



PARISH NEWS

Grace Lutheran Church, Hatfield PA

February 2026

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

www.gracelutheranhatfield.org



Every new beginning seems to carry with it increased excitement. A New Year with the turn of the calendar, new resolutions with great intentions. And after the multiple snow events of 2026, the earliest signs of spring, which will certainly come. It has always seemed odd how excited we get about the new thing, a new beginning, a change in what has been, when we are simultaneously so adverse and resistant to change. It is challenging to make sense of how we hold these two positions together.

I've come to believe the answer lies in our engagement with hope. The new things allow us to hope for what might be, but as yet is unseen. While our hesitancy and resistance to what's next comes from our comfort with what is, and experiences of our hopes which we saw painfully dashed and left unfulfilled.

This leads me to conclude that our excitement, the energy of abundant life, the hope stirring in us, is found only in what is as yet unseen. That our Lord Jesus, as yet unseen, calls us into "what's next," so that we might have hope, abundant life, and the energy to do whatever the Lord asks of us. The yet unseen is not to be feared and avoided, rather it is where we find the life our Lord desires for us.

Together in Christ <><

Pastor Wayne

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January Council Meeting was cancelled.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING *RESCHEDULED*

The Congregational meeting will be held following the worship service on
Sunday, February 8, 2026

Please be in attendance so that we can have a quorum and discussion.

February 2026 Serving Schedule

Date	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Lector	Acolyte	Ushers	Altar Flower Prep
02/01/26 9:30 am	J. Detweiler K. Stone	Frank Stone	Jean Shaffer	Usher	K. Stone J. Krout	Kay Stone
02/08/26 (Baptism scheduled) 9:30 am	J. Detweiler K. Stone	Karen Seiler	Barb Hess	Usher	D. Kunkel D. Capanear	TBD
02/15/26 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:30 am	J. Detweiler K. Stone	Jaime Kaler	Lennon Kaler	Usher	K. Deussing R. Smyrl	Jaime Kaler
02/18/26 Ash Wednesday 7:30 pm	J. Detweiler K. Stone	Bruce Schmidt	Peggy Schmidt	Usher	K. Stone C. MacDonald	Kay Stone
02/22/26 1st Sunday in Lent 9:30 am	J. Detweiler K. Stone	Cathy Farrell	Bob Smyrl	Usher	R. Smyrl D. Capanear	Cathy Farrell

Council Offering/Lock-up for February 2026 is: TBD

Live Streaming: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm



THE BREAD DROP schedule for February 2026 is: 02/3/26 Emily Woltmann; 02/10/26 Karen Seiler; 02/17/26 Karen Seiler; 02/24/26 Jean Delmuto

February 2026 Calendar

- The Jesus Love Church (formerly Central Philadelphia) will be worshiping on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary and using the Fellowship Hall until 2:30 p.m. They also use the Sanctuary Friday night for worship at 7:00 pm.
- Tuesdays are Bread Drop Sandwich Days. Donations are accepted from 8am to 7pm.
- Yoga is every Wednesday night at 6:15 pm

Sun Feb 1, 2026	9:30am	4th Sunday after Epiphany, Pr. Gwen King
Tue Feb 3, 2026	7:00pm	Stitchers
Wed Feb 4, 2026	10:00am	Welca
Sat Feb 7, 2026	10:30-3:30pm	Fellowship Hall Rental
	5:00-10:00pm	Fellowship Hall Rental – North Penn Theater Guild
Sun Feb 8, 2026	9:30am	5th Sunday after Epiphany, Pr. Wayne Shelor
		<i>A baptism is scheduled</i>
	10:30am	<u>Annual Congregational Meeting following worship</u>
Tues Feb 10, 2026	7:00pm	Property Team Meeting
	7:00pm	Worship & Music Team Meeting
Thurs Feb 12, 2026	7:00pm	Stepping Stones Committee Meeting, via Zoom
Sun Feb 15, 2026	9:30am	Transfiguration of Our Lord, Pr. Skyle Rea
Tues Feb 17, 2026	7:00pm	Council Meeting, Zoom option
Wed Feb 18, 2026	7:30pm	Ash Wednesday Worship Service
Sat Feb 21, 2026		“Snow date” for the North Penn Theater Guild—Fellowship Hall
Sun Feb 22, 2026	9:30am	1st Sunday of Lent, Pr. Wayne Shelor
		<i>“Rice Bowl” begins</i>

WELCA

Welca, our next meeting will be February 4th at 10:00 am. I hope everyone will be able to be there. Stay safe and healthy 😊. Barb Watts



The *Giving in Service Team* invites you to support our
Valentine's Day Project

Laurel House provides shelter, care, and counseling for abused women and children of Montgomery County. The agency prefers **\$25** gift cards for their families. **Two ways for you to give a gift:**

- Give any cash amount (or check-to Grace/ memo Laurel House) and our team will purchase gift cards to give to Laurel House.
- Or you purchase a \$25 gift card to give.

Envelopes for your gift are available in the narthex. If you are unable to attend church, you may place a gift in the mailbox outside the main entrance or send your gift to Grace. Mark your gift for **Laurel House**. **Due date: February 8th**

Please note: Our team purchases our gift cards through the Scouts' gift card program. We are supporting BSA Scouting Troops 51 and 511 in our area by purchasing gift cards. Our gift cards will be for Target, Giant, and Walmart.

Why does Laurel House prefer gift cards for their clients? *"Gift cards are an empowering means of financial support for families in our shelter, counseling programs, rapid rehousing, and transitional housing. Gift cards give parents the ability to buy gifts for their children, as well as other essential, basic needs."* (from the Laurel House website)



Rice Bowl Project begins February 22nd

What is the **Rice Bowl**? During each Sunday during 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.** If you don't have Grace envelopes, plain envelopes are available in the narthex.

Our gifts will be shared with three organizations:

Hatfield Food Cupboard at Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church which provides food to those in need in the Hatfield area.

Manna on Main Street in Lansdale which provides food and hot meals for those in the Lansdale area.

World Hunger Project through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America which provides education and food for people around the globe.

Please 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**.

Since the year 2020, Grace members have given a **TOTAL of \$14,288** to help our neighbors near and far.

The **Hatfield Food Cupboard** provides help to people in Hatfield who need 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 throughout the year. Our monetary gift allows the Food Cupboard to purchase food items they need, especially when supplies are low.

Manna on Main Street in Lansdale:

Manna Kitchen prepares and distributes to-go meals every day for anyone in need.

Monday – Thursday: 10am – 2pm Friday – Sunday: 10am – 1pm

Manna also serves a sit-down meal four days per week for anyone in need.

Monday – Thursday: 4:30pm – 6pm

In addition, Manna provides in-person or online shopping for those who qualify.

Visit their website to see more information about what Manna does. www.mannaonmain.org

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. Visit www.elca.org for more information.

Laymen Playmen Theatre

P R E S E N T S

S A V E T H E D A T E

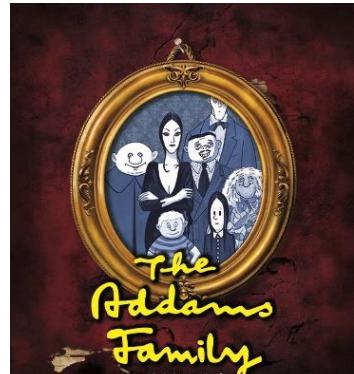
The Addams Family, the musical comedy, is coming to The Laymen Playmen for their 38th production.

Show dates are March 13-15 and 20-22nd 2026.



Tickets on Sale
January 1st

LaymenPlaymen.org



The Addams Family musical is presented through special arrangements with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.theatricalrights.com

The Addams Family was created by Charles Addams, music and lyrics are by Andrew Lippa and book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice. The show explores the themes of love, family and growing up.

For more information, visit LaymenPlaymen.org



YOGA (Hatha) CLASS Back by Popular Demand

Every Wednesday, January 7, 2026 to
May 20, 2026 from 6:15-7:15 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

COST: \$7/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 as [215-760-6297](tel:215-760-6297) if interested



EEC FOOD CUPBOARD

A message from Janet Hague: "Thanks to our faithful friends at Grace for continuing to support the food cupboard ministry at Emmanuel. We continue to serve 90-100 shoppers every month. Thanksgiving and Christmas bring lots of donations, for which we are thankful, but we know they won't last all winter." Please know that your ongoing contributions, especially during the cold months of February and March are extremely appreciated. Thank you for your continued generosity in helping the EEC help others.

Current top needs:

Food items: Sugar and Flour, Coffee (ground), Tea Bags (black & green), 100% Fruit Juice, Tomato Paste, Ketchup, Mustard, and Mayo

Household & Personal Care*: Laundry Detergent (unscented/free & clear), Shampoo & Conditioner (please make sure lids are secure), Razors and Shaving Cream

Gift Cards: Grocery gift cards are always welcome and very helpful, especially ALDI & Giant!

Your non-perishable donations can be placed in our Grace narthex bins by the conference room and they will be brought to EEC when bins are full.

Upcoming distribution dates & times:

Tuesdays 5:30 - 6:30 pm: Feb 3 & 17

Tuesdays 1 - 2 pm: Feb 10 & 24

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.

SNOW

Just a reminder for the remainder of the winter months, if there is a threat of inclement weather, there will be an email sent regarding the cancellation of services.



CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

As your Interim Pastor I have barely begun getting to know who is who and what their circumstances and needs are. I am finding it to be challenging to make sense of the plethora of names on our Prayer List. Therefore, to help me better understand who is currently in need, which allows me to offer improved pastoral care, ***we have wiped the existing list clean.***

As of the end of January, names shared are on the following list. Please share with us those persons you would like to have this congregation hold in prayer. Please send the names to Lynn at graceassistant40@gmail.com or call the office (215.855.4676), with a brief description of their needs. [These specifics will not be shared publicly, but they really help me offer support.] The names listed will be spoken in the Prayers during Sunday worship.

We will note when a person is added and keep that name on the list for four weeks, at which time it will be removed. If the circumstances remain, please resubmit the name and we will return it to the list for an additional four weeks.

I thank you for your gracious participation in this prayerful care of persons in need.

Together in Christ <><

Pastor Wayne

PRAYER LIST

Please let the office (Lynn) 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 CURRENT NEED of Prayers: Bob Yoder, Sr.; Lisa Ronan (neighbor of the MacDonalds); Aaron O'Conner (Liz Bauer's son).

In Need of Ongoing Prayers: Liz Bauer, Suzanne Colville, Bob Kaler, Hazel Mascaro, Jerry Mascaro, Joyce Salter, Nancy Sellers, Bailey Vinson (Liz Bauer's great-granddaughter), Nancy Dustman (Joyce Salter's sister), Annette Beyer (friend of the Reillys), Priscilla (Shaffer) Hollerbach, Anita Spisak (Ken Seiler's mom), Mary Jane Moyer, Pastor Janet Peterman, Steve Malloy (Peg Malloy's husband).

For all who grieve, including the family & friends of: Clark Rex (Kathy Stawasz's dad), Margaret (Peggy) Long, Shirley Malloy (Steve Malloy's mother), Lois DeSantis, Cindy Mancuso

For those in active duty military service: Matthew Smyrl, PA Army National Guard; Cole Dempsey, Air Force (Laura Kratz's grandson), Nathaniel Smyrl, PA Army National Guard.

Grace Lutheran Church
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Stepping Stones 215.368.2052
Jessica Moran, Director

February 8th 5th Sunday after Epiphany,
Pr. Wayne Shelor
A baptism is scheduled



Annual Congregational Meeting following worship



FEBRUARY 14TH – HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY !

February 18th Ash Wednesday Worship Service at 7:30 pm
February 22nd 1st Sunday of Lent, Pr. Wayne Shelor
"Rice Bowl" begins

View our website by scanning this code:



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40 N. Main St.
Hatfield, PA 19440-2905