Penn regions. Through this contract, Manna is serving meals to over 600 Montgomery County seniors.

Through World Hunger your gifts can help people in need around the globe.

ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.



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*





Office Phone: 215-855-4676

Church Office: :

graceassistant40@gmail.com

Pastor Janet Peterman, Interim

Cell: 215-327-8727

pastorgracehatfield@gmail.com

Stepping Stones(215-369-2052)

Jessica Moran, Director

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

Important Dates

Mar 4

Mar 28

Community Lenten Services start
Stitch-In



See More Important Details Inside

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