



PARISH NEWS

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

www.gracelutheranhatfield.org

Grace Lutheran Church, Hatfield PA Rev Nancy M Raabe August 2023

Teach Us to Pray



“Lord, teach us to pray!”

This was the plea of the disciples in Luke 11. They are also the words we say in worship each week which lead us into the Lord’s Prayer: “Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray....”

In these summer months when there are perhaps fewer distractions, it is a good time to turn our minds and hearts to the act of prayer.

Jesus not only teaches us to pray using the words we know so well, but also makes it possible for us to pray to his Father, who would otherwise remain incomprehensible. Imagine coming across a book in a strange foreign language. You don’t know the alphabet or even whether it should be read left to right, right to left or top to bottom. Its message would remain hidden from you. But if someone handed you the same book in your native language, the words would spring to life.

So it is with God the Father and God the Son. Through human intellect alone God would remain a closed book to us. But we have been given the Son as the revelation of the Father. He comes to us in a language we can know and understand, in a person we can know and love. And he comes to us not just as a historical figure who lived and died but as one who, through his resurrection and ascension, lives among us now and forever.

In this Christianity is unique among world religions. While other faiths urge human beings to strive upward to know the Creator, ours is the only one in which God reaches down to humankind so that we may develop a relationship with God, with no work on our part required. God comes to us in the Son through the loving action of the Holy Spirit as a free gift of grace.

Prayer is our response to this loving action of the Holy Spirit. And because it is a gift, it is entirely appropriate to ask in prayer, in Jesus’ name, for whatever you desire. Let your heart speak naturally. flowery language is not necessary. Remember the useful advice of a Benedictine spiritual director: “Pray as you can, not as you can’t!”

As you enter the holy ground of each new day or give thanks for the day that has ended, I invite you to ponder these verses from John 14:6-7:

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Worship is at 9:15 a.m. through Labor Day, after which we return to our fall/winter schedule of 8 and 10:30 a.m.	

*I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.
If you know me, you will know my Father also.*

And then that life-giving affirmation:

From now on you do know him and have seen him.



May the blessings God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you, now and forever.

Pasta Nenny Raabe



From Our Minister of Music:

I'm seated in my comfy chair writing to you as I've just returned from a 2-week break. A break from my usual week to week. It was so nice to have Pat Keen take the driver's seat for me and play piano and organ recently. I understand everyone enjoyed Pat and her fun and friendly personality.

While I was pretty much local for most of my 2-week downtime, I accomplished many things that were on a list of things to do. I visited friends and some family, went through piles of music and organized many things, cooked a lot of meals and grilled some awesome chicken and steaks. I also watched a lot more television, but it was enjoyable to not feel like I needed to get to sleep early. We have much to be thankful for in my family but just being together felt really good over this rather hot summer. Oh yes, we had more ice cream than I should eat. So, when I returned to Grace, we tried something on July 16th, "Shout Out Sunday", which if you missed, was a lot of fun and we raised the roof with 5 "Shout Out" hymns. I'm pretty sure we'll do this again soon. If you've a hymn in mind that you want me to include, please do let me know!

One of my recent accomplishments has been the completion of repairs and polishing of our handbells. I've had many that I was able to work on but completed all of them. That required me to take apart each handbell and all their parts, clean the inside, fit the new parts, put them back together, and then polished them inside and out. Now they look brand new and play well. Look forward to more bell music in the near future! I'm sharing a few pictures in which you can see a broken rubber spring (almost all of the springs were broken due to age and wear). The new springs are the exact replacement part, so they fit perfectly. Another picture is of a new spring installed with new washers and screws onto the clapper mechanism. And finally, a picture of a polished shiny bell!

Joyfully rejoicing,

Kevin



August Serving Schedule

Date	Altar Guild	Communion Assistant	Lector	Acolyte	Ushers	Coffee Hour
08/06/23 9:15 am	N/A	N/A	Jayson Tula	C. Tula	D. Kunkel & C. Tula	Diane Ball
08/13/23 9:15 am	N/A	N/A	Richard Badman	Usher	P. Schmidt & R. Smyrl	Ken & Karen Seiler
08/20/23 Shared Community Service 9:30 am**	MJ Moyer & B. Hess	Carol MacDonald	Jean Shaffer	Usher	R. Smyrl & D. Capanear	Carol MacDonald
08/27/23 9:15 am	N/A	N/A	Beth Krout	Elijah Krout	J. Krout & K. Deussing	Don Capanear

**NOTE THE TIME FOR THE SHARED COMMUNITY SERVICE

Council Offering/Lock-up for August is Barbara Hess.

Live Streaming: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm

August Calendar

- The Jesus Love Church (formerly Central Philadelphia) will be worshipping on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Friday night worship at 8:00 pm.
- Tues. are Bread Drop Sandwich Days. The coolers will be out from 8am-7pm.

Tues August 1, 2023 7:00pm

Stitchers

Wed August 2, 2023 6:30pm

Grace Summer Picnic

Sun August 6, 2023 9:15am

Worship

Tues August 8, 2023 7:00pm

Property Team Meeting

Thurs August 10, 2023 7:00pm

Stepping Stones Committee Meeting, in person

Sun August 13, 2023 9:15am

Worship

Mon August 14, 2023 7:00pm

Worship & Music Team Meeting

Tues August 15, 2023 7:00pm

Council Meeting in person, Zoom option

Wed August 16, 2023 6:30pm

Grace Summer Picnic

Thurs August 17, 2023 6-10pm

Sanctuary Village Trivia Night

Sun August 20, 2023 9:30am*

* Note time change

Shared Outdoor Worship Service at School Road Park, Hatfield
(no Service at Grace today)

Wed August 23, 2023 3-6pm

Stepping Stones end of the year picnic, Grace members welcome

Thurs August 24, 2023

Stepping Stones Closed

Fri August 25, 2023

Stepping Stones Closed

Sun August 27, 2023 9:15am

Worship



WORSHIP ON AUGUST 20 WILL BE AT 9:30 at SCHOOL ROAD PARK IN HATFIELD, 1619 School Road!

We are excited about the opportunity to worship with our sisters and brothers at Faith Lutheran in Montgomeryville. **Bring a chair and a dish to pass for fellowship time afterward.**



THE
GRACE
OF OUR LORD OVERFLOWED
FOR ME WITH THE
FAITH
AND LOVE THAT ARE IN
CHRIST JESUS.

1 TIMOTHY 1:14

*Join us for "Grace By Faith"
outdoor worship at 9:30 a.m. August 20
at School Road Park in Hatfield!*



FAITH LUTHERAN
MONTGOMERYVILLE
GRACE LUTHERAN
HATFIELD

TRIVIA NIGHT AT GRACE AUGUST 17 at 6:30 p.m. to benefit SANCTUARY VILLAGE



Sanctuary Village, the organization that is building Philadelphia's first tiny house village to alleviate homelessness, is having a summer fundraiser that promises to be a night of fun and facts: **The "Battle of the Lutherans"**! We are inviting our neighbors from local Lutheran churches to reserve tables of eight participants, at \$20 per person. You don't have to be Lutheran to come and play!

Register online at <https://www.tinyhousecommunity.org/trivia>

People are invited to bring their own snacks and beverages. Doors open at 6:00 pm and the fun begins at 6:30. We will be selling raffle tickets for 20 beautiful baskets of wine, sports tickets, and all sorts of other items. Come and be a part of providing a home for someone who needs one! Contact Cathy Farrell with any questions at cifarrell@comcast.net.



WORDS OF GRATITUDE

- To our Property Team for following the renovation and follow-up work of 30 N. Main into the home stretch and expertly managing all aspects of the process, to prepare it for rental.
- To Kevin for his idea for "Shout-Out" Sundays and his expertise in playing whatever is requested. The next one will be on August 13!
- To the leaders of the Indian Valley Cluster and Grace volunteers for all their work for our Summer Youth Service Camp June 26-29. We had 13 young people from four congregations who participated in all four days. Parents, mark your calendars now for next year: **June 24-27, 2024**. We realized this is really a "VBS" for older youth.
- To our summer picnic hosts for four joyful evenings: our church Council, Barb Watts, our Souderton Mennonite Homes residents and Bruce and Peggy Schmidt. See below for more information.



Summer Wednesday Evening Picnics

Don't miss our two Grace Summer Picnics in August! Dinner will be served at **6:30 pm**. Bring your favorite **picnic dish** to share and a lawn chair or blanket. If you have a favorite **outdoor game** to share, bring it too.

Event is rain or shine!!

August 2nd Hosts: Mary Jane Moyer, Jean Shaffer, Emily Woltmann, Barb Hess
at Souderton Mennonite Pavilion 207 W. Summit Street, Souderton

August 16th Hosts: Peggy and Bruce Schmidt at their home 155 Forest Way, Hatfield



Did you know you can read Pastor Raabe's recent sermons online (under the Worship menu) at <https://gracelutheranhatfield.org/worship-and-music/sermons-2/?>



Harvest Home Sunday

September 24th

Harvest Home will be celebrated on Sunday, September 24th. Our gifts of food will help those in our immediate communities who need food. These offerings are shared with **Manna on Main Street** in Lansdale and **The Hatfield Food Cupboard** at our neighbor church, Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church.

You are invited to bring **canned goods and non-perishable items** to church during the months of **August and September**. There will be a display in the narthex with a list of food items needed and a basket where you can place your food offerings.

A few suggested food items from Manna and The Food Cupboard are:

- Tuna in Oil
- Pasta (no spaghetti) and Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned tomato products – diced, whole, paste, sauce
- Dried fruit – raisins, apples, dates
- Flour and sugar
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Laundry Detergent

In addition to bringing items of food for our neighbors in our area, you may also use the envelope included in your offering envelope box that is designated for **Harvest Home Sunday**. These gifts will be given to the **ELCA World Hunger Appeal**. You will be providing funds needed for our neighbors in countries around the world.

The *Giving In Service Team* appreciates your support for this project.

PRAYER LIST

Please let **Pastor Raabe** know if you would like someone added to this list, or if someone you have added is no longer in need of urgent prayers.

In Need of Ongoing Prayers: Liz Bauer, Suzanne Colville, Marilyn Forst, Helen Godshall, Bob Kaler, Peggy Long, Hazel Mascaro, Gerry Mason (Richard Badman's son), Pam Matolicz, Bob Rufe (Mary Jane Moyer's brother), Joyce Salter, Nancy Sellers, Bailey Vinson (Liz Bauer's great-granddaughter), Sue & Faith Rowbottom, Nancy Dustman (Joyce Salter's sister).

In Current Need of Prayers: Cassi Lambert, Kristopher Yoder, Lisa Kane, Vickie West, Sandy Klinger, Debbie Zuech-Smyrl, Dean Moore, Peg Malloy, Diane Miller, Judith Stangl (John's sister), Daniel Hopwood (Tom Hopwood's son), Laurie Ronan (the MacDonalds' neighbor), Jan Madigan (Sue Wieland's niece), John Renick, Lou Farrell, Joan Wright & Alicia Hollingsworth (friends of Linda Renick), Diane Pierson, Robert Naragon (friend



of Frank & Kay Stone), Joanne Moyer, Sheran Shenk (friend of Bruce & Peggy Schmidt), the family of Liz Eliff and the Laymen Playmen family, Joan Buschman (Kerry Stone's mother), Helen Chappie (Liz Bauer's sister), Bonnie and David Torres and their children (friends of Grace), Allie Moyer (Mary Jane Moyer's granddaughter), Angelina Mascaro, Bob Yoder, Alice Ciarrocca (friend of Karen Heacock & Phyllis McKeefrey), Loretta Seiler & Linda Conrad (Ken's stepmother & her daughter), Anita Spisak (Ken's mom), Chuck Slugg, Christopher Humlhanz ,(Jaime Snyder's cousin), Betty Poling (June Detweiler's sister), Jane Lankford (Peggy & Bruce Schmidt's friend).

For all who grieve, including the family & friends of: Courtney Walsh (daughter of Liz Eliff, very active member of Laymen Playmen), Judy Freaney, Joan Reilly (Bob Reilly's sister-in-law), Lewis Brett (Mary Jane Slugg's cousin), Madiafe Sheriff, Dale Moyer, Mabel Hoepfl, Jim Finnemeyer, Ethel Rappold.

For those in active duty military service: Robert McNulty, Marines, Jessica Murphy, Air Force; Matthew Smyrl, Army; Nathaniel Smyrl, PA Army National Guard; Eric Gutsche (Janice Swartz's grandson).

For active military deployed overseas: Kyle Murphy, Air Force

EEC Food Cupboard

Janet Hague will be coming to Grace for a Temple Talk on August 6th during our 9:15 am service. She will be sharing an update of operations at the food cupboard and hopes to show pictures (Power Point) of the process "in action". Please make an effort to attend that day and find out more about how your generous donations are being utilized by our neighbors in need and how we can all continue to support this wonderful ministry in Hatfield.

Below, please find the most recent pantry shortages:

Food: Chunky soups, especially "heart healthy" varieties, Knorr noodle or rice sides, baked beans, salad dressing

Household & Personal Care*: shampoo, deodorant, laundry detergent

Gift Cards: Grocery gift cards are always welcome

*Clients cannot use government assistance (SNAP) funds to purchase these items when they shop at grocery stores.

Your non-perishable donations can be placed in our narthex bins, OR, if necessary, in the outside food cupboard plastic bins located by the doors leading into Stepping Stones (preferably on Sunday mornings when it can be brought inside).

Please be aware...if food is left outside in the elements, it might not be picked up for a few days.

Upcoming distribution dates & times:

Tuesdays 5:30 - 6:30 pm: August 1, 15, 29

Tuesdays 1 - 2 pm: August 8 & 22

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/household items. Messages for Janet Hague can be left at 215-855-2540; foodcupboard@yahoo.com.

You can also call/email Carol MacDonald @215-872-0472; macdonald125@comcast.net



WELCA (Women of the ELCA)

Once again we would like to thank Joyce and Tom Salter for hosting our annual picnic. It was nice and the weather was great. Ladies, remember our meetings start on September 6th at 10:00 am. More information to follow later. Hope everyone is having a great summer and one thing, please keep COOL.

Barb

Stepping Stones News

And just like that, Summer is wrapping up and we're prepping for the new school year! We're looking forward to staff anniversaries, birthdays, and lots of special events like 80's Day, Western Day, and our all-popular Pretzel Day. We're also looking forward to the 2nd Annual Stepping Stones Picnic which will be held on Wednesday, August 23rd from 3-6 PM. Let us know if you'll be joining us or if you'd like to bring something to share! The school will be closed on 8/24 and 8/25 for a deep clean and we will re-open for the new school year on Monday, August 28th!

-- Jessica Moran, Director, Stepping Stones

COFFEE HOUR: A Grace Tradition

Coffee hour is going wonderfully this summer! Get into the habit, if you haven't already: When you come out of the sanctuary, instead of turning left toward the parking lot, head right into fellowship hall and out onto the veranda, where (in good weather) we'll relax after worship and enjoy each other's company as well as coffee and fresh-baked treats.

We also need more helpers to keep this going. If you'd like to prepare the coffee hour, clean up, or contribute fresh-baked items, please see the signup sheet in the narthex for how you can get involved. Lend your distinctive touch to our time together! Our coffee hour volunteers will show you what to do.

THANK YOU!



Coffee Fellowship

Trivia to warm you up for August 17: Where have you seen this saying?
"Christ Offers Fellowship For Everyone Everywhere #COFFEE!"

Stepping Stones Nursery School and
Daycare Presents:

The 2nd Annual

Stepping Stones

Picnic

When? Wed. August 23rd, 2023 Beginning @ 3:00pm-6:00pm

Where? 40 N. Main Street, Hatfield PA 19440

FAMILIES WELCOME!

Face Paint!

GAMES!

FOOD!

AND MORE!



**Grace Lutheran Church
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Kevin Freaney, Minister of Music**

**Stepping Stones 215.368.2052
Jessica Moran, Director**

August 2nd Summer Picnic

August 16th Summer Picnic

August 17th Sanctuary Village Trivia Night

August 20th * Note time change (9:30am)

**Shared Outdoor Worship Service at School Road Park, Hatfield
(no Service at Grace today)**

**August 23rd Stepping Stones end of the year picnic,
Grace members welcome**

View our website by scanning this code:



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