



# Parish News

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

**April  
 2021**

## A Letter from the Pastor

*So those who welcomed [Peter's] message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 10:41-42*



Dear Grace Family,  
 Last gardening season, the soil was cold and damp long into the spring. It wasn't a good year for my peas. But the thrill of watching the seeds erupt from the soil never fails to take my breath away. We get to begin again!

I feel the same kind of awe watching growth begin to take hold in Grace again after years of not growing. How shall we further that work, encourage it along, not crush tender seedlings under foot?

We now know with the benefit of hindsight, of even just a few years' perspective: Leaders who worked on the insurance settlement after the fire, and the building re-design joining the 2 buildings, did an exceedingly good job in planning for Grace's future: We thank them, and we thank God for them!

When Grace returned to its building after the fire, leaders planned exceedingly well in making these wondrous spaces open to the community and to the congregation, both. These  
 Cont.

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decisions have placed us in exactly the right position for growth, for many already interact with Grace, count on Grace, know Grace and its ministries. We thank them, and we thank God for them!

The Transition Team first isolated the goal of developing relationships with the groups and people in and around Grace to invite them into the wider ministries of the congregation, including worship. Council adopted the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) with that as the primary goal of the next pastoral tenure, meaning that the call committee would interview looking for a pastor to work with Grace on implementing it as the primary goal. When we say, "groups and people," we mean Stepping Stones, scouts, stitchers, warming center, yoga, sandwich makers, people who come for drive-by events, and others. This is a Grace-wide goal, so individuals and groups within Grace can all find themselves a place within it!

A New Team is helping to coordinate ways that people in these groups can intermingle with people already at Grace in ongoing events, activities, can find support and be drawn into teaching about the faith. This ministry is new, so there is space for many to be involved.

Studies about growth in congregations show that vitality in relationships is essential, that new people need ways to connect, find places to grow in faith, appreciate intergenerational events, be active in serving others: these are all things that Grace does well.

Growth comes with no guarantees, but it does come with a promise from Jesus, "I will be with you" through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Yes, it's true, many churches are not doing well in this era, but Grace has started to grow again. The growth is now rooting itself into the life and body of this congregation. How would you like to nurture it along?

A blessed Easter to you and your loved ones.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Janet S. Peterman  
Interim Pastor



## Worship Schedule for HOLY WEEK:

April 1 @ 7:30 pm **Maundy Thursday Service**  
with Communion and Stripping the Altar

April 2 @ 7:30 pm **Good Friday Service**

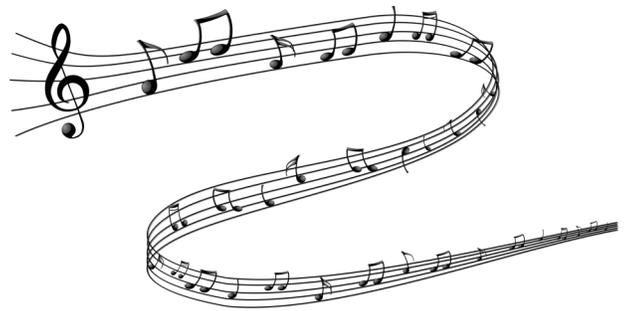
April 4 **EASTER Sunday TWO services**  
8am and 10:30 am Communion Services

**Music Ministry Notes...** We have many musical offerings for worship Holy Week. There is mix of live and virtual music prepared with much care by our regular musicians and members of Grace. God's loving care for our hearts and minds will be ever present in the music you will hear. To highlight many of the featured musicians we have: Frank Stone sang a new solo on Palm Sunday. Harold Schaeffer playing guitar and Will Shaffer playing trumpet and singing. Our choir singing anthems and handbells playing on the Gathering Easter Hymn along with choir, organ and trumpet. Kevin has prepared a festive postlude for Easter Sunday, too! If you have to miss being at church during Holy Week, you will be able view these services online after they have been recorded and posted.

### Minister of Music

Hello Grace members,

*The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
The victory of life is won;  
The song of triumph has begun:  
Alleluia!*



Easter Alleluias will surround us on Easter Day and the days and weeks following. Familiar musical themes and words accompany the joy of Easter and ring out and sing! I want to thank all of our choir members and fellow members of the church who helped our music ministry make a wonderfully collaborative experience, once again, during COVID19.

I found a simple song, whose verse made me smile so I'll share with you ...  
Kevin

*"A song is a wonderful kind of thing, So lift up your voice and sing! Just start a glad song, let it float, let it ring, And lift up your voice and sing! We shall make music to brighten the day; Music will help us to lighten the way. Lift up your voice! Lift up your voice!  
Lift up your voice and sing!"*

(Lift up your voice and sing.

Words and music: Richard C. Berg, b. 1911. © 1963 by D. C. Heath and Company.)

***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 Mason, 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), Joyce Salter, Jim Pluda, Terry Stringfellow, (friend of Dale and Mary Jane Moyer), Hazel Mascaro, Ruthann Rex (Kathy Stawasz' mom), Jeanine Marie Cabrera (Jean Shaffer's daughter), Rich Woltmann, Shirley and Bob Yoder, Peggy Long, Ashley Plawa Reiss, Robyn Gibson (Phyllis McKeefrey's stepdaughter), Judith Stangl (John's sister), Lorraine Snyder, Julie Savitz, Vickie West, Marilyn Forst, Bob Rufe (Mary Jane Moyer's brother), Terri Markowski, Loretta Seiler, Bailey Vinson (Liz Bauer's great-granddaughter), Sandy Klinger, Chuck & Linda Arkins (H3C friends), Helen Godshall, Dale & Mary Jane Moyer

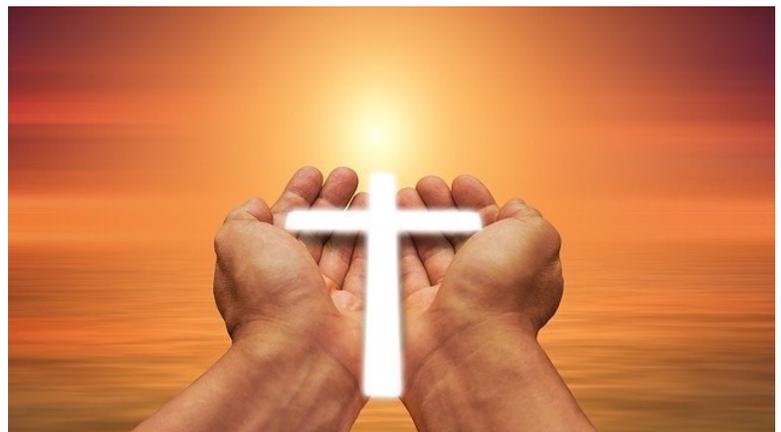
***For All Who Grieve, including: The family and friends of*** Bob Darde; Marilyn Homan; Barbara Masser (Ray's wife); Karen Weirbach; Diane Graham Miller; Al Godshall, William Hardnock, Margaret Ann Berman (MJ Moyer's family), Carol Capanear, Jim Markowski, Scott Ball, Joan Amundsen, Marge Walmsley (Bruce Schmidt's cousin), Ken Seiler, Sr (Ken's dad)

***Lost to Covid:*** John Cisler (Rich Woltmann's cousin)

***For those in active duty military service:*** Robert McNulty, Marines, basic training; Jessica Murphy, Air Force; Matthew Smyrl, Army; Nathaniel Smyrl, PA Army National Guard

***For active military deployed overseas:*** Kyle Murphy, Air Force

For our prayers supporting the ***grieving*** among us, we hold the names of loved ones for 3 months together publicly.





## Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>

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 in the narthex for order forms.

**Orders are due by Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**An order form is also included in this newsletter.** Please put your order in an envelope marked Mother's Day Carnations. Place in the offering basket or the basket in the narthex. Orders may also be mailed to the church office or placed in the mailbox outside the main entrance to Grace OR email Kay Stone

## Rice Bowl 2021

The *Giving in Service Team* would like to thank the congregation for supporting our **Rice Bowl project** during the Lenten Season.



Our 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 our neighbors in our communities and also those around the globe. As of Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> our Rice Bowl gifts totaled \$1386.

*Gifts to the Rice Bowl may be given at any time.*



Mother's Day Carnations  
Single Stem Carnations  
\$2.50 each  
Orders due Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Forms may be placed in the offering basket or display basket, mailed to Grace Church or placed in the mailbox outside the main entrance of Grace.

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 the worship service on May 9<sup>th</sup>***

PLEASE FILL IN:

In **memory** of: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

In **honor** of: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_

**Proceeds benefit the women and children of Laurel House**

The Central Philadelphia (Korean) Church will be worshipping in the Wagner House on Sundays at 11:00 am following CDC best practices.

Tues. are Bread Drop Sandwich Days. The coolers will be out 8am-7pm.

Scouts meet each Thursday—Lion Den at 6pm and Bear Den at 6:30pm

Thu, Apr 1, 2021 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service  
with Communion and Stripping the Altar

Fri, Apr 2, 2021 7:30 pm Good Friday Service

**Sun Apr 4, 2021 8:00am EASTER Sunday Worship/Communion**  
10:30 am Worship/Communion

Tue, Apr 6, 2021 3:30pm Confirmation (Zoom)  
7:00pm Stitchers

Wed, Apr 7, 2021 10:00am WELCA  
6:00pm Yoga

7:00pm Stepping Stones (Zoom)

Thu, Apr 8, 2021 7:30pm Communication Team (Zoom)

**Sun Apr 11, 2021 9:15am Synod Provided Post-Easter Worship**  
10:30am Sunday School (Zoom)

Mon, Apr 12, 2021 7:00 pm Stewardship (Zoom)

Tue, Apr 13, 2021 7:00pm Property Team Meeting  
7:00pm Worship and Music (Zoom)

Wed Apr 14, 2021 6:00pm Yoga

**Sun Apr 18 2021 9:15am Worship/Reiss baptisms/ Tiny Houses Temple  
Talk / Parish News Articles Due**

10:30am Sunday School (Zoom)

2:00pm **Scout Crossover Event**

Tue Apr 20, 2021 3:30pm Confirmation (Zoom)

7:00pm Council in person with Zoom option

Wed Apr 21, 2021 6:00pm Yoga

Sat, Apr 24, 2021 All Day Synod Assembly—Zoom

**Sun, Apr 25, 2021 9:15am Worship/Communion—Pastor D. Penman**  
10:30am Sunday School (Zoom)

Tue Apr 27, 2021 Parish News Mailing

Wed Apr 28, 2021 6:00pm Yoga

Above are the events we are aware of at the time of the Parish News printing, events may be added or updated depending on the COVID-19 situation.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Ushers/ Acolyte/carry basket when there is com- munion (Kay Stone)</b>	<b>Lector (Kathy Stawasz)</b>	<b>Communion Assistant (1st and 4th Sundays) (Kathy Sta- wasz)</b>	<b>Service Leader</b>	<b>Video Re- corder (Harold Schaeffer)</b>
4/1/21 Maundy Thursday, 7:30 pm	Carol MacDo- anld/Ken Seiler	Kathy Sta- wasz	Kathy Sta- wasz	n/a	Harold Schaeffer
4/2/21 Good Fri- day, 7:30 pm	Peggy & Bruce Schmidt	Jean Shaffer	n/a	n/a	Harold Schaeffer
4/4/2021 Easter - 8 am	Peggy & Bruce Schmidt	Bruce Schmidt	TBD	n/a	n/a
4/4/2021 Easter - 10:30 am	Jeff, Beth and Elijah Krout	Jean Shaffer	TBD	n/a	Harold Schaeffer
4/11/2021	Bob Smyrl/Jeff Krout	Richard Badman	n/a	TBD	Harold Schaeffer
4/18/2021	Ken Seiler/Don Capanear	Jean Shaffer	n/a	n/a	Harold Schaeffer
4/25/2021	Frank and Kay Stone	Richard Badman	Jaime Snyder Kaler	n/a	Harold Schaeffer

**Council Senders** for April: Peggy Schmidt & Jean Shaffer

### April WELCA

Ladies: Our next WELCA get together is April 7th at 10:00am.

We will be talking about Earth Day. We plan to send Earth Day cards and enclose something special to our Homebound members. We have blank cards and sample earth day messages.

We would also like to welcome Sue Rowbottom who came to our March meeting. Sue, see you in April. Hope to see everyone, as always bring a lunch and wear a mask. Hope you have a wonderful Easter! Barb Watts



## Bear Creek Campers!

Registration for summer 2021 at BCC continues! Sessions are filling up, but there is still room. New information has been release regarding how the program will be modified to accommodate Covid 19 safety practices. Visit Grace's FaceBook page <https://gracelutheranhatfield.org/learn-and-grow/bear-creek-camp/> or the BCC website to read about COVID19 modifications to the program <https://www.bearcreekcamp.org/summer-camp>. Please talk to Grace's BCC Ambassador, Laura Slugg with any questions or to access financial aid.

The Lord is good! God's love and faithfulness will last forever. PSALM 100:5



## Stepping Stones Update

Stepping Stones is blooming and Spring is here! Happy Easter, everyone! He is risen!

Stepping Stones has been growing and growing as we celebrate our 40th child joining the center! We are moving towards opening a second infant classroom and are getting excited for Summer Camp! We were also fortunate enough to receive a small grant so Stepping Stones is also in the process of putting in a small garden for the children! We are looking for donations of seeds for veggies like carrots, cucumbers, and tomatoes, and for items like gardening gloves and extra t-shirts we can toss on to keep our clothes clean! We can also use containers like they use for rotisserie chickens as we can create mini greenhouses with them! If you have anything like this at home, please let us know! We can't wait to share another season with you!

Jess Moran, Director

**Food Ministries: Sources of Food  
Food Cupboard Distribution**

**Emmanuel EEC food cupboard** (100 S Main Street)

Open: Tuesday afternoons 1:00-2:00 pm: Apr 6 & 20

Tuesday evenings 5:30-6:30 pm: Apr 13 & 27

**Hatfield Church of the Brethren** (1333 Cowpath): Is currently opened by appointment only. Contact Pastor Clay at [Hatfieldfoodbank@yahoo.com](mailto:Hatfieldfoodbank@yahoo.com) to make an appointment.

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church** (69 W Broad St, Souderton) has a daily meal program. Anyone may come for a bagged meal; limited social contact. No registration required. No residency requirements. Up to 4 bags a day possible if picking up for a family or for neighbors who can't get out.

Open: 6 days a week, Mon – Sat, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm

**Tiny House Village Temple Talk**

On April 18, Cathy Farrell will be giving a Temple Talk on her work to build a pilot tiny house village with the City of Philadelphia. It's goal is to help chronically homeless individuals to move from the streets, as a step to permanent housing. She will have materials available and be answering questions after the service.

**YOGA (Hatha) Continues.** Class will continue on Wednesdays, from **6-7 pm**. All-levels. Poses and sequences will work on using all parts of the body, and will vary from week to week. The goal is to work on strength and flexibility gradually while gaining an ability to focus on breath and awareness. **MASKS must be worn.** We will assess the COVID situation each month. If anything changes and we need to stop you will be notified.

**COST:** \$5/class fee will be donated to Bread Drop (formerly Welcome Bread; make checks payable to: Grace Lutheran Church)

**What is needed:** exercise mat (let me know if you need one) Invite a friend or family member everyone is welcome. Questions Contact Kathy Stawasz.

## EEC Food Cupboard UPDATES...

Food cupboard needs continue to grow as more Hatfield residents line up each week to receive supplemental food items. Please know that your donations are a HUGE blessing to so many!

### Latest Needs:

- Strawberry jam/jelly
- crunchy peanut butter
- fruit cocktail - large (29-30 oz)
- ground coffee
- paper towels
- dishwashing liquid

### Upcoming distribution dates & times:

- Tuesdays 1- 2 pm: Apr 6 & 20; May 4 & 18; June 1 & 15; July 6 & 20
- Tuesdays 5:30 - 6:30 pm: Apr 13 & 27; May 11 & 25; June 8,15, & 29; July 13 & 27

**Volunteers are NEEDED!** There is so much that needs to be done, but, please know that if you can spare an hour or two each month to help out, social distancing measures and strong covid protocols are in place for everyone's protection.

- No customers are allowed inside the building
- Customers call to get their place in line and a sheet and clipboard is brought to their car for them to complete
- All volunteers wear masks, use hand sanitizer regularly, and wipe down surfaces with disinfectant

Volunteers can choose to do any of the following: fill orders, weigh items, take groceries out to customer's cars, or just stock the shelves.

The food cupboard is open to all Hatfield borough residents, so please reach out if you, or someone you know, would benefit from receiving supplemental food pantry items. Messages for Janet Hague can be left at 215-855-2540; [foodcupboard@yahoo.com](mailto:foodcupboard@yahoo.com). You can also call/email Carol MacDonald @ 215-872-0472 or [macdonald125@comcast.net](mailto:macdonald125@comcast.net) for more information.

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***"Start where you are, use what you have, do what you can" - Arthur Ashe***

### CATCHING UP WITH GRACE FRIENDS

**Kitty Heckler** will be moving out of her house and she and her family are hosting a "Moving/Neighborhood YARD SALE" at the block of Cherry Street, Hatfield. Saturday, April 3rd. 7:30 a.m. to ? Rain or Shine. Plenty of parking. Great variety of vintage local memorabilia, antiques, furniture, linens, curtains, collectibles, books, tools, slate roofing, household goods, kitchen wear, vintage clothing, seasonal decor etc. etc.

[The family is also looking for a ground floor apartment in Hatfield with reasonable rent for the next 12-18 months while Kitty is on a waitlist. If you know of a possibility, please speak with Pr Peterman or give the information to the church office.]

COME OUT on April 3<sup>rd</sup> AND SAY HELLO  
TO KITTY HECKLER AND FAMILY!!

### Bread Drop in the News:

Lou Farrell was chosen as ABC Channel 6 Action News' Hometown Hero of the Week. You can find a video clip at:

<https://6abc.com/10426821/>

Bob Rodgers and the Hatfield Township Commissions has picked up on their appreciation and will honor Lou's work at their next public meeting, on Wednesday, March 24th, at Township office, 1950 School Road, Hatfield, at 7:30 pm. All are invited, especially those who have participated in making sandwiches.

### Bread Drop PB & J Sandwiches still continuing Instructions (Tuesdays are drop-off days: 8am-7pm)

- You make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches on soft *white* bread and put them in ZIPLOC bags, 1 sandwich per bag. Use cheap white bread with gobs of PB and J. A loaf will get you nine sandwiches. Please consider buying two loaves.
- The cooler will be at the entrance to Grace all day each TUESDAY. Leave your donation in the labeled coolers between 8:00 am and 7:00 pm
- Please email, call or text Jelly Czar Lou to let him know how many sandwiches you made.

**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.*

Council Corner

The past year, so much of Council’s focus has had to be on the continued operation of the church during the pandemic. What we may have taken for granted in the past, for example how we worship together, took on a whole new look. Each time we thought we had it all figured out, another challenge was presented. But we dealt with it and moved on.

While in 2020 we worked on developing the Ministry Site Profile, this year we began writing questions to ask the potential pastoral candidate. Council wanted to make sure we would be able to express all the voices at Grace in order to work to secure the best person for us. While this is an exciting time, as with anything new, there is apprehension about the unknown.

This March we were able to take the time to listen to two presentations. One was from Cathy Farrell on the tiny house project she will be working on in Philadelphia. The other was from Jess Moran from Stepping Stones on the growth of their programs. These presentations enabled Council to begin to focus on more of our community and Grace’s place within it.

There are many more roads to travel in 2021 and as always Council asks for your prayers.

Peggy Schmidt  
Council President

Stuffing Easter Eggs for Pick-up



From March 19, 2021

Greetings, beloved.

I'm reminded of the encouragement that comes from Psalm 31. It says, "Be strong, and take heart, "all you who hope in the Lord."



It's hard to believe that we are coming up on the first anniversary of the day everything shut down. I remember thinking that it would be a few weeks at most, but here we are a year later.

A year later, and I want to say thank you. Thank you for your faithfulness on this journey. Your creative work that you've been doing over this last year speaks volumes.

I'm reminded of the letter to the Thessalonians that calls us to therefore, "Encourage one another and build each other up, just as, in fact, you are doing."

I am so blessed. I've seen you at work making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, yes, now well over 100,000 and counting, for those experiencing homelessness, for those who are hungry. But you know that it's more than food for the stomach; it's food for the soul. As I've seen you at worship on the parkway with the Welcome Church community. I've seen you at food banks dropping off groceries, your hands at work in the pantry preparing bags for those unemployed and underemployed.

I am in awe of your generosity, sharing your financial gifts for COVID relief and support in so many areas. I applaud the spirit of collaborations as congregations have banded together and are working together to share online worship links and Saturday children church links.

There's no going back. We've got to keep it moving forward. This is the time to keep improving online presence, the online presence of worship and learning and fellowship, and look forward to continuing that presence even after we can

Cont.

be together again.

You are beacons of light for many in this pandemic fog. I am so godly honored to serve as your Bishop in such a time as this. You are awesome witnesses of disciples of Christ. I am just so overjoyed to be able to say to you from the bottom of my heart and the depths of my soul with gratitude, from a grateful, grateful, grateful five-county area to you because we are Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod together. Thank you.

I leave you with these words from 1 Corinthians 15:58, a scripture of promise and of hope. “Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. “Let nothing move you. “Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord “because you know that your labor in the Lord “is not in vain.” We are strengthened in the journey, strengthened in this struggle. Blessings, beloved.

The Rev. Patricia A. Davenport,  
Bishop

To see the YouTube video (it’s worth it) go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8vyIK-ESNhc>



Hand bell practice



Lynn Fasick  
Office Phone: 215-855-4676  
Church Office:  
[graceassistant40@gmail.com](mailto:graceassistant40@gmail.com)

Pastor Janet Peterman, Interim  
Cell: 215-327-8727  
[pastorgracehatfield@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgracehatfield@gmail.com)

Stepping Stones(215-369-2052)  
Jessica Moran, Director  
[steppingstonesoffice@verizon.net](mailto:steppingstonesoffice@verizon.net)

Kevin Freaney, Minister of Music

**April 2021**

**Apr 1 Maundy Thursday**  
**Apr 2 Good Friday**  
**Apr 4 Happy Easter**



**See Important Details Inside**

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