



Grace Notes

Gather • Feed • Send

March 2024

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Ecumenical choir presentation “Songs of Our Time: A Lenten Meditation” Wednesday, March 20

On Wednesday, March 20, as a part of our Lenten journey, Grace will host the 11th Annual Ecumenical Choir program, “Songs of Our Time: A Lenten Meditation.” Led by Laurel Sanders, Director of Music and Arts Ministries, the program includes a choir of 43 singers from 15 churches; The Bells of Grace, directed by Sarah Rogers and guest artists providing violin, string bass, piano and mandolin. The program will also include chanted reflections sung by Drew Hardyk, interactive readings and solo dancers. This is the first program since music was largely interrupted by the 2020 pandemic and it will offer meditations on mercy, hope, peace, love, unity, light, joy and life – tenets of our faith which are sometimes challenging to embrace.

The evening will begin at **6:40 p.m.** (after our Super Wednesday meal) with prelude music by pianist Victoria Petrosky, a member of the Central Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association and teacher at the Music Academy in State College. Victoria will also accompany the choir.

The program features works by prominent contemporary composers of sacred music. This event is open to all and there is no admission cost. We are delighted this treasured event is returning! Why not invite your family and friends to join you for dinner in Harkins Hall and the program? Together we will explore God’s mercy and the ways God’s guiding light, within us and around us, helps us to walk in love, even in challenging times. To learn more about the featured composers and music, check out p. 5 or contact Laurel at lsanders@glcpa.org.

Holy Week & Easter Sunday Worship Schedule

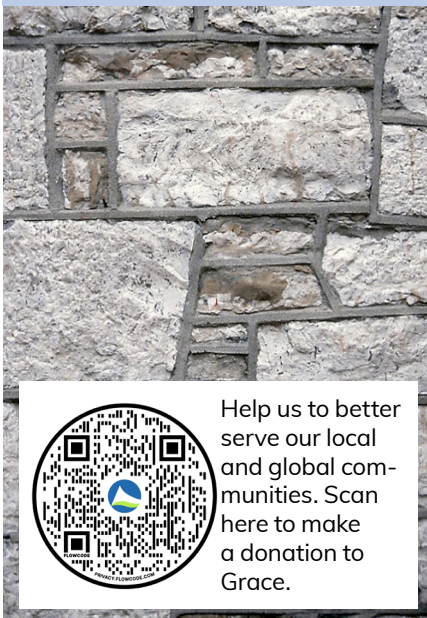
March 24, Palm Sunday, begins the journey of Holy Week. We celebrate Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem with palms and shouts of “Hosanna!” We meet Jesus in the meal, remembering his command to love one another. We strip the altar remembering Jesus’ betrayal, entering the darkness of crucifixion and the tomb. Easter is **March 31**. We’ll celebrate Christ’s resurrection victory over death and new life! Our worship schedule is below and on our website. Why not invite someone who is looking for good news to come and see? Looking for live-stream? Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Sunday **10:30 a.m.** worship will be streamed. However we gather, we look forward to following Jesus with you.

Holy Week Services

3/24/24	8, 9 & 10:30 a.m.	Palm Sunday Services
3/27/24	12:15 & 6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service (and concert make-up, if necessary)
3/28/24	6:15 p.m.	Maundy Thursday
3/29/24	1:00 p.m.	Good Friday Stations of the Cross at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church
	6:15 p.m.	Evening Tenebrae Service at Grace

Easter Sunday Worship Schedule

3/31/24	6:30 a.m.	Sunrise Worship and communion. Join us for sunrise breakfast after in Harkins Hall.
	8:00 a.m.	Festive worship with piano, flute and communion
	9:00 a.m.	Festive worship with organ, brass ensemble and communion
	10:30 a.m.	Festive worship with organ, brass ensemble and communion



Help us to better serve our local and global communities. Scan here to make a donation to Grace.

From Our Senior Pastor



The Rev. Scott E. Schul
pastorschul@glcpa.org

The Great Commission

This year's Super Bowl game between the Chiefs and 49ers was quite entertaining, but the commercials are always the highlight for me. This year, one set of commercials sparked controversy in theological circles. It was a series of spots focused on scenes of people caring for one another – even washing feet. The commercials ended by saying that Jesus “gets us.”

By any standard, the commercials were tasteful and very well done. The Super Bowl is a huge platform, and the sponsors of the commercials seized that opportunity to raise the profile of Jesus, in compliance with Jesus's command in Matthew 28 to “make disciples of all nations” (something we refer to as the “Great Commission”).

But the commercials ignited a bit of a firestorm in many quarters. Some took issue with the spots because they initiated a “bait and switch” by presenting a loving and compassionate Jesus who is inconsistent with the very rigid and legalistic theology of the group which sponsored the commercials.

But we must remember that Jesus often scandalizes us by the company he keeps. In chapter 9 of Mark's Gospel we read that the disciples were upset that someone outside their inner circle was healing people in Jesus' name. They wanted to put a stop to it. But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us.”

Others complained that the money spent on the commercials could have been used more faithfully if devoted to charitable needs. But let's recall that in John 12, after Mary poured expensive perfume upon Jesus to anoint him for his forthcoming death, it was Judas who got mad, complaining that the perfume should have been sold and the money given to the poor (in actuality he wanted to pocket it for himself). Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

So who is right?

This little Super Bowl controversy highlights our contemporary difficulty in holding competing ideas in healthy tension. We need to find a way to do multiple things at once and not view everything in life as a binary yes-or-no choice. Christians need to do a better job teaching people about Jesus. At the same time, we need to use our resources to help those who are struggling. Will all of our partners in this work meet our standards or have perfect-

ly holy motives? Of course not. They are flawed just like us.

For me the bottom line is that we are living in an age when fewer and fewer people either know about Jesus or think he matters in their lives. We need to teach and proclaim our faith more intentionally and effectively. Likewise, so many people are in need right now. We have to find ways to put our faith into action by loving and serving our hurting neighbors. It's not about choosing one or the other. We must do both.

Go
THEREFORE AND MAKE
DISCIPLES OF ALL
nations...

MATTHEW 28:19, NRSV



So where do we start?

We start with you. Don't wait for large corporations or religious denominations or even your local congregation to address all these needs. Too often institutions turn into debating societies – so called havens of “paralysis by analysis.” If you think the followers of Jesus can and should change the world

(which is true), it will happen person-to-person. Be a good neighbor. Be a good friend. Take care of your family. Talk about your faith. Invite someone to church. Reach out to someone in need. If each of us can do these things, it will go a long way toward caring for the needy and spreading the Good News of Jesus' love and mercy.

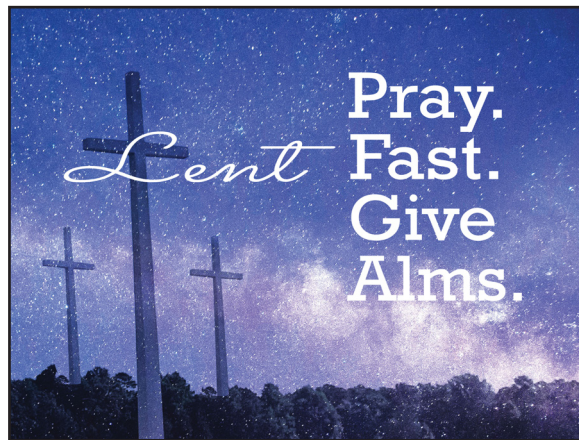
Lent

How is your Lent going so far? We had outstanding attendance at our Ash Wednesday services on **February 14**. As I preached that night, we must care for and regularly tend our souls, just as we do with our bodies and even our cars. The traditional Ash Wednesday Gospel lesson, from Matthew 6, lays out three time-tested ways to assess how you're doing. Think of them like the warning lights on your car's dashboard. They are the traditional Lenten disciplines of giving alms, praying, and fasting.

- (1) Giving alms: how generous are you in your giving to the poor and to the ministries of the church?
- (2) Praying: how often do you pray as an individual, and how regularly do you gather with your church for worship?
- (3) Finally, fasting. Unlike some Christian denominations, we Lutherans tend to eat and do whatever we want whenever we want. Jesus doesn't love us any less because of that, but I wonder if our tendency to overindulge our every appetite and desire dulls our ability to love Jesus.

In both Matthew's and Mark's Gospels, the first message Jesus delivered during his ministry was not to

sing the old Billy Joel song, "I love you just the way you are." He told us to "repent." It's the most loving thing he could possibly say. It's a reminder that we humans easily get sidetracked. We invest our time and our money into worldly treasures that won't last, and we neglect our true treasures – our souls, the Kingdom of Heaven, and our relationship with Christ.



With that in mind, let's be bluntly honest. Nowadays, faith in Christ is about as low as it's been in a very long time. That was the case prior to the COVID pandemic, but COVID accelerated all of these dangerous trends. Across all denominational and ideological lines, people are praying less, giving less, and attending worship less. These are self-destructive trends that we must reverse. Of course Jesus loves us - eternally and unconditionally. But he won't force you to take your car to a mechanic, and he's not going to drag you into either a church or heaven if you don't want to be there.

But what Jesus has done is give us this amazing season of Lent as a chance to honestly take stock of our lives. We, just like our worldly treasures, are nothing but dust. Here today, and gone tomorrow.

Yet despite this, Christ considers you the absolute most beloved thing in the entire universe. It pains him to see us spiritually limping along like cars with engines about to fall apart. It's not that he needs our praise or attention. Rather, he knows us better than we know ourselves, and so he knows how much we need to be close to him.

Jesus calls us to **give generously** because a heart that gives is a spiritually healthy and alive heart. Jesus calls us to **pray** because a heart that prays is a heart that beats with the spirit of Christ himself, and that's a heart that'll beat forever. And Jesus calls us to **fast** – to, in other words, live sacrificially and not indulgently, because that sort of simple, humble life will keep us focused on the treasures that

really matter – heavenly treasures – and not get obsessed with treasures moths and rust consume.

And so friends the season of Lent has begun. It's a blessed opportunity for us to tend our true treasures and course-correct as needed. I know it isn't easy. But when it gets difficult, don't despair. You aren't alone. Your Lord is with you as you strive and struggle. He never leaves your side, because you are his greatest treasure. Thanks be to God.

Good Friday

For many years the downtown churches participated in a three-hour ecumenical service on the afternoon of Good Friday. That tradition paused during COVID and it appears unlikely we will be able to resume it. I think it is important for our congregations to find reasons to

~ Cont'd on p. 18

From Our Associate Pastor

Giving Up Starvation

One of the disciplines of Lent is fasting. Growing up this meant I saw my Catholic friends giving up meat on Fridays, or trying to give up something else for 40 days that they wouldn't miss too much. These days "fast" usually has a whole different meaning centered in how quickly and efficiently we accomplish many things. We live in a world of fast food, fast fashion and fast lives. Over the last century we have moved from slow preparing and group work to "personal convenience," sold to us as more time to play and relax and freeing us from needing each other. However, our lives of endless choice and convenience can feel, at times, like we are on a spinning wheel we cannot escape even as we think we are doing what is best.

This is true for parents, busy retirees and our Disciples Together community. Just on Wednesdays alone, in addition to Fitlink, some Disciples have Special Olympics practice, Kiwanis Aktion Club, Late Nite on campus, Scouts, Harmony singing, jobs, doctors appointments and more. Your list may look different but feel the same. As we are filled with all these parts of our lives, I can't help but wonder if all our fast lives are starved in another way.

There is a difference between fasting and starving. We think we cannot fit in another thing, but sometimes feel something is still missing. We imagine there are some people who possess the possibility of detaching themselves from daily concerns to embrace time with God

in community but not us. We can be so busy surviving, we cannot imagine more. Don't we hunger for more? As I listen, I think we do.

Lent is a time for recovering Christ's Church as community. It's a community formed by people who have equal dignity and the same call and invitation to step into holiness by our baptism. It is not about grand gestures for 40 days, or just Christmas and Easter. We can encounter holiness in hundreds of little steps every day. It is a slow journey. Would it sound better if, instead of "slow," I said it was "intentional" or "purposeful?" This already sounds more aligned with God's way of being with us. I want to share with you stories of such little steps and leave you with some larger ways to begin to reclaim space in our community and fill our collective hunger.

Over four years I've had a vision of deepening community with our Disciples Together. Pandemic woes, changes in staff and people's busy lives and schedules seemed to make getting from Point A to Point B challenging. It took lots of very little steps to build this small community group. It took time for me to realize that this is a small group ministry and to fight the urge to wonder why it hovers at 30 people and is not an ever growing crowd. It is what it should be. It took time for support professionals to get comfortable and for parents - who are used to doors being closed on their loved ones - to trust they are open here at Grace. It took time to find the right gathering times. Four years later, on Ash Wednesday, some of our folks stayed for Ash Wednesday



The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick
pastorhetrick@glcpa.org

worship all because two of them wanted to and they encouraged the others to join. From the outside looking in, one might not realize all of this. Sharing ashes and communion with our fellow disciples was so joyous. To be in church together was pure gift for us all.

At Grace, over the last couple years, when I see someone missing for awhile, I've sent emails to check in, made phone calls, left messages, and written cards just to tell them I am praying for them. Sometimes those go unreturned. But then, one day there will be a call, or an email or someone comes to worship and we get to catch up on what has been happening and celebrate being together. "We finally made it. Mornings are not always good for us." Or, "We needed to hear you ask us about worship and communion to get back to coming." Or "It was hard to come because I worried what people would say, but it was so good to have my church family love me again." Never judgment, always love. Those little steps matter. We leave feeling full.

We always offer to pray for people at food distribution and invite them to worship or our Wednesday meal. This past week, a young PhD

student from India came to the meal and worship. When he saw me he waved enthusiastically. People near him asked him how he knew their pastor, to which he replied, “I see her when I come for the food. She prays for me and invited me to come, so I did.” Other members purposefully set the table and get food for our Disciples Together each week so they can sit. Little steps mean a lot for those who give and who receive. It reminds us we have worth.

One family with three busy athletes picks one Sunday a month where they choose they will all be in worship together. It may feel chaotic, but every time they leave, they say that they feel so good. Recharged and renewed in purpose and holiness. When they share this others can see the journey for themselves too.

Hundreds of little steps can lead to the power of finding healing and wholeness in the community

of Jesus. Little steps don’t get us somewhere fast, but in God’s grace, they change us. We can stop feeling isolated and starving. We need Jesus and we need each other to feel fed and whole.

Here are 10 ways to take those little steps into holiness for yourself and the world:

1. Say “hello” to everyone. (Don’t be disappointed if they do not respond.)
2. Say “thank you” (even if it doesn’t get some thanking you for thanking them).
3. Remind people how much you love them (even if they do not “love” you back.)
4. Be the one to help instead of wondering who will.
5. Help others overcome obstacles (rather than thinking that’s what they should accept.)
6. Celebrate the good sides and successes of others (rather than their flaws).
7. Lift someone’s spirits (but don’t be exasperated if you perform

no “miracle”).

8. Patiently listen without prejudice (don’t say “but that’s not my experience”).
9. Tell someone you miss them (without judgment). Offer a concrete way to spend time together.
10. If someone crosses your mind, it could be a nudge from God to connect- pray for them, call them, email them.

If you think that is a lot of work, remember God’s calling is not heavy; it is an invitation to live and share God’s joy in our daily moments. By the end of this month, we’ll be rejoicing that others said, “We have seen the Lord!” Maybe now is the season in which we fast from our busy-ness to draw others closer to see Jesus too. Blessings to you friends, as we take these small steps toward the holiness of Christ and find new life together.

~ Pastor Carolyn

Songs of Our Time: A Lenten Meditation Presented by an ecumenical choir from the Centre Region and The Bells of Grace

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at
Grace Lutheran Church

5:00-6:15 Community fellowship meal

6:40 Piano prelude: music of J.S. Bach; classics

7:00 Songs of Our Time: A Lenten Meditation

Our program will feature music of prominent contemporary composers of sacred music including Craig Courtney, Greg Gilpin, Kevin McChesney, Mark Miller, Michael John Trotta, Susan LaBarr, Mark Hayes, Larry Shackley, and Fred Gramman. Prelude music will be provided by pianist Victoria Petrosky, who also accompanies the ecumenical choir. Selections include Tchaikovsky’s *In Church* as well as J.S. Bach’s *I Call On Thee, Lord Jesus Christ* as well as other music by Bach and Schubert.

Laurel Sanders, Director, Ecumenical Choir
Sarah Rodgers, Director, The Bells of Grace





Finances for 2024

	GLC Actual Income vs. Expense, January 2024	GLC Budgeted Income vs. Expense, January 2024	+ or (-)	%
Income	\$72,189.62	\$73,840.00	(\$1,650.38)	-2.23%
Expenses	\$76,259.88	\$96,301.26	(\$20,041.38)	-20.81%
Net Income	(\$4,070.26)	(\$22,461.26)		

Spring is just around the corner! Thank you for your generous giving in January, which was significantly higher than January 2023. Our expenses were quite a bit lower than budgeted, and so on an overall income/loss basis we performed over \$18,000 better than the budget anticipated. Despite a very rosy January fiscal report, we remain behind on giving for the fiscal year as a whole. And so as we reflect on the renewal of spring time, if you have missed Sundays due to travel or weather, please consider making up those missed gifts, because Grace's expenses never take a holiday. The most convenient and helpful way to ensure steady support is by a secure, scheduled monthly bank transfer (called an "ACH") from you to Grace. To set this up, or to increase or change your monthly account transfer, email Sally Grine, Finc. Admin. at sgrine@glcpa.org or call her at 814-238-2478. You can also donate using any major credit card via Tithe.ly, which is accessible via the GIVE button on our website at www.glcpa.org. Please consider covering the processing fee (approximately 2% of your donation) to ensure Grace benefits fully from your support. An increase of \$20, \$10, \$5, or even \$1 per week from many people can make a significant difference. *Thank you!*

EASTER FLOWERS / SOCIAL MINISTRY GIFT FORM

Deadline for placing your flower order is Sunday, March 6, 2024

Name: _____
 Email and/or Phone #: _____



I / We would like to order (please write the number of plants)
 _____ white lilies \$10 ea. _____ tulips (mixed colors) \$10 ea.

Plant(s) are given: _____ To the Glory of God

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Special gift in lieu of flowers to benefit Mid-State Literacy Council

Deadline to give is **March 31**. Deadline to be acknowledged for donation in the Easter bulletin is **March 17**.
 As an alternative to purchasing flowers, donations to Mid-State Literacy Council may be made via the offering plate or by leaving your gift in the office. Please make checks payable to 'Grace Lutheran' with Mid State Literacy Council in the memo line. For more information about Mid State Literacy Council visit: <https://www.mid-stateliteracycouncil.org/>

My / our donation of \$ _____ is given: _____ To the Glory of God

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Preparing our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Sunday	First Reading	Psalms	Second Reading	Holy Gospel
March 3 Third Sunday in Lent	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalms 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
March 10 Fourth Sunday in Lent	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
March 17 Fifth Sunday in Lent	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalms 51:1-12	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
March 24 Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalms 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1--15:47
March 31 Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day	Acts 10:34-43	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Mark 16:1-8



Lenten Midweek, Holy Week & Easter Sunday Worship Schedule

Midweek Lenten Services

3/6/24	12:15 & 6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service
3/13/24	12:15 & 6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service
3/20/24	7:00 p.m.	Ecumenical Choir Concert (with 6:40 p.m. prelude)
3/27/24	12:15 & 6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service (and concert make-up, if necessary)

Holy Week Services

3/24/24	8, 9 & 10:30 a.m.	Palm Sunday Services
3/27/24	12:15 & 6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service (and concert make-up, if necessary)
3/28/24	6:15 p.m.	Maundy Thursday
3/29/24	1:00 p.m.	Good Friday Stations of the Cross at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
	6:15 p.m.	Evening Tenebrae Service at Grace

Easter Sunday Worship Schedule

3/31/24	6:30 a.m.	Sunrise Worship and communion. Join us for sunrise breakfast after in Harkins Hall.
	8:00 a.m.	Festive worship with piano, flute and communion
	9:00 a.m.	Festive worship with organ, brass ensemble and communion
	10:30 a.m.	Festive worship with organ, brass ensemble and communion

We Rejoice in Christ Our Savior!



News and Events in MARCH

KIDS' WORSHIP & FINE ARTS SUMMER CAMP AT GRACE WITH DR. MICHAEL BURKHARDT

We are thrilled to announce organist, composer, and children's music educator, Dr. Michael Burkhardt, is coming to State College to lead his **WORSHIP & FINE ARTS SUMMER CAMP FOR KIDS** who are entering grades 2-8 in the fall! The camp takes place from **June 24-27 (Monday through Thursday) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at Grace.

Based on the theme "Take It to the Lord in Prayer," the camp invites children to **MAKE, RING, DRUM, and SING** as they pray the psalms with guest artistic director Michael Burkhardt and regional fine arts educators. This is a unique opportunity for children to come together in a safe and welcoming environment to grow spiritually and musically. Michael is known internationally for his creative work with children, innovative and inspiring hymn festivals, and organ recitals.

Registration is now open; details and registration are found at <https://www.glcpa.org/grace-music-camp>. Early bird registration is **March 8**. See our full-page poster with more details on p. 15.



At its February 2024 meeting, Grace's Church Council:

- Approved a minor enhancement to our contract with Landserv regarding the ADA entrance reconstruction that will provide for enhanced milling, grading, and smoothing;
- Approved Pastor Hetrick's Lilly Grant Application for her 2025 sabbatical; and
- Engaged in some brainstorming about the congregation's current state of interest in adult education offerings, and considered ways we might interest the congregation in more robustly embracing the opportunity to learn more about Jesus.

Did you know...

...that the 2024 Allegheny Synod Assembly will be held on **Saturday, June 15, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** at the Blair County Convention Center?

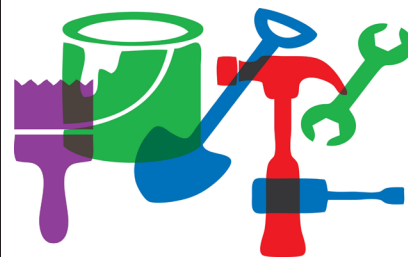


Allegheny Synod Assembly



Easter Morning Breakfast following the Sunrise Service

Join us **Sunday, March 31** immediately following the Sunrise Service. Breakfast will be served **7:30-8:15 a.m.** Menu: scrambled eggs, bacon, oven-roasted potatoes, fresh fruit cup, pastry, orange juice, coffee and tea.



Helping Hands

The Helping Hands Team will be traveling to Camp Sequanota for a week of work and fun from **May 5-10**. The plan is to leave in the afternoon on **May 5** and work at camp on various projects throughout the week.

Anyone is welcome to join us at camp, even if it is only for a day or part of the week! There will be work for all skill levels and no prior experience is necessary. If you are interested in joining us on our trip, please contact Alyson Hoegg at alysonm.hoegg@gmail.com for more information.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

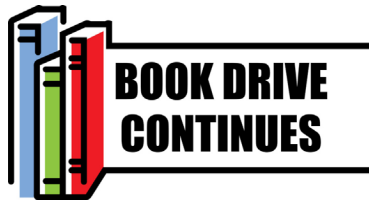
Stephen Ministry at Grace

Easter brings with it the promise of renewal and the remembrance of living without fear because God revealed to us through Jesus that even death is overcome. Matthew writes that when Christ emerged from his tomb on Easter morning the first words he spoke to the women who had gathered there were “Do not be afraid!” (Matthew 28:5,10) While we know that these words should comfort us in life’s challenges, sometimes we need help with getting to a place of renewal and healing. Grace’s Stephen Ministry was developed to provide someone to walk alongside those of us who are hurting. Stephen Ministers, through listening, understanding, and prayer, provide a helpful presence to those who may be experiencing such things as illness, grief, job loss, financial difficulties, or a crumbling relationship. All care is confidential and under the supervision of Pastor Hetrick.

If you or someone you know thinks that they would benefit from a Stephen Minister relationship, please reach out to Grace’s Stephen Ministry Coordinator, Brenda Palmgren at 814-574-1039 (bpalmgren@glcpa.org) or Pastor Hetrick at 814-238-2478 (pastorhetrick@glcpa.org).

Meals for Moms & More

Whether you have just had a new baby, just came home from the hospital, or just experienced a loss, let’s be honest, sometimes thinking about what’s for dinner is a challenge those first couple days. Here at Grace we have a group of people willing to make or provide meals for such times. Depending upon your circumstance, it can be home cooked, or it can be a meal from a restaurant or groceries delivered. Crystal Egan is our coordinator. To sign up to be on our list of helpers, or to request meal support, visit our website (glcpa.org) or App and click on **Serve**. Select Congregation Care and you will see the option to say “I’m interested” for Meals. You can add your message and send it to be addressed.



Book Drive for Mid-State Literacy Council

The annual book drive for Mid-State Literacy Council continues this month until **March 24**. Look for the big container in the narthex. New and gently used fiction and non-fiction books for all ages are welcome. Please make sure books do not have writing in them or any personal information such as names, pictures and bookmarks. Your donations will help both school children without easy access to books and adults enrolled in literary classes. Thank you in advance for your support.



Sisters of Grace Meet Again March 11

The first meeting for 2024 of the Sisters of Grace Circle will be **Monday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room**. The program will be a presentation about Interfaith Human Services by board president Sue Forster. Subsequent meetings will center on the book *The Sacred Way: Spiritual Practices for Everyday Life* by Tony Jones. All women and friends are welcome to attend any and all meetings. Questions may be directed to Bonnie Burris (bonnieburris@comcast.net) or Lois Lynn (loissteve@comcast.net).

The Garden of Readin’ meets March 19

The next meeting of the Garden of Readin’ (Women’s Book Club) is **Tuesday, March 19 at 10:30 a.m. in the Stinson Library** (also available on Zoom). The selected book is *The Butterfly Collector* by Tea Cooper. The discussion will be facilitated by Phyllis Verderame. Contact Lois Lynn (loissteve@comcast.net) for details.

Comfort Makers

Comfort Makers would like to say “THANKS” to all individuals and families that completed quilt top kits. Your help makes it possible for us to finish so many comfort quilts. Your skills are appreciated. **We meet the second and fourth Tuesday’s from 9 - 11 a.m. in the Stinson library** and would welcome any additional Comfort Makers.

Disciples Together

Disciples Together: This past month, the Disciples Together met in the Library to begin the season of Lent with the theme, "Life is Messy. God is Here." We distributed Lent devotions and tea light candles. A group of our Disciples attended Ash Wednesday worship and many are eager to begin Special Olympics practices. We will meet next in April for teaching on communion. We also had a two "house" Movie Night and are planning a dance party in May. You can also find some of us at Good Day Cafe, and starting in March some of our Disciples will be taking the food we collect to the State College Area Food Bank and helping with our Food Distributions. We really are all disciples together.



DEIB Team News


March is recognized in the United States as Women's History Month. The recognition comes from decades of work from many organizations, most notably, the National Women's History Alliance. During Women's History month it is a time to honor the important role of Women in American history. Each year the National Women's History Alliance chooses a theme. The theme for 2024 is Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.

Reflect:

- Who are the influential women in your life?
- Who are influential women in the history of Christianity or our church here at Grace?

During the Month of March the DEIB team recognizes and honors the dates listed below:
 March 8 International Women's Day
 March 24 Palm Sunday
 March 28 Holy Thursday
 March 29 Good Friday
 March 31 Transgender Day of Visibility
 March 31 Easter

Please join us! Our meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month at 7 p.m. in the fireside room and via Zoom. Contact Natalie Slane at nataliejslane@gmail.com or Sarah Rodgers at skroddgers@hotmail.com with any questions.



God beyond time ... teach us to
 pause in this moment, to tuck
 ourselves into the curve of your
 slow arm, that we may know the
 miracle of now, the gift of this
 moment: you beside and beyond
 us, welcoming us outside of all
 we measure, and standing with us
 in it. May we see the goodness of
 our still hours and days, sunrises,
 sunsets, and the darkness where
 our rest is found.

— Micha Boyett
 in *A Rhythm of Prayer*
 (edited by Sarah Bessey)



Hiking and Biking, Oh My!

Spring is coming and it's time to get out and celebrate God's creation. In April, Pastor Carolyn will be planning a hike on **April 6** (at a site TBD) and a trail bike ride on **April 20**. The biking will be on the Lower Trail and will include ice cream at the Creamery in Williamsburg. If you are interested please email her at pastorhetrick@glcpa.org so we can plan our adventures!



Green Tip for MARCH

With the end of winter, I always notice how much litter has accumulated along our roads. While I suspect none of you reading this ever throw trash out of your vehicles, we are all part of the problem to some degree. Our "addiction" to plastic is causing major problems around the globe. From the amount of plastic in our oceans and even the seafood we consume, to the tons of trash and toxic fumes (when it is sometimes burned) in places where our plastic is shipped, plastic creates lots of environmental hazards. Lots of detail about the impact of plastic can be found at <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/single-use-plastics-101#corporations>.



Please make deliberate consumption choices to limit your dependence on plastic whenever possible. Consider some of these:

- Use tap or filtered water in a reusable bottle rather than buying water in single-use plastic bottles.
- Purchase produce that isn't wrapped in plastic, e.g. bulk mushrooms, loose fruits and vegetables, etc. Bring your own reusable bags to place items in. There are lots of options available. Search "reusable produce bags" to find ones you like.
- Use waxed "paper" rather than plastic wraps or bags to cover food. Local stores, like Kitchen Kaboodle, sell them. There are many brands; Bee's Wrap, is one I have used and feel it works well and lasts through many re-uses.
- Use your consumer power to purchase items that are not packaged in plastic.
- If you belong to any shopper groups that use product surveys, request that they limit or stop plastic packaging. Tell them, all things being equal (or maybe even at a higher product cost), you'll choose to purchase items that are not wrapped in plastic over ones that are.
- If you are inclined, contact governmental officials to institute restrictions to either incentivize limits or "tax" the use of plastics in our day-to-day lives (e.g. ban single-use plastic bags in retail stores or at least charge for them).



Tour Greece with Pastor Schul: Oct. 1-12

Friends, if you want to learn more about Jesus and grow your faith, make plans to join me this October as we travel together to the "other" Holy Land, Greece, where so much of the New Testament unfolded. Our pilgrimage will be organized by the same company that took us to Israel last summer, and will feature a variety of ancient and Biblical sites in Greece and Turkey. It will be a rich and rewarding time of reflection as we walk in the footsteps of Paul and the first apostles. The trip is all-inclusive. Airfare, in-country bus transportation, guides, breakfast and dinner, hotels - it's all part of the package price of \$4,790. You just have to show up and be prepared for your heart to be transformed. Interested? Contact me for more information. My email address is pastorschul@glcpa.org. Or see full tour details at <http://tinyurl.com/SchulGreece2024>. It will be an unforgettable experience!

~ Pastor Schul

Anti-Hunger Update

TRENDS: We are currently seeing quite an increase in the number of families coming to our food distributions. In checking with the Central PA Food Bank, many distribution centers are seeing the same trend. We were averaging 115 families, but on **January 25** we had 152 families and on **February 8** we had 136 families. We have asked the Central PA Food Bank to increase the amount of food that they are sending to us.

VOLUNTEERS! I am so thankful for all of the dedicated people who have volunteered to help with our distributions. My goal is to have 20 volunteers for each food distribution. Some people help with just the unloading of the truck and pre-bagging of the food. Some only help with the distributing the food, and some people help with all parts. Since we have been working with the Central PA Food Bank, I have needed to keep track of the number of volunteer hours. I am totally amazed that since September we have had a total of 739.71 volunteer hours! This shows us how much work we are doing to help our neighbors. I am so proud of our Anti-hunger team and feel blessed to work with our volunteers. I look forward to working with you in the future and I welcome anyone else who wants to join us. Please contact me, Kathy Kalbach, at kathymkalbach@gmail.com with any questions.

Anti-hunger Food Distribution Totals

Date	TOTAL Households	TOTAL Individuals	TOTAL # of Volunteer Hours
Sept. 14, 2023	115	236	64.7
Sept. 28, 2023	107	294	66
Oct 12, 2023	106	299	70.61
Oct 26, 2023	107	310	48.75
Nov 9, 2023	114	315	76.25
Nov 30, 2023	114	316	73.5
Dec 14, 2023	113	322	58
Dec 28, 2023	99	309	85
Jan 11, 2024	128	357	69
Jan 25, 2024	152	419	63.5
Feb 8, 2024	136	386	64.4
TOTALS	1291	3563	739.71

Future food distribution dates on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in the Grace parking lot

March 14
March 28
April 11
April 25



Starting at **1:30 p.m.** to unpack food and **3:30 p.m.** to distribute.

SC Food Bank Needs

The Food Bank of the State College is always in need of donations. Grace Lutheran church collects donations monthly in the church narthex on the first Sunday of each month at each worship service. Cash/check donations, grocery store gift cards, and brown paper grocery bags are always accepted.

Current Needs

- GREATEST NEED! Ready-to-Serve Soups (Progresso, Campbell's CHUNKY, etc.)
- Spaghetti (1 lb. boxes)
- Pasta Sauce
- Tomato Product (diced, stewed, paste, sauce, etc.)
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, pineapple, applesauce)
- Snack Items (crackers, cookies, chips/pretzels, granola bars, etc.)
- Gluten-Free items (pasta, flour, baking items, snacks, etc.)
- Ground Coffee
- Condiments
- Oil (vegetable, canola, olive oil)

Non-Food Items

- Laundry Detergent
- Liquid Dish Soap
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Bar Soap
- Body Wash






We cannot accept expired or opened food items. Please check the expiration dates on items before donating them. Our food donation guidelines provide assistance in determining what can be accepted.









<https://scfoodbank.org/donate/current-needs-list>



MARCH 2024

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 205 South Garner Street • State College, PA 16801
 Phone: 814-238-2478 • Webpage: www.glcpa.org

<p>Friday, March 1 9a - 2:30p GLP 5:30p NA Group/Library</p>	<p>Saturday, March 2</p> 
<p>Friday, March 8 NO GLP Spring Break 5:30p NA Group/Library</p>	<p>Saturday, March 9</p> 
<p>Thursday, March 7 NO GLP Spring Break 1:15p Ministry Coordinators 7:30p AA Group 7:30p Scouts BSA</p>	<p>Wednesday, March 6 NO GLP Spring Break 12:15p Midweek Lenten Svc 3p Worship at the Village 5:15p Super Wednesday/ Harkins 6p Family Activity Time/ Miller Cntr 6:15p Midweek Lenten Svc 7p Choir Practice</p>
<p>Thursday, March 14 9a - 2:30p GLP 10:30a GLP Children's Chapel 3:30p Food Distribution/ Grace Parking Lot 7:30p AA Group 7:30p Scouts BSA</p> 	<p>Friday, March 15 9a - 12p GLP Staff Mtg. No Enrichment Classes 5:30p NA Group/Library Middle School Fun Night & Confirmation / Miller Cntr</p> 
<p>Wednesday, March 13 9a - 2:30p GLP 12:15p Midweek Lenten Svc 4p FILLINK Miller Cntr 5p REJOICE/ choir room Joyful Noise/ Rm 203 5:15p Super Wednesday/ Harkins 6p Family Activity Time/ Miller Cntr 6:15p Midweek Lenten Svc 7p Choir Practice</p>	<p>Tuesday, March 12 9a - 2:30p GLP 9:30a Staff Meeting/Fireside 6:30p Ecumenical Choir Rehearsal Make-up date/ Sanctuary Church Council 7p</p>
<p>Tuesday, March 12 9a - 2:30p GLP 9:30a Staff Meeting/Fireside 6:30p Ecumenical Choir Rehearsal Make-up date/ Sanctuary Church Council 7p</p>	<p>Monday, March 11 9a - 2:30p GLP 10:30a GLP Children's Chapel 6p Women of Grace/ Fireside</p> 
<p>Monday, March 4 NO GLP Spring Break Spring Break </p>	<p>Sunday, March 3 Third Sunday in Lent 8a Worship 9a Worship 10a Coffee Hour/Harkins 10:30a Worship 2p Ecumenical Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary</p>
<p>Sunday, March 10 Fourth Sunday in Lent 8a Worship 9a Worship, Echo S.S. 10a Coffee Hour/Harkins Crossfire Rehearsal 10:30a Worship 10:45a Cafe S.S./ Natheax 11:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary 11:30a LCM Luncheon Ecumenical Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary 2p</p>	<p>Sunday, March 10 Fourth Sunday in Lent 8a Worship 9a Worship, Echo S.S. 10a Coffee Hour/Harkins Crossfire Rehearsal 10:30a Worship 10:45a Cafe S.S./ Natheax 11:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal/ Sanctuary 11:30a LCM Luncheon Ecumenical Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary 2p</p>

<p>Sunday, March 17</p> <p>Fifth Sunday in Lent</p> <p>8a Worship 9a Worship, Echo S.S. 10a Coffee Hour/Harkins Crossfire Rehearsal Munchkin Brunchkin/ Miller Cntr 10:30a Worship 10:45a Cafe S.S./ Narthex 11:30a Bell Choir LCM Luncheon/ Fireside 2p Ecumenical Choir Rehearsal / Sanctuary 5p Youth Group / Miller Cntr 7p Young Adult Bible Study / Miller Cntr</p>	<p>Monday, March 18</p> <p>9a - 2:30p GLP Marianna's Hoagies and Pizza Fundraiser begins 7p DEIB mtg/ Fireside</p> 	<p>Tuesday, March 19</p> <p>9a - 2:30p GLP 9:30a Staff Meeting/Fireside 10:30a Garden of Readin' Library</p> 	<p>Wednesday, March 20</p> <p>9a - 2:30p GLP Confirmations for 2024-2025 school year mailed 12:15p Midweek Lenten Svc 4p FiLink/ Miller Cntr 5p REJOICE/ choir room 5:15p Joyful Noise/ Rm 203 Super Wednesday! 6p Harkins Family Activity Time/ Miller Cntr 6:40p Ecumenical Choir Program Prelude 7p Ecumenical Choir Program</p>	<p>Thursday, March 21</p> <p>9a - 2:30p GLP 3p Stephen Ministry/ Library 7:30p AA Group/Library Boyscout Troop/ Harkins Hall</p> 	<p>Friday, March 22</p> <p>9a - 2:30p GLP 5:30p NA Group/Library</p> 	<p>Saturday, March 23</p>
<p>Sunday, March 24</p> <p>Sunday of the Passion/ Palm Sunday</p> <p>8a Worship 9a Worship, Echo S.S. 10a Coffee Hour/Harkins Crossfire Rehearsal 10:30a Worship 10:45a Cafe S.S./ Narthex 11:30a LCM Luncheon/ Fireside</p> 	<p>Monday, March 25</p> <p>9a - 2:30p GLP 7p Congregational Care Mtg/ Fireside</p>	<p>Tuesday, March 26</p> <p>9a - 2:30p GLP 9a Comfort Makers/ Library 9:30a Staff Meeting/Fireside</p> 	<p>Wednesday, March 27</p> <p>9a - 2:30p GLP 12:15p Midweek Lenten Svc 5p REJOICE/ choir room 5:15p Joyful Noise/ Rm 203 Super Wednesday! 6p Harkins Family Activity Time/ Miller Cntr 6:15p Midweek Lenten Svc (and Ecumenical Choir Program Make-up if necessary)</p>	<p>Thursday, March 28</p> <p>No GLP SCASD closed 3:30p Food Distribution / Grace Parking Lot 6:15p Maundy Thursday Service at Grace 7:30p AA Group/Library Boyscout Troop/ Harkins Hall</p> 	<p>Friday, March 29</p> <p>No GLP SCASD Closed 1p Good Friday Stations of the Cross at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church 5:30p NA Group/Library 6:15p Evening Tenebrae Svc at Grace</p>  <p>GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>Saturday, March 30</p>

March 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31



April 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Sunday, March 31

Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

6:30a Sunrise Worship
7:30a Sunrise Breakfast/
Harkins
8a Worship
9a Worship
10:30a Worship
11:30a LCM Luncheon/
Fireside





hands, hearts and voices
Summer Worship and Fine Arts Camp
“Take It to the Lord in Prayer”
Monday-Thursday, June 24-27, 2024
9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Grace Lutheran Church
205 S Garner Street, State College, PA

Children entering Grades 2-8 in the Fall of 2024 are invited to

MAKE, RING, DRUM, SING

as they pray the psalms
with guest artistic director Michael Burkhardt
and regional fine arts educators.




REGISTER by April 15 at <http://tinyurl.com/GraceMusicCamp>

Cost: \$175 per camper (incl. \$50 non-refundable registration). Early bird discount \$25 per registrant (due March 1). Families with 2 or more children: \$15 discount per subsequent child.

Full payment due May 15, 2024. Tuition assistance info on request. Click QR code to register.



For details about registration or volunteering, visit <http://glcpa.org/grace-music-camp>
(click **News**) or contact Laurel Sanders at arts@glcpa.org. 



CALENDAR March

Sunday, March 3

- No Sunday School (Spring Break)

Sunday, March 10

- 9:00 a.m. ECHO Sunday School /Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m. Cafe Sunday School / Narthex

Friday, March 15

- 5:00 p.m. Middle School Fun Night & Confirmation / Miller Center

March 17

- 9:00 a.m. ECHO Sunday School /Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Munchkun Brunchkin / Miller Center
- 10:45 a.m. Cafe Sunday School / Narthex
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group / Miller Center
- 7:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study/ Miller Center

March 24

- 9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Processional with ECHO Sunday School / Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Processional with Cafe Sunday School / Narthex

March 31

- Easter Sunday (No Sunday School)

Youth & Family Sunday Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who participated and made Youth and Family Sunday a great worship experience! A special thank you to the Belanger, Buda, Burris, Coup, Hockenberry, Horn, Kull, Lintal, Malik-Williams, McShea, Morrison, Rabb, Seaton, Slane, Steward, and Zechman families. Not only does this event help our congregation see the youth in leadership but it also lifts up our youth to see their potential. This does not have to be a once a year thing. If your youth would like to be an usher, a greeter, a reader, an acolyte, or be a worship assistant, don't wait for next year. Let Cindy and Peter know and we will get you on the list to serve. We already have a few youth who will be ushering, acolyting, and assisting in worship more regularly.

CALENDAR April Preview

Sunday, April 7

- 9:00 a.m. ECHO Sunday School/ Sanctuary
- Easter Egg Hunt/ Church Lawn
- 10:45 a.m. Cafe Sunday School/ Narthex

Sunday, April 14

- 9:00 a.m. ECHO Sunday School/ Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m. Cafe Sunday School/ Narthex

Friday, April 19

- 6:00 p.m. Middle School Fun Night / Miller Center

Sunday, April 21

- 9:00 a.m. ECHO Sunday School /Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m. Cafe Sunday School / Narthex
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation / Miller Center
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group / Miller Center
- 7:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study/ Miller Center

Sunday, April 28


- 9:00 a.m. ECHO Sunday School/ Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m. Cafe Sunday School/ Narthex






Munchkin Brunchkin
 Hey families: join us for Munchkin Brunchkin on **Sunday, March 17 at 10 a.m.** in the Miller Center. Munchkin Brunchkin is a ministry for any family with one or more children ages 0-4 years. Each time we gather, we send home a faith based board book to add to your library. This is an intentional time for parents to gather with other families and share faith with one another.

ECHO Sunday School
 ECHO Sunday School meets Mar 10, 17 and 24. While parents attend **9 a.m.** worship in the sanctuary, we usher children to Harkins Hall following the Ministry Moment. We will storytell the gospel lesson, enjoy music, and have a game, craft, or science. Youth will return to the sanctuary to join their family for sharing the peace, communion, and closing hymns. We continue this format for families to attend worship together, support all family members to hear the Word of God in many and various ways, and to encourage participation in a life of faith.
No ECHO Sunday School on Mar 3 (Spring Break) and Mar 31 (Easter)



Cafe Sunday School
 Now that Dunkin is open, the youth have proposed alternating between Dunkin and Starbucks. As always, we will meet at **10:45 a.m. in the Narthex each Sunday** to depart. Typically, we acquire our treats and return to meet for discussion in Fireside.
No Café Sunday School on Mar 3 (Spring Break) and Mar 31 (Easter)





Easter Egg Hunt
 All youth are welcome to the Easter Egg Hunt at **10:00 a.m., Sunday, April 7** on the church lawn.

2024 Youth Gathering
 Cindy, Kathy Kalbach, and Peter are back from exploring New Orleans! We are excited to announce that we will be staying at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. ELCA Youth Gathering participants can expect Po Boys, Beignets, Jazz, hot weather, and experiencing service learning and the Creole culture.



Youth Fun Night and Confirmation Class Combined March 15



Dead Sea Scrolls

On **Friday, March 15** we have a great opportunity to partner with Penn State's Jewish Studies Program (in collaboration with the Dept. of Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies). This is not our typical Fun Night, however; it replaces our Sunday Confirmation class. Please plan to arrive at the **Miller Center at 5:00 p.m.** (or as soon as possible) for dinner and lecture on the Dead Sea Scrolls. The Dead Sea Scrolls, also called the Qumran Caves Scrolls, are a set of ancient Jewish manuscripts. They were discovered over a period of 10 years, between 1946 and 1956, at the Qumran Caves in the West Bank, on the northern shore of the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea Scrolls are considered to be a foundation in the history of history and religion.

Youth Group
 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering preparations continue. Please join us on **March 17 at 5 p.m. in the Miller Center** to continue to learn about gathering details and lessons. Future youth group dates are **April 21 and May 19.**

From Our Senior Pastor
~ Cont'd from p. 3

work and worship together, and so I reached out to Rev. Jeff Packard at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and he enthusiastically joined me in planning a special event centered around the Episcopalian tradition of praying the Stations of the Cross. The service will begin at St. Andrew's at **1 p.m.**, run about an hour, and feature prayer, special music, and the opportunity to walk the way of the cross with our Lord.

A Prayer for Lent

It has long been my habit as part of my monthly article to include a prayer for you to pray, because I think people nowadays struggle to pray and overcomplicate it. Having a prayer drawn from our deep Christian tradition is a simple and trustworthy way to get started. This prayer is a very traditional one for the Lenten season and was written by St. Ephraim the Syrian, who died in 373:

O Lord and Master of my life, do not give to me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk. But grant rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to your servant. Yea, Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions and not to judge my brother or sister. For you are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Cyprus

Linda and I enjoyed a remarkable pilgrimage to Cyprus in January. This was one of the very first places the apostles went as they shared the Good News of Jesus following his resurrection. Along the way I met some truly amazing faith leaders there, and through the magic of technology, hope to utilize some of their gifts as part of future Wednesday evening adult education classes. Further details to follow.

My time in Cyprus got me even more excited about the group pilgrimage we are planning for October, to the other Greek-speaking nation, Greece! There we will

see beautiful landscapes, amazing antiquities, and walk in the footsteps of the apostles. I hope you will consider accompanying us on this remarkable trip. More details are on p. 11 of this newsletter. You can also see full tour details online at <http://tinyurl.com/Schul-Greece2024>.

Finally...

Many of you have heard by now that my father, Gary Schul, died Sunday morning, **February 18**. He was 85, and his health and quality of life had declined quite precipitously in the last year or so. Still, when his passing came, it was sudden and not entirely expected. On behalf of my family, thank you for the very kind words of comfort, care, and consolation you have shared. Your love has been healing medicine. Along the way God has given us a few special moments of miraculous mercy that prepared my father to die and prepared us to let him go. We have been richly blessed.

Peace be with you.

~ Pastor Schul





Lutheran Campus
Ministry / Lutheran
Student Community at
Penn State

Penn State Students! Lutheran Campus Ministry welcomes you into a community of students where you can get away from the deadlines and other demands and find fun and support, share worship and a meal all while you learn about God, yourself and the world. You are welcome to come as you are!

Student Community Weekly

Thursday Evening Worship at 6 p.m. in the Worship Hall at Pasquerilla Spiritual Center on campus (Corner of Allen Street and Curtin Road), followed by dinner with the student community in the Harshbarger Room.

Student Meal After Morning Worship

Sunday after **10:30 a.m.** worship at Grace Lutheran Church gather with other students for lunch. Build connections and community with other students. Check the bulletin for location and more info!

Spring Break Schedule

Our meals and mid-week worship will be on hiatus for Spring Break **Saturday, March 2 through Sunday, March 10.** We resume our regular program schedule the week of **Monday, March 11.** ENJOY your break!

Sunday Evening Discussion

Greatest Hits of the Bible – March 24 at 6 – 7 p.m.

Discover some of the stories that are at the core of our faith tradition! The Bible is filled with well-known, confusing, powerful, and even strange stories about the people of God. They each play a role in shaping our understanding of God and ourselves. Gather in Pasquerilla Spiritual Center and take a look!

Other Opportunities!

We offer service events, formal and informal discussions, social gatherings, and more! Check our website and calendar for additional opportunities and info!

You can also add yourself to our listserv at lutheranpennstate.org

Follow and Like our social media on Instagram and Facebook [@lutheranpennstate](https://www.facebook.com/lutheranpennstate)

Reach out anytime to lutheran@psu.edu.



Lutheran Campus Ministry provides a community of faith for students while they are at Penn State. You are welcome to bring doubts and questions, to explore what it means to be a person of faith as you grow and discover who you are and what you are going to do with your life. We gather around worship, discussion/study, service opportunities, and community that are designed with students in mind. Student leaders help to guide our plans and our gatherings – and everyone is welcome. Come as you are. Really.



Questions, Not Answers

“QNA” will meet on **Sunday, March 10 at 7 p.m.** in Fire-side. Please come to join in our discussion. Previous participants and those who just want to check it out once or occasionally are all welcome.

We plan to discuss: “Does God really never give us more than we can handle? Is being overwhelmed a matter of insufficient faith?”

Contact Carla Rossi – ckrossi@comcast.net – for more information or with any questions.

Did you know in the Gospels that Jesus asks more than 300 questions and he is asked nearly 200, but he directly answered only a handful of them? So, come to QNA to continue the biblical tradition of asking good, complicated questions, but be prepared to leave without answers.



Super Wednesday

There will be no Super Wednesday dinner on **Wednesday, March 6** due to Spring Break. Check the Grace website at glc-pa.org and click on NEWS and Weekly News for menu information and other events and weekly news from Grace.



Dates to Remember!

March 4-8

No School - Spring Break

March 11

Classes resume

March 11 & 14

Chapel

March 15

Staff meeting no enrichment, morning as usual

March 17

Marianna's Hoagies and Pizza Fundraiser begins

March 18-26

GLP Safari all-school theme

March 20

Confirmations for the 2024-2025 school year mailed

March 28 & 29

No School - SCASD closed

March 31

Happy Easter

Marianna's Hoagies and Pizzas Fundraiser

After 5 years, we are bringing back the very popular Marianna's Fundraiser. Forms will be available in the Narthex beginning on **March 17**. They are due with payment by **April 2**. Forms and cash or checks, made payable to Grace Lutheran, can be placed in the offering plates or the GLP Preschool mailbox in the church office. Orders will be available to be picked up at noon on **April 17** in the Fireside Room. Proceeds will benefit tuition assistance and general unbudgeted needs accounts. Thank you for being so supportive!

Christian Focus Box for March



Christian Focus: We Can Be God's Helpers
 "Be kind to one another" ~ Ephesians 4:32

Science Theme – Think Spring!

Enrichment Class January Theme – What's the Weather?

Grace Lutheran Preschool's 2024-2025 School Year Registration is Now Open

We are accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year. All registered applicants will receive confirmations of enrollment on or before **March 20, 2024**.

Don't hesitate to get in touch with the school office if you or someone you know would like more information about our school.

Contact us:

814-238-8110

www.glcpapreschool.org

glpk@glcpa.org



GLP on Safari

We Are Going on Safari

At the end of March, all GLP morning classes will be "going on Safari." After an all-school introduction assembly on the first day, the classes will have the opportunity to travel with their teacher's aide to another classroom.

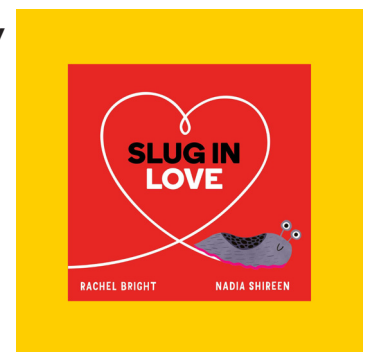
The teacher will read a Safari story,

do an activity with them, and give the children a chance to experience another classroom and teacher. We will wrap up the week with a Safari walk through the school halls.

Pennsylvania One Book Early Literacy Program

The Pennsylvania One Book program highlights the importance of early literacy development in preschoolers and the significance of reading early and often to children. Each year, a different children's picture book is chosen by the committee to be highlighted. The 2024 One Book is *Slug In Love* by Rachel Bright.

Public libraries across Pennsylvania will be provided with a copy of the book. If you have a preschool child or grandchild, you can visit the library to "check it out."

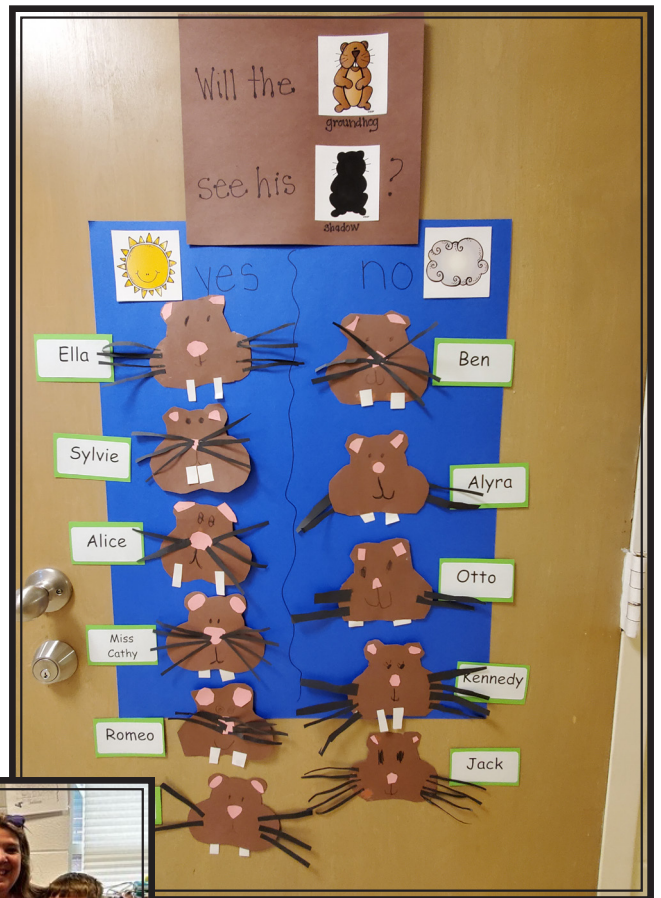


February Highlights

On the last two days of January, we celebrated the letter “Pp” with pajama days. Every class celebrated Valentine’s Day, and both Jr. Kindergarten and Mrs. Wylie’s 5-day 4-year-olds celebrated the 100th day of school!



The 5-day 4-year-old class celebrated the 100th day of school with special 100-day activities.



Jr. Kindergarten predicted Punxsutawney Phil’s prediction.



Miss Amanda and Miss Erin’s Pajamas Day picture.

Every bulletin board in school was filled with valentines. This is Miss Tracy and Mrs. Martin’s 3-day class.



March Worship Sponsors

Altar Flowers	Live Stream Sponsors	Bulletin Covers
Mar 3 Suzanne Lamb Dedicated in memory of Lorraine Yates	Mar 3 The Rabb family Dedicated to the Glory of God	Mar 3 Lee Gruver Dedicated in memory of Robert & Norma Lee Gruver
Mar 10 Connie Kurtz Dedicated to the Glory of God	Mar 10 Tammy & Grant Davis Dedicated in honor of their son Grant's birthday	Mar 10 Tammy & Grant Davis Dedicated in honor of Faith Formation
Mar 17 Leslie & Andrew Elder Dedicated in memory of their parents	Mar 17 open	Mar 17 Linda Domin Dedicated in honor of her Irish Dad Jerry Chambers
Mar 24 open	Mar 24 Rich & June Walter Dedicated to the Glory of God	Mar 24 Gina & Marc Lintal Dedicated to the Glory of God
Mar 31 Bill & Linda Cocolin Dedicated in memory of their son Adam John Cocolin	Mar 28 open	Mar 28 Spence Garvin Dedicated to the memory of Eric Garvin
	Mar 29 open	Mar 29 Open
	Mar 31 Connie Kurtz Dedicated to the Glory of God	Mar 31 Marty & Alyce Mehring Dedicated to the Glory of God

Radio Sponsors

- Mar 3 The Rabb family Dedicated to the Glory of God
- Mar 10 open
- Mar 17 open
- Mar 24 open
- Mar 31 Joyce Sipple Dedicated in memory of Ike & Lee Gilbert

We sincerely thank all of our generous sponsors.

Coffee Hour Sponsors - Joe and Cindy Nicosia 814-571-6922 jnicosia3@comcast.net

- Mar 3 Lois Lynn and Leslie Wagner
 - Mar 10 Joe and Cindy Nicosia
 - Mar 17 Steph and Jim Flanagan
 - Mar 24 Open
 - Mar 31 No coffee hour (Easter Breakfast)
- Please join our hosts each Sunday in Harkins Hall between 9:45 and 10:30 a.m. for coffee and treats. We rely on volunteers to sponsor and/or host. You may sponsor and host (treats at your discretion) or just sponsor (others will host). The cost to "sponsor only" is \$30 (check to Grace Lutheran Church with "Coffee Hour" and the sponsored date in the memo line).

Acolytes - Kristin Knowles kristinmknowles@gmail.com

9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Mar 3 Lily and Gunnar Rinehimer	Mar 3 Anna Long
Mar 10 Caitlin and Lauren Knowles	Mar 10 Renee Buda and Kaylin Slane
Mar 17 Lily and Gunnar Rinehimer	Mar 17 Mya and Jordan Hockenberry
Mar 24 Sydney Lintal and Renee Buda	Mar 24 Mya and Jordan Hockenberry
Mar 31 Anna Coup, Kaylin Slane and Sydney Lintal	Mar 31 Anna Long, Netta Horn and Andy Horn
Mar 28 Maunder Thursday 6:15 p.m. Netta and Andy Horn	

Lectors - Rebecca Arnold Desmarais beckylynn0621@gmail.com

8 a.m.	9 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Mar 3 Julie Miller	Mar 3 Eileen Schroeder	Mar 3 Ellen Campbell
Mar 10 open	Mar 10 open	Mar 10 Brian Christian
Mar 17 open	Mar 17 Lisa Wiedemer	Mar 17 Janet Lybarger
Mar 24 open	Mar 24 open	Mar 24 Melissa Hockenberry
Mar 28 - Maunder Thursday 6:15 p.m. Peter Horn		
Mar 31 - Easter Sunday Services 6:30 a.m. Ethylee Nordberg	8:00 a.m. open	9:00 a.m. Natalie Slane
		10:30 a.m. Peter Horn

March Birthdays



- | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Chuck Coup | 4 Matthew Antle | 14 Kaylyn | 24 Emma Fivek |
| 1 Nathan | 4 Alyce Mehring | Cunningham | 24 Rudolph Schock |
| Cunningham | 5 Amber Burris | 15 Stephen Delafield | 24 Kaitlyn McShea |
| 1 Polly Keiser | 5 Eric Hahn | 15 Tena Ishler | 25 Cricket Hunter |
| McWilliams | 6 Ken Hirth | 15 Peter Wandell | 25 Meghan Pieniazek |
| 1 Flo Musgrave | 7 Elizabeth Burger | 15 Paul Beuther | 25 Morgan Conklin |
| 1 Michael Weyandt | 7 Cynthia Keith | 16 Gabriel Glocke | 25 Jacob Ulmer |
| 2 John Horn | 8 Heidi Kremser | 16 Andrea Afflitto | 25 Gunther Kull |
| 2 Joseph Janik | 8 Joseph Powell | 16 Abby Arbutina | 26 Sharyn Everhart |
| 2 Erin Kauffman | 8 Gregory Stewart | 16 Marisa Cable | 26 Stephen Grim |
| 2 Michael Kauffman | 8 Martin Wiedemer | 17 Patricia Lloyd | 26 Kirk Kreisher |
| 2 Jeff Ulmer | 8 Peter Horn | 17 Brandon Martin | 27 Joseph Chastain |
| 2 Curtis Johnson | 8 Colin Sutherland | 17 Brian Widener | 27 Jay Lazorcik |
| 2 Lincoln Huntington | 9 Katherine Brigger | 17 Kelly Donovan | 27 Ryan Roof |
| 2 Sandra Cassidy | 9 Judy Rockey | 18 Robert Griffin | 27 Bennett Taverno |
| 3 Sandra Cassidy | 9 Valerie Prince | 18 John Miller III | 28 Dorothy Delafield |
| 3 Diane Kulp | 9 Cathy Rosengrant | 18 Cameron Davidson | 28 Rebecca |
| 3 George Myers | 9 Katelin Caylor | 19 Becky Beard | Jeanmenne |
| 4 Vikki Ammerman | 10 Sharlene Huebner | 19 Nora Hoffer | 28 Ryan Loy |
| | 10 Georgia Reutzel | 20 Susan Ferro | 28 Emma Proctor |
| | 10 Kyla Lynn Kelley | 20 Lois Voigt | 28 Olivia Kennedy |
| | 11 Sarah Rosengrant | 20 Laura Resor | 28 Cynthia Mills |
| | 11 Eric Ebeling | 21 Gorman Findley | 29 William Davies |
| | 12 Donna Bogus | 21 Kristin Gibble | 29 Zachary Debnar |
| | 12 Janet Carr | 21 Cathleen | 29 Roxane Vermillion |
| | 12 Kayne Milhomme | Smarkusky | 29 Zach Yiengst |
| | 12 Brady Schuchert | 21 Aaron Taminga | 30 Nicholas Czekaj |
| | 12 John Belanger | 21 Michael Hetrick | 30 Amy Evanego |
| | 12 Grant Davis | 22 Barbara Davies | 30 Richard Rivell |
| | 12 Eric Dove | 22 Haley Ana Garvin | 30 Phyllis Verderame |
| | 13 Katie Kisenwether | 22 Angel Odland | 30 Lily Rinehimer |
| | 13 Nathaniel | 22 Ken Peters | 31 Matthew Ascencio |
| | Rasmussen | 23 David Grim | 31 Maia Barber |
| | 13 Michelle Ruffo | 23 Olivia Myers | 31 Nicole Franklin |
| | | 23 Gary Stewart | 31 Megan Weyandt |

Prayer List



- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| All Military & National Guard and all serving in war-torn countries | Michael Cartwright | Sherry Harrington | Anthony & Meryl Parker |
| Joe Belanger | Pam Crants, friend of Sally Keiser-Bankert | Todd Hoffman | Sharon Rivell |
| Mary Breon | Linda D'Alessandro | Jim Kratz, father of Pastor Hetrick | Becky Rogers |
| Tisana Breon, sister of Mary Breon | William & Barbara Davies | Peter Hodgdon, friend of Jon Peters | Pastor Schul and his family |
| Grace Brown & family | Debra Detweiler, mother of Amanda Simcoe | Lisa & Ruthie, friends of the Roger's | Ron Smith |
| | Chase Ebeling | Paul Larson | Rick Stenerson, brother of Rory Stenerson |
| | Kevin Eby and family, friends of the Koths | Shirley Lucas | Archie Sutherland |
| | Steve & Janet Ellis, family of The Louder's | Patti McLean, sister of Kelly Borchert | The family of Claire Swarr, friend of Leslie Wagner |
| | Norma Flanagan, mother of Jim Flanagan | The family of Barbara Maelhorn upon her death | Val Updegrove |
| | Cay Griel | Flo Musgrave | George Vogler |
| | Rosanne Fritz, mother of Scott Fritz | Amy Neveling | Johnny Walson |
| | Posey Haney | Ronald Odland | Greg Weimer and family upon the death of his mother Marie Weimer |
| | | | And please pray for Members in the hospital |

Grace Notes

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
205 South Garner Street
State College, PA 16801
(814) 238-2478
www.glcpa.org

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- 8:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary and on the Radio (103.7 FM, 104.3 FM, 1450 AM, 1260 AM)

Live-streamed video of this service at www.glcpa.org

Enjoy pre-recorded Sunday Video Worship from our website: glcpa.org anytime



Help us to better serve our local and global communities. Scan here to make a contribution to Grace.



The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Pastor

- Grace Lutheran Church 814-238-2478
churchoffice@glcpa.org
- GLC Preschool 814-238-8110
glpk@glcpa.org
- Faith Formation Ministry
faithformation@glcpa.org

Gather • Feed • Send

Grace Lutheran Church is energized by the Holy Spirit and nurtured through God's Word and Sacrament to gather, feed, and send people in the name of Jesus Christ.