



PARISH NEWS

Grace Lutheran Church, Hatfield PA

August 2026

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

www.gracelutheranhatfield.org



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:

A **Congregation Meeting** of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hatfield, PA is being called by the Council for **Sunday, August 16, 2026**, immediately following the "Breakfast Church" worship service.

The Property Committee has determined repairs are needed to preserve and protect the Wagner House. These two expenditures exceed the constitutional budget authority of the Council; therefore, the Council recommends to the membership approval of the following expenditures:

1. \$16,000 for waterproofing of the Wagner House basement
2. \$16,000 for replacement of the Wagner House boiler



**Join us on Sunday, 8/16/26 at
9:30am in Fellowship Hall**

What is Breakfast Church? A worship service that includes a delicious breakfast, a time for fellowship and worship together.

Sign-up in the Narthex to attend and if you are able, to share a breakfast item. Last minute guests are welcome !!

A Note from Your Church Council: As we continue to navigate another time of transition, we know you have questions, concerns, and, hopefully, lots of ideas to share in order to move our Grace family into a new era.

Did you know that those of us who are honored to serve as your Grace Council members WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU? Whether you attend church each Sunday, watch services from home, or have not felt directly connected to Grace in years, you are taking the time to read this and you are an important part of Grace's history as well as our future. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts with any of us. We will bring your voice to our Council table and prayerfully discuss and consider your comments and ideas. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Grace.

Council Members: Cathy Farrell (President), Tom Salter (Vice President), Kay Stone (Secretary), Bev Smith (Treasurer), Dan Sarm, Wendy Walter, Ken Seiler, and Carol MacDonald.



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The challenge of gardening for me is waiting. It takes so long for the vegetable plants to stretch toward the sun, flower and bear fruit. What have they been doing all this time? Come on, I am ready for those delicious fresh tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers. Then I am reminded it takes time for the roots that support the growth to develop so that I get to enjoy the produce.

I have been with you as an Interim for nine months, praying, listening, learning, and wondering. Some of you may be wondering what is going on (if anything) and when we will see some progress. As I said, some progress isn’t readily visible. We engaged in a “Word” activity, and a “Remembering our History” exercise (which I am still reviewing). Additionally, the members of Council have had multiple conversations about what we believe God is calling us into. These conversations have helped identify and develop a depth of possibilities, but choosing a direction is a vast question with few really clear answers.

Here is what we know – Grace currently only has the capacity to support a partial time pastor. Therefore, we need to reflect on the following options as we move forward:

- 1. Extend a call for a partial time pastor, whom we do not share
- 2. Collaborate with a sister congregation in a similar situation and together share a pastor, which together is full time
- 3. Become a satellite congregation of a larger congregation
- 4. With one or more other faith communities, meld into an altogether new entity

Each of these options has advantages and disadvantages, with a variety of steps required for implementation. The Council is currently reflecting on these options, praying for guidance and wisdom. At its August 18th meeting the Council will discuss these options, working toward a recommendation to put before the membership. Please keep them and this process in your regular prayers. As you have questions, please contact President Cathy Farrell or me, we welcome such conversation.

Together in Christ <><

Pastor Wayne



Pastor offered to send Council the major options we would have for moving forward and Council will discuss within the next weeks. At our August Council meeting, we will discuss the options and which one(s) may feel like a good fit. In September we will present these options and thoughts to the congregation.

Property Committee: Wagner Property Upgrade

- **Basement radon** tested at 4.1. Property Team recommends doing nothing at this time. Council approved this recommendation.
- Property Team recommends doing complete **HVAC upgrade**. Discussion about just replacing the boiler/upgrade.
- A congregational meeting is planned for mid-August.

Information:

Hold “fair” for the community to let them know about the three churches that worship at Grace? (Cathy) The Spanish church would be happy to help with this event. Council members were urged to think of what we could do – would be an event to publicize Grace in the community.

Bible Study possibility (Pastor) Pastor Wayne will offer a bible study on Tuesdays – morning or afternoon depending on interest.

Breakfast Church (Kay) Reminder that date is August 16th for Breakfast Church and help would be appreciated.

Use of Fellowship Hall on Sundays (Kay) Kay suggested that we not offer Sundays as a choice for outside events due to the use of the hall by the other two churches on Sunday afternoons; Council agreed.

Old directories in the Narthex (Carol). Carol would like to have old directories available for members to look through to identify people from the past. It was suggested that the directories be placed near the mailboxes for access by members.

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August 2026 Serving Schedule

Date	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Lector	Acolyte	Ushers	Altar Flower Prep
08/02/26 9:30 am	Don Capanear	Gail Lockner	Wendy Walter	Usher	Walter Family	Kay Stone
08/09/26 9:30 am	Kay Stone	Carol MacDonald	Frank Stone	Usher	Paul MacDonald & Kay Stone	Carol MacDonald
08/16/26 <i>"Breakfast Church"</i> 9:30 am	Jaime Kaler	Dave Kunkel	N/A	N/A	N/A	Jaime Kaler
08/23/26 9:30 am	Emily Woltmann	Frank Stone	Peggy Schmidt	Usher	Don Capanear & Kay Deussing	Kay Stone
08/30/26 9:30 am	June Detweiler	Karen Seiler	Tami Sarm	Usher	Ken Seiler & Bob Smyrl	Kay Stone

Council Offering/Lock-up for August 2026 is: Wendy Walter

Live Streaming: Harold Schaefer, Dan & Tami Sarm



THE BREAD DROP schedule for August 2026 is: 08/04/26 Priscilla Landis; 08/11/26 Laura Kratz; 08/18/26 Jean Delmuto; 08/25/26 Emily Woltmann



I would like to thank everyone that came to the "Christmas in July" church picnic on July 22nd. We had a great time, good food and surprises; it was also great having 21 people here. Once again, I would like to thank Cathy Farrell for her gifts, everyone loved them. I hope to have the "Christmas in July" picnic next year with more Christmas surprises. Hope everyone can come! Barb Watts

August 2026 Calendar

- **The Jesus Love Church** will use our facilities on Sundays 11 am (set-up), worship 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, Fellowship Hall 1:00 – 2:00 pm. Wagner House will be Wednesday 8:00 – 9:00 am and Sunday 9:00 – 11:30 am. Friday evening worship has been changed to ***Wednesday evening from 7-9:30 pm.***
- **The Church House of Restoration Adonai** will use our facilities for the following days and times:
Sundays 3:30 -7:30 pm. Tuesdays 6:30 – 9:30 pm and Thursdays 6:30- 9:30 pm.
- Tuesdays are Bread Drop Sandwich Days. Donations are accepted from 8am to 7pm.
- ***Yoga takes a break for the summer and will return in September.***

Sat August 1, 2026

Fellowship Hall Rental, 11:30 – 5:00 pm

Sun August 2, 2026

9:30am

Pentecost 10

Pastor Wayne Shelor

Tues August 4, 2026

7:00pm

Giving In Service Meeting, meeting room

7:00pm

Stitchers

Fri August 7, 2026

6-9:30pm

Church House of Restoration

Sat August 8, 2026

3-9:30pm

Church House of Restoration

Sun August 9, 2026

9:30am

Pentecost 11

Pastor Gwendolyn King

Tues August 11, 2026

7:00pm

Property Team Meeting

7:00pm

Worship & Music Team Meeting

Sun August 16, 2026

9:30am

Pentecost 12 – “Breakfast Church”

Pastor Wayne Shelor

10:30am

Congregational Meeting immediately following worship

Tues August 18, 2026

7:00pm

Council Meeting, Zoom option

Sun August 23, 2026

9:30am

Pentecost 13

Pastor Skyle Rea

Stepping Stones is closed all week (August 24 through August 28)

Tue August 25, 2026

Inreach Meeting at Carol MacDonald’s home

Sun August 30, 2026

9:30am

Pentecost 14

Pastor Skyle Rea



YOGA (Hatha) CLASS

Yoga takes a break for the summer. See you in September
Contact Kathy Stawasz at [215-760-6297](tel:215-760-6297) if you have any questions.

Stepping Stones

August is here and somehow the new 2026-2027 school year is right around the corner. Stepping Stones will have their Keystone Stars Re-designation on August 13th and our last day of water play will be August 20th. We still have fun days like Pajama Day, Crazy Hair Day, and even Popsicle Day all sprinkled in as the summer wraps up and, as a reminder, we are closed from August 24th-August 28th. Some staff may still be here working on their classrooms however the school will not be open for business. We will re-open on Monday, August 31st for the start of the 2026-2027 school year. Enjoy the rest of your Summer!

Jessica Moran, Director



The “Hatfield 250th Anniversary Committee” asked churches to “ring their bells” in commemoration of the reading of the Declaration of Independence in Hatfield back in 1776.

Here are pictures of Grace’s “bell ringers” !



Harvest Home Sunday

September 27th

Gathering donations for Harvest Home will begin in mid-August. Watch for the table in the Narthex with a list of suggested items to donate.

The Giving in Service Team



EEC FOOD CUPBOARD

A message from Janet Hague: *"Last month we welcomed neighbors from 82 Hatfield households. Thanks to your generosity, we continue to supply food and household essentials every month."*

Current top needs:

Food items: Dry Pasta (any type including lasagna), Pasta Sauce, Tomato paste, Sugar, Flour, Ground Coffee

Household & Personal Care*: Laundry Detergent (unscented/free & clear), Shampoo & Conditioner (please make sure lids are secure), Dishwashing Liquid

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: August 4 & 18

Tuesdays 1 - 2 pm: August 11 & 25

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.



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:

Laurie Davanzo (neighbor of the MacDonalds), Linda Dexter (friend of Peggy & Bruce Schmidt), Barbara Hess, Raymond Masser, Aaron O'Conner (Liz Bauer's son), Chuck Slugg, Rich Woltmann, Shirley Yoder.

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

For all who grieve, including the family & friends of: Annette Beyer (friend of the Reillys), Alice Ciarrocca (friend of Karen Heacock & Phyllis McKeefrey), Lois DeSantis, Bernard Didden, Debbie Boerner Hair (family of the MacDonalds), Irene Krohnemann, Margaret (Peggy) Long, Cindy Mancuso, Lisa Ronan (neighbor of the MacDonalds), John F. Homan.

For those in active-duty military service: Cole Dempsey, Air Force (Laura Kratz's grandson), Nathaniel Smyrl, PA Army National Guard, Joe Recco, Navy (Raymond Masser's grandson).



You're Invited
To Join Us In

A BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER

For

Kitty Heckler

ON HER 85TH BIRTHDAY

AUGUST 17, 2026

Please Mail Birthday Cards to:

Mrs. Kitty Heckler

Abbeyville Rehab & Nursing Home

100 Abbeyville Rd., Rm. 20-B

Lancaster, PA 17603

Cards, Stamps & Labels are
available in the Narthex if
needed



Grace Lutheran Church
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Interim Pastor, Rev. Wayne Shelor

Minister of Music, Tedd Didden

Lynn Fasick, Office Administrator

Graceassistant40@gmail.com

Stepping Stones 215.368.2052

Jessica Moran, Director



August 16th
"Breakfast Church"
9:30 am at Grace



August 16th, Congregational Meeting immediately following "Breakfast Church"

Stepping Stones is closed the week of August 24 through August 28.

View our website by scanning this code:



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