



PARISH NEWS

Grace Lutheran Church, Hatfield PA

January 2026

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

www.gracelutheranhatfield.org



PRAYER

Living in this culture we are encouraged, even enticed to acquire stuff, positions, and for some renown and prestige. We have become so saturated with this way of living, that we often pray with the intention of getting something. Maybe we seek wisdom to address a pressing personal or professional situation. Or we

want God to heal us of the illness that has inhabited our body. Or we ask God to calm the world and establish fair and equitable justice, so we may live without fear. We believe God answers all prayers, and so we get troubled and upset when we pray and don't get what we pray for.

A man was once asked, "What do you gain by regularly praying to God?" The man replied, "nothing, but let me tell you what I lost: anger, ego, greed, depression, insecurity, and fear."

God treats us better than we deserve, and offers us blessings of love, joy, peace, and grace for our unlimited use. To access the vast inexhaustible abundance of God simply use the PIN Code – Prayer. Be ready, prayer changes things, especially the one praying.

Together in Christ <><

Pastor Wayne

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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting will be held following the worship service on **Sunday, January 25, 2026**
Please be in attendance so that we can have a quorum and discussion.

January 2026 Serving Schedule

Date	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Lector	Acolyte	Ushers		Altar Flower Prep
01/04/26 Epiphany 9:30 am	J. Swartz R. Smyrl E. Woltmann	Ken Seiler	Karen Seiler	Usher	K. Seiler K. Heacock		Emily Woltmann
01/11/26 Baptism of Our Lord 9:30 am	J. Swartz R. Smyrl E. Woltmann	K. Stawasz	B. Krout	Usher	Walter Family		Kathy Stawasz
01/18/26 9:30 am	J. Swartz R. Smyrl E. Woltmann	G. Lockner	G. Lockner	Usher	P. MacDonald K. Deussing		Carol MacDonald
01/25/26 9:30 am	J. Swartz R. Smyrl E. Woltmann	D. Kunkel	D. Kunkel	Usher	D. Capanear K. Heacock		Emily Woltmann

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

Live Streaming: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm



THE BREAD DROP schedule for January 2026 is: 01/6/26 Priscilla Landis; 01/13/26 Laura Kratz; 01/20/26 Jean Delmuto; 01/27/26 Jess Moran

January 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

Thurs Jan 1, 2026

New Year's Day

Sun Jan 4, 2026

9:30am

Office & Stepping Stones Closed

2nd Sunday of Christmas, Pr. Karen Sease

Tue Jan 6, 2026

7:00pm

Stitchers

Wed Jan 7, 2026

6:15pm

Yoga begins again

Sun Jan 11, 2026

9:30am

Baptism of Our Lord, Pr. Wayne Shelor

A baptism is scheduled

Tues Jan 13, 2026

7:00pm

Property Team Meeting

7:00pm

Worship & Music Team Meeting

Sun Jan 18, 2026

9:30am

2nd Sunday after Epiphany, Pr. Karen Sease

Mon Jan 19, 2026

Martin Luther King Day, Stepping Stones is Closed

Tues Jan 20, 2026

7:00pm

Council Meeting, Zoom option

Sun Jan 25, 2026

9:30am

3rd Sunday after Epiphany, Pr. Wayne Shelor

10:30am **Annual Congregational Meeting following worship**

WELCA

Ladies, I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas  and a great New Years. Our next meeting would have been January 7th but we decided not to have a meeting due to not knowing what the weather will be like. Hope to see you in February, take care and stay healthy. Barb

STEPPING STONES

Happy New Year! We hope your holiday season was a restful time with family and you're feeling ready to go for 2026! This month we will be celebrating National Bird Day on January 6th among a few other special days like Hug Day, Sports Team Day, and our annual Read-a-thon returns on January 26th where we encourage kiddos to read extra for fun prizes! Stepping Stones will be closed on January 19th for Martin Luther King Jr. Day but otherwise we are here and ready to rock the rest of the school year!

Jessica Moran, Director



Sweets for Sharing - THANK YOU to everyone who supplied all the delicious cookies and candy we needed to share sweets and cards to many members of Grace!!! WELCA & the INreach team members came together to have a fun, productive evening at the Schmidt's house. When all was said and done, we made up 26 beautiful packages that included lovely mugs (donated by WELCA), sweets boxes filled to the brim, and cards for many of our homebound members! All 17 deliveries were covered and additional boxes for Grace staff and volunteers were left in the narthex. Thank you to all who took the time during this busy season to come out and lend a hand, send cards to our homebound, or kindly supplied the sweets for this wonderful "Peggy Schmidt created" event!



Angel Boxes

Thank you to everyone who generously donated to this year's Angel Box collection. We were able to support our Five Adopt-A-Families and both Hatfield food cupboards with personal care products. These are always greatly needed at the food cupboards. Grace is such a wonderful group of people!



Thank you for your generous gifts to the Adopt-A-Family Christmas Project

A team of Grace Elves packed up the wonderful gifts and pantry items we collected. You have helped to make Christmas special for five families. In addition, your items for the Angel Gifts were shared with our families and two area food cupboards. We were also able to provide some extra gifts and pantry food items with the help of funds from a Thrivent Action Team project. Special thanks to our team of expert organizers who helped pack all the gifts. Thank you so much for shopping and supporting our adopted families and the food cupboards.

The Giving in Service Team – Jean Shaffer, Diane Ball, Carol MacDonald, Barb Watts, Cathy Farrell, Kay Deussing, and Kay Stone



The *Giving in Service Team* invites you to support our **Valentine's Day Project** which begins **January 11th**

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.

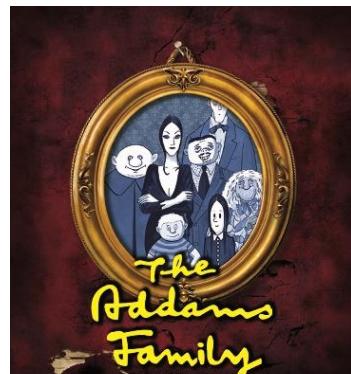
Why does Laurel House prefer gift cards for their clients? *"Gift cards are an empowering means of financial support for families in our shelter, counseling programs, rapid rehousing, and transitional housing. Gift cards give parents the ability to buy gifts for their children, as well as other essential,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

Laymen Playmen Theatre

SAVE THE DATE

P R E S E N T S

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**.

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



Tickets on Sale
January 1st

LaymenPlaymen.org

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





Food Collection

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 January, 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: Jan. 6 & 20

Tuesdays 1 - 2 pm: Jan. 13 & 27

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.



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 are going to wipe the existing list clean at the end of December.***

In January, please share with us those persons you would like to have this congregation hold in prayer. Please send the name to Lynn at graceassistant40@gmail.com, 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 Need of Ongoing Prayers: Liz Bauer, Suzanne Colville, Bob Kaler, Peggy Long, Hazel Mascaro, Jerry Mascaro, Bob Rufe (Mary Jane Moyer's brother), Joyce Salter, Nancy Sellers, Bailey Vinson (Liz Bauer's great-granddaughter), Nancy Dustman (Joyce Salter's sister).

In Current Need of Prayers: Bob Yoder, Sr., Kristopher Yoder, Lisa Kane, Vickie West, Sandy Klinger, Peg Malloy, Daniel Hopwood (Tom Hopwood's son), Sheran Shenk (friend of Bruce & Peggy Schmidt), Angelina (Mascaro) Trotter, Alice Ciarrocca (friend of Karen Heacock & Phyllis McKeefrey), Anita Spisak (Ken Seiler's mom), Christopher Humlhanz (Jaime Snyder's cousin), Betty Poling (June Detweiler's sister), Regi Gambino (friend of Lynn Plawa-Oxford), Annette Beyer (friend of the Reillys), Connie Plawa (Lynn's sister-in-law), Priscilla (Shaffer) Hollerbach, Kathryn Shelly (Will Shaffer's mother-in-law), Lisa Ronan (MacDonald's neighbor), the Horowitz Family (good friends of Mary Jane Moyer), Ed Muntz, Bridget Hopkins (friend of Don Capanear), Jeff Hill (Sue Wieland's nephew), Steve Johnsson and Morgan (friends of Beth Krout), Judi McBain (friend of Linda Pribbernow), Mary Jane Moyer, Pastor Janet Peterman, Daisy Wiesinger (friend of MC Reilly and member of Laymen Playmen), John Alexiades (friend of Bruce Schmidt), Beth Krout, Aaron O'Conner (Liz Bauer's son), Steve Malloy (Peg Malloy's husband), Cindy Mancuso.

For all who grieve, including the family & friends of: Sally Muntz, Ann Marie Heidgerd, Pat Ferkitich (friend of Nancy Sellers), Dee Mancuso, Atticus Jones (Lynn & Mike Oxenford's nephew), Clark Rex (Kathy Stawasz's dad), Shirley Malloy (Steve Malloy's mother), Lois DeSantis.

For those in active duty military service: Jessica Murphy, Air Force; 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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Hatfield PA 19440-2905**

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Stepping Stones 215.368.2052
Jessica Moran, Director**

January 1st

**New Year's Day
Office & Stepping Stones Closed**

January 11th

Baptism of Our Lord, Pr. Wayne Shelor
A baptism is scheduled

January 25th

3rd Sunday after Epiphany, Pr. Wayne Shelor

Annual Congregational Meeting following worship



View our website by scanning this code:



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