

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

40 N. Main Street, Hatfield, PA 19440-2905
Telephone: 215-855-4676
The Rev. Janet S. Peterman, Interim Pastor
Kevin Freaney, Minister of Music
Website: www.gracelutheranhatfield.org Email:
graceassistant40@gmail.com
Our Mission: To Glorify God, To Grow in Faith, To
Give in Service, Together in Christ

Dear Friends at Grace,

As I note in my pastoral letter inside, within days, we will enter the holiest week of the Christian calendar. As we send this *Parish News* to you, we don't know if any of the dates and events contained in these pages – whether for Holy Week or even for any of the events in May – will be relevant or possible. But instead of changing dates without knowing what is possible, or not sending you any word, we have decided to send you this piece of ourselves with the hope that at some point in the not too distant future we will be able to gather again in person.

March 23, 2020

In the meantime, we are preparing worship services to be able to be accessed online from any web browser, from any phone, tablet or computer, beginning this Sunday, March 29th, for all the services of Holy Week, for every Sunday following, until we are able to be back together in person.

Here's how you can access the services:

- 1. Go to www.YouTube.com
- 2. In the Search bar, put Grace Hatfield Services.
- 3. You'll find a list there by date and Church day of all the services available. Click in the service you'd like to view and enjoy! Share with your neighbors and friends.

Please let us know if you have energy you'd like to share, if you have need of something, and we'll do our best to try to connect people together across the restrictions the best we can. Reach out to me on my cell for pastoral needs or emergencies. May God give us strength and all we need for the facing of this hour!

Jours in auts. Peterns



Parish News

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

> **April** 2020

Inside this issue:

| Pastor's Letter | 1 |
|--|----|
| Pastor's Letter cont.; Prayer Line | 2 |
| Council Corner; | 3 |
| Prayers | 4 |
| Minister of Music;; WELCA | 5 |
| April Serving Schedule | 6 |
| April Calendar | 7 |
| Spring Fling Mkt | 8 |
| Lenten Services; Mother's Day | 9 |
| Rice Bowl; | 10 |
| Bear Creek Camp; Cards for Caring; Yo- ga | 11 |
| Stepping Stones; Bear Creek Lit Bas- ket | 12 |
| VBS | 13 |
| Good Fri Serv- ers; INreach | 14 |
| Mother's Day Carnations Form | 15 |
| | |

A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Friends at Grace,

We live in such uncertain times!

A virus, invisible to the eye, is causing such fear and anxiety among us. Yet we are a people of hope, charged with the care of our neighbor, upheld in even the most difficult circumstances by the hand of Almighty God.

I pray that this newsletter finds you well.

Days after you receive this newsletter, we will be entering the holiest of weeks on the Christian calendar. We walk with Jesus from the triumph of entering Jerusalem to cries of Hosanna, remember again the horror of his betrayal, trial and death, then arrive at the glorious surprise of Easter. We invite you to walk this journey with us:

- * Saturday, April 4th, 2 pm **Egg Hunt** for children: story, crafts and lots of eggs!

 * Sunday, April 5th, **Palm/Passion Sunday**, Holy
- Communion 8 and 10:30 am
- Thursday, April 9th, noon and 7:30 pm: **Maundy Thursday**: The Remembrance of the Last Supper, a celebration of Holy Communion; a stripping of the altar (evening only)
- Friday, April 10th, noon and 7:30 pm: **Good Friday Tenebrae**: From Light to Darkness: Readings; Song; Meditations as we ponder the crucifixion
- Sunday, April 12th, Easter Sunday, Holy Communion 8 and 10:30 am

We'll be baptizing in the early Sundays of Easter; preparation is going on now with families. New members will also be received as soon as we are able to hold a gathering to prepare. Speak with me if the time is right for you or a family member.

Cont..

Page 2 Pastor's Letter Continued; Prayer Line

We live in such uncertain times, but we stand on the foundation of the Rock that does not move. We are held in God's almighty hands, who made the heavens and the earth. May God keep bless you and keep you this day and always.

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

Responding to Our Inability to Be Together in Person, Grace Opens Prayer Line, Every Evening at 6:45 pm

(note change of time from original announcement) Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10

When the news is changing daily, sometimes hourly, sometimes we need a deep breath, or the voice of someone familiar, or someone to help us pray.

We invite you to join us in prayer!

Each night at 6:45 we have an open (free) conference call line that we can use, that we've been using since Monday, March 16th, to pray together. We've been taking turns leading the prayer, it's simple, not too long: We check in with each other; there's a brief reading; then we pray. Would you like to join us?

At 7 pm, we found that some got only a busy signal. So many demands on the internet and our communal online "spaces." We've been advised that an "off-hour" time will probably work better If you find that you can't get in for a couple of evenings in a row, please let one of us know.

Here's how to Dial-a-Prayer: at 6:45, call: 515-604-9737 (If you're calling from a landline, you'll have to dial 1 first) When asked for an access code, use this: 306-742

May the presence of Christ and the love of your church family sustain you through this challenging time.

Pastor Janet Peterman and members of INreach

Council Corner

At our January Council meeting, we began our preparations for selecting a Call Committee, the next step in the process of calling a new Pastor. The process, much like the selection of the Transition Team, takes a lot of thought as we hope to select members that represent Grace as a whole. While it will require significant work over the summer, the end result will be a new Pastor to lead us in the fall.

As I am writing this, once again another unexpected challenge, has provided us with a bump in the road. Last week, Council, Pastor and I had to make the difficult decision to cancel services for March 15th and 22nd and the Lenten service to be hosted by Grace on March 18th. In addition all committee meetings and activities were canceled through March 27th. That means the March Council meeting and the special Council meeting to review and discuss the materials from the discussions on homosexuality had to be postponed. It will push our process back again, but hopefully not by too much. But the health of our members and the greater community at large is too important to risk.

So at this time, on behalf of Council, I asked that you stay informed through our Facebook page or website. We will try to stay in touch by email or phone calls, but if you have any immediate needs or concerns, please call me at 215-687-6511.

We are going to try to do the best we can during these uncharted waters. Stay safe and God bless.

Peggy Schmidt Council President

Food for thought:

Ideas are a dime a dozen; people who put them into action are priceless

Diamonds are only little lumps of coal that stuck to their job.

If you haven't been getting Grace Notes through email, please give the office a call and give us your email address (if you have one)

Page 4 Prayers

In Our Prayers:

John Fischer, Bob Kaler, 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, Hazel Mascaro, Bob Yoder, RJ Bernheiser



In Thanksgiving:

With Bob Yoder for his successful neck surgery this past week.

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; Marilynn Homan; Barbara Masser (Ray's wife); Joan Lattanze; 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; WELCA

Minister of Music

Lent, Holy Week and Easter... and along comes a virus! There is good reason to feel out of sorts and I can say without a doubt that most, if not all of us, are thinking what will this year's Easter be like if we are unable to gather to sing the songs that we hear in our hearts at Easter.

It is indeed upsetting and perhaps confusing as our plans ride a wave of challenges that we have to take one day at a time. Musically, this time gives me pause thinking how important it can be to recall the good things happening. This time has some music building blocks around it as there are "rests" or moments of silence in life and in all music. In those moments the most amazing things happen. Anticipation, energy, echos, breathing, being ready to continue onward and find resolution. A concerto or sonata are written with various movements; some slow, fast, soft or loud. All of these "movements" or sections make up a large, complete piece of music. It allows time to reflect on what we just heard and what is approaching. The journey moves forward to make sense of the much larger picture, if you will.

I am feeling the pause, the rest, a break in between what will ultimately bring us together to pick up where we left off. I ask the choir and all of us who think about music at Easter to know that music shall not end but be stronger as we endure and find celebration in our hearts knowing the Lord will rise again and the trumpet shall sound and the Glory of God be among us.

Look forward to hearing more about the upcoming weeks from Pastor Peterman and our church council as we take time in this rest to come together in prayer, the Word, music, and every blessing you find each day. I know your hearts and prayers for each other mean a lot to the Grace Church family. Be strong, be healthy and wait for the Lord. "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, what God has ready for those who love him" Have a look on youtube.com and listen to "Eye has not Seen" by Marty Haugen. This song is based on 1st Corinthians 2:9

Peace to you, Kevin

WELCA plans to meet Wednesday, April 1st at 10am at Grace for a Bible Study and to prepare Easter Cards for shut-ins and military. We will go out for a Dutch Treat lunch. Come and join us!!

Page 6

April Serving Schedule

| Apr | 5 (Palm Sunday) | 9 (Maundy Thurs) | 12 (Easter) | 19 | 26 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Communion Assist -1st | Anna Walter | Joanne Moyer | Dave Kunkel | Karen Seiler | Joanne Moyer |
| Lector - 1st Service | Bruce Schmidt | Lori Pluda | Bruce Schmidt | Mickey Koffel | Karen Seiler |
| Acolyte - 1st Service | Anna Walter | Lori Pluda | Bruce Schmidt | Ken Seiler | Lori Pluda |
| Ushers -1st Service | Walter Family | Kitty Heckler & Lori Pluda | Peg & Bruce Schmidt | Ken Seiler & Bob Smyrl | Walter Family |
| Greeters - 1st Service | Janice Swartz | Kitty Heckler | Kitty Heckler | Dan & Wen- dy Walter | June Detweiler |
| Altar Guild - 1st Service | Diane Ball | TBD | Diane Ball | Diane Ball | Diane Ball |
| Comm. Assist- 2nd | Jaime Kaler | Frank Stone | Joyce Salter | NA | Bob Reilly |
| Lector - 2nd Service | Richard Bad- man | Betty Murray | Richard Badman | Frank Stone II | Micah Slugg |
| Acolyte - 2nd Service | Micah Slugg & K. Stawasz | Kay & Frank Stone | Olivia & Sammy Stone | Jayson Tula & Wyeth Slugg | Kaler Family |
| Ushers -2nd Service | John & Bon- nie Stangl | Kay Stone & K. Stawasz | Jeff Krout & Matt Slugg | Carol & Paul MacDonald | Kaler Family |
| Greeters - 2nd Service | A Roney & B Watts | Kay Deussing | Tami & Dan Sarm | Kay Deussing | Karen Heacock |
| Altar Guild - 2nd Service | Kay Stone & Tami Sarm | K Stone, MJ Moyer, E. Woltmann | Kay Stone & Tami Sarm | NA | Kay Stone & Tami Sarm |
| Flower Delivery | Carol MacDonald | NA | Harold Schaefer | Lori Pluda | MC Reilly |
| Nursery | Jeff & Beth Krout | NA | NA | Kay Stone & Kathy Stawasz | Jaime Kaler & Crystal Tula |

Council Duties: 8:00am Bob Smyrl

10:30am Kay Deussing

Note: Servers for Good Friday are on another page of this newsletter

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.

| 10:00am 6:30pm | WELCA Yoga Community Lenten Service @ Saint Maria Goretti |
|-------------------|---|
| 6:30pm | Cub Pack 510 Choir Rehearsal |
| 2:00pm | Easter Egg Hunt |
| • | Worship Schedule—Palm Sunday |
| 6:30pm | |
| 7:00pm | • |
| 12:00pm | |
| • | Cub Pack 510 |
| • | |
| 7:30pm | Good Friday Worship |
| _ | Norship Schedule—Happy Easter |
| • | |
| • | |
| • | Property Team Meeting Yoga |
| • | Cub Pack 510 |
| 7:00pm | Choir Rehearsal |
| Regular \ | Norship Schedule - Parish News Items Due |
| 6:00pm | Cub Pack 510 |
| • | Council Meeting |
| • | Yoga |
| o.supiii | Cub Pack 510 |
| _ | Norship Schedule |
| อ.บบpm | Cub Pack 510 |
| 6:30pm | Yoga |
| | 6:30pm 7:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 2:00pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 6:30pm 7:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm |

All dates above subject to change depending on the COVID-19 situation

Page 8 Spring Fling Flea Market

Since many of us will be homebound, -it might be a perfect time to clean out those closets, attics and basements and participate in Grace's Spring Fling Flea Market on May 16th.



Grace's Spring Fling Flea Market May 16th 8 am to 12 noon Set Up Begins at 7 am

Vendors Wanted! The Market will be held in Grace's Parking Lot across the street from the Hatfield Post Office. Spaces are \$10.00 for a 10 X 10 outdoor space. Please bring your own tables and chairs. In the event of inclement weather the sale will be moved indoors. A bake sale and refreshments will be available.

Once your reservation is confirmed, you will receive a designated spot, an arrival and set up time. You are responsible for removing all unsold items and any trash that you have accumulated that day.

To reserve your spot please call 215-855-4676. Then complete and detach the bottom portion of this form and return it with your payment to: Grace Lutheran Church, 40 N. Main St. Hatfield, PA 19440. Checks should be made payable to "Grace Lutheran Church". For more information call 215-855-4676 or email Graceassistant40@gmail.com

| Name: | |
|----------------------|--|
| Address: | |
| Email Address: | |
| Phone #: | |
| # of Spaces Desired: | |

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 last service of the series on Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

Date Host Preacher Example of Faith

Apr 1 Saint Maria Goretti Catholic Rev. Clay Moyer Church

1601 Derstine Road

Church

1601 Derstine Road

Remember that the Sunday services are available on the Grace website on the audio/video page.



Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10th

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 Laurel House, a local women's shelter for those who are victims of domestic violence. Laurel House is a Montgomery County organization that works to end domestic violence and provide housing and education for the victims of domestic violence. Our gifts to this agency 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 3rd.

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.

Rice Bowl Project continues through Palm Sunday, April 5th

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 the following organizations:

The **Hatfield Food Cupboard** located at Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church provides food to all residents in the Hatfield Borough and Hatfield Township. The Food Cupboard offers staple non-perishable food, baked goods, produce, frozen meat, basic paper and laundry products as well as basic personal care products, when available. When supplies run low, the Food Cupboard may need to purchase items to fill the needs of our local families. Our Rice Bowl gifts help to supplement these items.

Manna on Main Street in Lansdale provides meals for the homeless and those in need. They provide a free 12-week training program in culinary arts, life and work skills helping individuals regain economic stability. As of February 2020, Manna began providing the Montgomery County Senior Adult Activities Center 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.

Your gifts to World Hunger can help reach communities most in need throughout the world. Working through ELCA congregations and our global companion churches, the ELCA reaches more places effectively than we could ever do alone. In addition to funding relief and development projects, the ELCA helps change systems that perpetuate poverty. They are 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.

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**.



Bear Creek Camp is all about teaching kids about God's love through experiencing nature, and learning how to work together as a group accepting and affirming all people, flaws and all. Tell you friends and neighbors about this amazing place.

Questions? Contact Laura Slugg.

"Cards for Caring" How many times have you heard announcements in church of a members' illness or death in family and thought "gee, I really should get a card out soon", knowing that you have to go to the store to buy one and then find the address, and before you realize it, time has zipped by. Well, now you are invited to check out the Maroon colored box in the Conference Room that is designated "CARDS FOR CARING"—THINKING OF YOU, GET WELL AND SYMPATHY. Simply open the box, pull out a labeled zip lock bag and select a card as you see fit. There is a yellow folder that has all the addresses and some pens. In the calmness and privacy, collect your thoughts, say a prayer, then take it home and mail it. Sounds simple enough and you will be glad that you took the time to Care with a Card!!



YOGA (Hatha) CLASS Back by Popular Demand

Every Wednesday, April 1, 2020 – May 20, 2020 from 6:30-7:30 pm.

All-levels. Poses and sequences will work on using all parts of the body, and will vary from week to week. This will be suitable for those with some yoga experience but also for anyone with little to none, as options will be offered for the 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

COST: \$5/class (Make checks payable to: Grace Lutheran Church)

WHO: Ages 18 and up

What is needed: exercise mat (let me know if you need one) Invite a friend or family member (Men too) everyone is welcome.

Contact Kathy Stawasz if interested

Page 12 Stepping Stones; Bear Creek Lit Basket

Stepping Stones Report

Spring has sprung! What beautiful weather we've been experiencing this last month; the children were so happy to get outside in the sunshine! We enjoyed a month with many visitors in March. From local authors to the Hatfield Police Department joining us for cookies as well as a visit from the leprechaun! We can't wait until April for the Trike-a-thon, Bike decorating contest, picture day, and to plant our garden! We can't wait! Sincerely,



Date: April 18, 2020

Jessica Moran Director

Bear Creek Camp Gala Literature Basket

bearcreekcamp.org/gala

Anyone who loves Bear Creek Camp is welcome to attend the Gala! This year all monies raised will support the Campership Fund which makes sure that no child is turned away from God's love because their family can't afford it. Highlights of the evening included hearing about the love of camp from staff members and the board of directors, exciting live auction bidding wars for floor seats at a Billy Joel concert and beautiful professional photography of camp, dancing the evening away to great music provided by a DJ.

Literature Raffle Basket – If you can't attend but would still like to support this awesome place, please bring in a new copy of your favorite book of the year, or other literature related items. If someone would be able to donate a basket as well it would be wonderful. Items due by April 10th.

Questions: Contact Laura Slugg



VBS Page 13



2020 Hatfield Community VBS

July 19th – July 23th

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

Hosted by: GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 40 N. Main Street, Hatfield PA 19440 (215) 855-4676

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.

Page 14 Good Fri. Servers; INreach

Good Friday Servers:

Noon 7:30pm

Lectors: Lori Pluda Frank Stone Acolyte: Lori Pluda Dave Kunkel

Ushers: Kitty Heckler & Lori Pluda Kay Stone & Kay Deussing

Greeters: Dan & Wendy Walter Tami Sarm

INreach Information and Updates

As I write this, the world is reeling from concerns surrounding the Corona Virus Outbreak. With the assumption that life is still disjointed as of the printing of the newsletter, we hope all of you are taking the necessary precautions in order to continue to stay safe. Please know that you and your health and well being are very important to us. PLEASE reach out if there is anything we can help you with during this difficult time. As always, the INreach team, as well as a wonderful group of volunteers from Grace, are here to offer you support. We are happy to get a bit more creative in how we accomplish that in order to keep members and volunteers safe in our present environment.

We will continue to plan towards some fun upcoming activities. 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!

Grace and Peace to you from the INreach Team: Kay Deussing, Kitty Heckler, Pastor Peterman, Lori Pluda, Tami Sarm, Bruce Schmidt, Peggy Schmidt, Kay Stone, Sue Weiland, Emily Woltmann, Fay Younger, & Carol MacDonald



YOUR NAME

Mother's Day Carnations Single Stem Carnations \$2.50 each Orders due Sunday, May 3rd

Please place orders in the offering plate or the basket in the narthex

| White Carnations (in memory of): | Number ordered | _ x | \$2.50 = | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------|------------|-----------------------|---|
| Pink Carnations (in honor of): | Number ordered | | | | |
| Checks should be | e made out to Grace L | | | ashcl | |
| Flowers may be | e taken home after ei | ther s | service oi | n May 10 ^t | h |
| PLEASE FILL IN: In memory of: | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| In honor of: | | | | _ | |
| | | | | | _ |
| | fit the women and ch | | | | |



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@ verizon.net

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

Important Dates

Apr 4 Easter Egg Hunt
Apr 5 Palm Sunday
Apr 9 Maundy Thursday Worship
Apr 10 Good Friday Worship
Apr 12 Easter Worship



See a Special Letter & Important Details Inside