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# Grace Notes

Gather • Feed • Send

December 2020

## "Hopeful Disruptions" Midweek Advent Prayer

On the first three **Wednesdays** during Advent (December 2, 9, and 16), you're invited to join Pastor Schul and Pastor Hetrick at 5:30 p.m. for a brief time of prayer and God's Word, streaming live on Grace's **YouTube channel** \* at <https://tinyurl.com/GLCYouTube>. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, we will explore key stories from the Bible in which God created "hopeful disruptions" in the lives of God's people in order to bring about the salvation of humanity. It will be an opportunity for us to consider how God continues to interject "hopeful disruptions" in our lives and the Church even today. If your schedule does not allow you to watch the services live, they will be recorded for later viewing.



\* To easily find Grace's YouTube Channel and Facebook and Twitter postings, click on one of the symbols on the right side of the home page on [www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org). More details are on page 21.



## December 2020 Worship at Grace Lutheran

Date	Time	Description
Wed. Dec. 2	5:30 p.m.	Hopeful Disruptions: Midweek Advent Prayer (YouTube)
Sun. Dec. 6	7 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Prerecorded Online Worship 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Broadcast on WRSC
Wed. Dec. 9	5:30 p.m.	Hopeful Disruptions: Midweek Advent Prayer (YouTube)
Sun. Dec. 13	7 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	3rd Sunday of Advent – Prerecorded Online Worship 3rd Sunday of Advent – Broadcast on WRSC
Wed. Dec. 16	5:30 p.m.	Hopeful Disruptions: Midweek Advent Prayer (YouTube)
Sat. Dec. 19	5:30 p.m.	Blue Christmas (YouTube)
Sun. Dec. 20	7 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	3rd Sunday of Advent – Prerecorded Online Worship 3rd Sunday of Advent – Broadcast on WRSC
Thur. Dec. 24	2 p.m.	Old Bethlehem Christmas: Drive-In Children's Worship
	3 p.m.	Old Bethlehem Christmas: Drive-In Children's Worship
	4 p.m.	Old Bethlehem Christmas: Drive-In Worship
	5 p.m.	Old Bethlehem Christmas: Drive-In Worship
	7 p.m.	Old Bethlehem Christmas: Live Broadcast on WRSC
	8:30 p.m.	Old Bethlehem Christmas: Drive-In Worship
	9:30 p.m.	Old Bethlehem Christmas: Drive-In Worship
	10:30 p.m.	Old Bethlehem Christmas: Drive-In Worship
Fri. Dec. 25	10 a.m.	Christmas Day Worship: Live Broadcast on WRSC
Sun. Dec. 27	7 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	1st Sunday after Christmas – Prerecorded Online Worship 1st Sunday after Christmas – Broadcast on WRSC

## Preparing our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Sunday	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Holy Gospel
<b>December 6</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
<b>December 13</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	Psalm 126	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
<b>December 20</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Luke 1:26-38	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:46b-55
<b>December 27</b> First Sunday of Christmas	Isaiah 61:10-- 62:3	Psalm 148	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40

### Singing the Christmas Story at Grace: Virtual Advent and Christmas Carols

If you are concerned about hearing and singing your favorite carols at Grace during the Advent and Christmas seasons this year, hopefully the plans we have put in place will warm your hearts. Choristers from our adult and teen choir (Crossfire) and numerous soloists and small ensembles at Grace have been busy behind the scenes, recording carols (fortunately, most carols are in the public domain, and we have created a few original settings) so we will have our own people leading familiar and beloved carol singing throughout the season.

Musical preparations for the start of the Church Year (Advent) began weeks ago as members and music staff began recording simple carols for our drive-through **AdventFest** on Sunday, November 29. During the season you will hear carols with organ, piano, digitally produced handbells, as well as trumpet and flute descants accompanying singers on **Advent 3** (December 15: Lessons and Carols service); **Christmas Eve** (both the radio and outdoor services); **Christmas Day**; and the **first two Sundays of Christmas**. All of the musicians are recording their parts virtually, and with Laurel Sanders' editing ear and Graham's skills using music editing software, we will be able to create numerous audio and video recordings. Some will be carols for listening and reflecting. Many will be carols where you can sing along and hear and/or see people you know from your Grace family. The carols will gradually migrate from piano to organ, adding the richness of four-part choir and instrumental descants and some selections composed and played by Anne Sullivan, harpist, by the time we reach Christmas.

Advent is a time of waiting, and we have all had to do a lot of waiting this year. There is more waiting ahead of us, and we are doing our best to continue beloved traditions with imagination and heart. We look forward to the time when we can gather in person to sing---some time during 2021. Until then, rejoice in knowing that the musicians at Grace are doing everything we can to enable you to celebrate in ways that will be familiar, memorable, and hopefully treasured.



### Lessons & Carols

#### Nine Lessons and Carols Broadcast from Grace on Sunday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. on WRSC Radio

Each year Grace Lutheran Church tells the story of Christ's coming with a traditional service of Nine (scripture) Lessons and Carols on the Third Sunday in Advent. Although it will feel a bit different this year, we will continue that tradition, thanks to many staff and volunteer musicians at Grace. Teens from Crossfire, our youth choir, have faithfully pre-recorded the readings from their homes. Soloists and small ensembles of adults and teens will present nine carols that illustrate the story of Christ's coming and bring the scriptures to life. The carols this year include:

*Of the Father's Love Begotten;*  
*Prepare Thyself, Zion;* *Advent Longings* (includes *Lost in the Night* and *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*); *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming;* *The Angel Gabriel;* *Away in a Manger;* *Come, All You Shepherds;* *O Holy Night;* and *Go, Tell It On the Mountain.*

...continued on the bottom of page 7



The Rev. Scott E. Schul  
[pastorschul@glcpa.org](mailto:pastorschul@glcpa.org)

### **“Good News of Great Joy”**

That’s the phrase the angels use to describe to the shepherds what the birth of Jesus means. The notion of good news of any type must have seemed laughable to a group considered the lowest of the low, especially given that they were living in a conquered nation under military rule in a region of the country that for centuries had been a bloody war zone for far flung empires.

Perhaps this year we understand the shepherds’ skepticism in a way that was previously beyond our capability. The notion of a baby’s birth 2,000 years ago being “good news of great joy” seems a little silly in the midst of a global pandemic and economic crisis. And yet that’s exactly what Christmas offers to us. Advent likewise provides soothing medicine for our aching souls. And so this month I want to summarize the many worship opportunities we will have during these two blessed seasons, because we can all use “good news of great joy.”

### **Advent**

Advent is a season of preparation

## *From Our Senior Pastor*

that encourages us to consider the two arrivals of Jesus, namely, (1) his birth in Bethlehem; and (2) his promised return at the end of time. We will be contemplating that first arrival through a series of brief midweek prayer services that Pastor Hetrick and I will host online. On the first three Wednesdays during Advent (Dec. 2, 9, and 16), join us at 5:30 p.m. on Grace’s YouTube channel (<https://tinyurl.com/GLCYouTube>) for a live 15 minute prayer service featuring a Bible story and homily about the preparations surrounding the birth of Jesus. We’re calling it “Hopeful Disruptions,” to remind us that God does sometimes upset the order of our lives. But in doing so, God always brings hope, new life, and new possibilities. If you are unable to watch the service live, we will be recording it so that you can play it later at a time which is more convenient for you.

The lectionary readings for the Sundays in Advent generally shift our gaze to the end times. Throughout Advent, those lessons will invite us to contemplate the unending love Jesus has for us, a love that will draw him back to this world in order to transform it – and us – for all eternity.

### **Christmas Decorations**

The pandemic continues to prevent us from safely gathering for worship, and so in order to be good stewards of our Lord’s resources we will not be purchasing and placing a Christmas tree in the sanctuary. We will, however, have our traditional, live Chrismon Tree in the main entrance, and we will be placing our large Advent Wreath there as well, which Sally Keiser-Bankert

and Deb Stewart will be decorating. Beginning around the 3rd Sunday of Advent, Ann Burke will be tastefully accenting the space with poinsettias too. We won’t have as much space for flowers as we would in the sanctuary, and so we won’t be asking people to sponsor flowers this year. Instead, we encourage you to make an extra gift to Grace or support a worthy local charity, like the Youth Service Bureau, which Grace has supported in the past. Our brightly decorated main entrance will be a beacon of light and hope, and even if you are not able to come into town to see it, we will be featuring these decorations in our Wednesday Midweek Advent services.

### **Christmas Eve**

This Christmas Eve we will celebrate an “Old Bethlehem Christmas.” As I shared last month, the idea is simple: the pandemic has stripped away so many things from us, but when you peel away the pomp and circumstance from Christmas, what remains? Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who comes to us in the humblest form of all, a vulnerable little baby. In the end, he is what is essential.

This “back to basics” service will be held outdoors, with a living nativity on the porch. We will have animals too. Laurel Sanders and Nate Glocke are collaborating on prerecorded carols sung by Grace singers, and the service will include confession, communion, and a homily. We will even find a way to approximate the “service of light” that accompanies the singing of Silent Night each year; it’s always

*...continued on page 4*

the highlight of Christmas Eve worship. We will broadcast the service via our FM transmitter, and so all attendees will be able to remain in their cars and tune in to the audio on their car radios.

We will try to keep each service to about 30 minutes in length so that we can offer it many times that evening in order to accommodate anticipated demand. Christmas Eve drive-in service times will be 4, 5, 8:30, 9:30, and 10:30. In addition, we will replicate our very popular service for children (which features Santa Claus coming to worship the newborn Christ) as a drive-in service at 2 and 3 in the afternoon on Christmas Eve.

Finally, as is our longstanding tradition, we will broadcast a full one hour Christmas Eve worship service on WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM at 7 p.m. (also available for streaming on “smart devices”). This will be a very traditional service and will feature even more hymns by our “virtual Grace choirs.”

### **Christmas Day**

Grace will again offer Christmas Day worship. It will not be in-person but will be broadcast live on WRSC at 10 a.m. This service will also feature a great deal of music from Grace’s “virtual choirs.”

### **Other Treasured Christmas Traditions**

Unfortunately, we won’t be able to gather for a Grace Christmas Dinner this year, complete with the singing of the Twelve Days of Christmas. But there are a few other treasured Grace Christmas traditions that we are going to adapt so that we can safely continue them, including the following:

- On Saturday, December 19, we will hold an online “Blue

- Christmas” service for those who are grieving in this season;
- “Car-oling” will replace the bus trip we annually organize to sing carols for our home-bound members. We will instead organize a car caravan so that we can spread Christmas joy (but not germs!) in a socially-distanced manner.

Further details about these events are located on pages 8 and 9 in this issue of Grace Notes.

### **Sunday Worship**

Starting in December we will be pausing our 8:30 am drive-in worship service because the weather is growing colder and we want to provide our dedicated volunteers a break as we gear up for a very busy Christmas season. Remember, however, that we continue to offer two Sunday worship options for you. Our prerecorded video worship service is available by 7 am each Sunday on our website ([www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org)) and Facebook page. That service contains quite a bit of our standard liturgy, as well as four Bible readings and a sermon. We continue to broadcast a live worship service on WRSC each Sunday morning at 10:30 as well. That service contains our full sung liturgy, hymns (accompanied by Grace’s pipe organ), scripture, a sermon, and (time permitting) a brief, unscripted conversation between the pastors regarding the broader context and meaning of the Sunday lessons. The service can be heard locally at 1390 AM and 93.3 FM, and is streamable around the world on smart devices.

### **“Pocketful of Grace” Podcast**

Finally, I invite you to check out our weekly podcast, “Pocketful of Grace,” in which Pastor Hetrick and I have an extended (30 minute)

conversation about the upcoming Sunday lessons and prayer of the day. The podcast is available each Wednesday morning at places like Apple Podcasts, Amazon podcasts, and our website. It’s an easy and convenient way to prepare your heart for Sunday worship.

### **Finally...**

Beyond the obligation to keep our people safe, our goal throughout this pandemic has been to offer meaningful and memorable ways for us to love God and love neighbor as we the people of Grace continue to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. We have had to be creative and patient in finding new ways to “gather, feed, and send,” and we will continue to do so. I have also asked our Return to Worship Team to continue to meet and discern when and under what conditions it might be safe to return indoors to worship. I give thanks to God that vaccines appear to be on the way and I pray for God to end the pandemic as soon as possible. In the meantime, we will place our trust in the love of our Lord Jesus Christ, who continues to claim us, guide us, and provide for us. Thanks be to God!

Peace be with you.

*Pastor Schul*

### **DID YOU KNOW...**

 ... that when we commemorate the Baptism of our Lord on January 10, 2021, we will also celebrate all of the 2020 baptisms that were performed at Grace? Do you remember and give thanks for your baptism?



## *From the Associate Pastor*

As long as I can remember I have always loved Advent, the melodic nature of the hymns, that vision of the candles gradually brightening, and hopeful expectation, awaiting the good news of the baby. Add the building energy of the usual Christmas, and by Christmas Eve, I am just bursting with joy! Last year I celebrated my first Grace Christmas with 1400 of you! But, I never realized how much of my perspective was shaped by essentially doing all that waiting and expecting and candle lighting and singing while feeling certain. Yes, we all have ups and downs, but generally, my Advent-ing had a “foregone conclusion” quality to it. Enter 2020. If I am being honest, this year a lesser known hymn has caught my eye, “Lost in the Night.” It’s #243 in our ELW hymnal. Why I am drawn to it is both the stark honesty of the crowding in of uncertainty and weariness, yet a dawning persistent hope. It opens with a bleak horizon and a plaintive cry for help:

- 1 Lost in the night do the people yet languish,  
longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,  
plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish.  
Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?
- 2 Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?  
Shall those who have light no light let us borrow,  
giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?  
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?

Friends, each and every one of us in some way can join in these words. This is exactly how the people waiting for a Messiah felt. It is how people who came through wars, and famines and disease across time and around the world have felt and feel today. This very feeling is why the good news of Christ is so vital- to know that God loves us, is meeting us, and promises brighter days. This past year, one of the places I have seen that is in our rekindled ministry, *Disciples Together*, where people are honest about struggles and joys.

Throughout this issue are words of how you have joined and can continue to join in shining that brightness. In one flickering flame at a time- in acts of love, in prayer and in gathering around God’s word even though we do so in different spaces. We must acknowledge our places of pain and struggle, but let’s also help each other be bathed in the glow of God’s enveloping love.

During this Advent, join us on Wednesdays at 5:30 via our YouTube channel for livestreamed prayer called “Hopeful Disruptions.” Allow whatever is crowding in to be disrupted by God’s hope. And as the light of our Advent wreath builds, hold fast to the love that will light our parking lot on Christmas Eve. We can gather to see the love of Christ’s transforming story and God’s heart for us in our Living Nativity. There is a reason I call it a “Living Nativity”- it is not only that real people (you!) and animals will tell the story, but that the coming of Christ to be “God with Us” is a living and breathing reality that broke through the night and sorrows of



The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick  
[pastorhetrick@glcpa.org](mailto:pastorhetrick@glcpa.org)

God’s people, and does still. That’s what the last two verses of that hymn, “Lost in the Night” lift up:

- 3 Sorrowing wanderers,  
in darkness yet dwelling,  
dawned has the day  
of a radiance excelling,  
death’s deepest shadows  
forever dispelling.  
Christ is coming soon!  
Christ is coming soon!
- 4 Light o’er the land  
of the needy is beaming;  
rivers of life through its  
deserts are streaming,  
bringing all peoples  
a Savior redeeming.  
Come and save us soon!  
Come and save us soon!

We cry “come and save us!” God answers with Jesus the Christ, then, now and forever. I am holding onto this promise with all I’ve got this year. Let’s hold onto it together and look for hope in our disruptions.

Two years ago on the first Sunday of Advent, in hope you called me to be one of your pastors here at Grace. In some ways that feels like a lifetime ago. It has been, and is a joy and a holy privilege more than words can express.

*...continued on page 6*

You have welcomed me into your hearts and homes- to wander in the dark, and rejoice in the light. I join you in praying for brighter tomorrows, and celebrating the flickers along the way in the meantime. Thank you, people of Grace for being joyful and giving and steadfast, and for embracing my family and my ministry with you. May a blessed Advent and Christmas be yours, and as we journey together, remember-Christ is with you, and Christ is coming soon! Amen, Come Lord Jesus!

~ Pastor Hetrick

ELW 243 *Lost in the Night* - Text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700989. All rights reserved.

## **Why attend church? It's where you learn that life is not always about you. (Part 11 of 11)**

*"O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand." Psalm 95:6-7a*

Throughout each 2020 edition of Grace Notes, I've used this little column to make the case for the importance of church attendance. Three months into the year, in the midst of a global pandemic, I had to slightly shift my perspective, because church closures made physical attendance difficult if not impossible. The issue thus became engagement, rather than attendance. Here at Grace we engaged through radio and online videos. As warm summer months arrived, we gathered in public parks to hear God's Word and receive Holy Com-

munion. As Autumn descended, we moved worship to Grace's parking lot. Throughout the year, the physical setting of worship changed, but what remained constant was the importance of participating in the life of the congregation.

Over the course of this year I've shared a wide range of theological and practical reasons why church attendance and engagement are important. In this final installment, I want to offer a reason for church attendance/engagement that is blunt but I hope not offensive: *Attend church because it's where you learn that life is not always about you.*

We live in a consumer-oriented society. In our consumption we expect value, variety, and choice. For example, look at the snack aisle of a grocery store. There are so many different kinds of potato chips. We would be upset if it were not so! Sadly, what is true of potato chips has become true of religion too. Far too often we judge a church on the basis of our desires, wishes, and preferences. If the sermon, the music, or the liturgy isn't to our liking, it is so tempting to disengage because "it's just not doing anything for me." But let's be honest. Is it really about you (or, for that matter, me)?

Our tendency to put ourselves at the center of the universe is a human weakness that goes all the way back to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. When we think the practice of our faith is all about us, we are in fact proclaiming that we are as important (if not more important) than God. That is a violation of the First Commandment. It corrodes our relationship with God and our relationship with our neighbor.

The Bible repeatedly makes the point that our obligation to God is to offer praise. In other words, we come to church because *it's not all about us – it's all about God*. It doesn't matter if we like the sermon, the music, or the liturgy; what matters is that we are offering God the praise that God rightly deserves. The generosity of God, however, ensures that the benefits of our praise do not flow in only one direction. Even as we offer our praises in the worship of our God, God is using the sermon, music, and liturgy to shape, form, reform, and transform us. Similarly, through the sacraments, God is blessing, forgiving, and claiming us.

No one knows what Christianity will look like after the pandemic has ended. I fear that our tendency to withdraw from community will become even more pronounced, and that the consumer mentality will take hold in an even bigger way. I hope that's not the case, because coming together as Church is so vitally important. And so as we close this series, remember that an important reason to attend church is because *it's where you learn that life is not always about you.*

Thanks be to God.

~ Pastor Schul

## **DID YOU KNOW...**

 ... that our next New Member Sunday at Grace will be on **January 24, 2021**? If you are feeling Jesus calling you to be a member of Grace, contact Pastor Schul or Pastor Hetrick.



# MUSIC News

## Anne Sullivan to Leave State College – and a Legacy

Musician Anne Sullivan – a professional harpist, co-leader of our Psalm 151 praise band that leads the 6 p.m. worship, and a Grace member – is leaving her second home of State College as 2020 draws to a close. She and her husband are returning to the Philadelphia area, where they will be closer to family. Although we are happy for them, her talents will be greatly missed.

Anne's family came to Grace in 2005 when her son, a bass player, was invited to play in the Psalm 151 praise band which had grown to twelve musicians, largely due to a group of musically talented friends and Grace members who were attending Penn State. Shortly afterward, the entire family joined Grace, and in 2008 Anne began accompanying the musicians as a pianist. Since that time, Anne has co-led the music team, along with Peter Wandell, and has been responsible for choosing the songs, accompanying the singers and instrumentalists, and ensuring worship technology requirements are met.

A gifted harpist and talented composer, Anne has generously shared her talents with us on many occasions at Grace and also for Allegheny Synod events. In addition to her work for Grace, she offers harp coaching through harpmastery.com to more than 100 students around the world. As a parting gift to Grace, Anne will record some Christmas selections that we will include in our radio broadcasts of worship. God is with you wherever you go, Anne, and you will be with us for a long time through your legacy of beautiful music. Thank you!

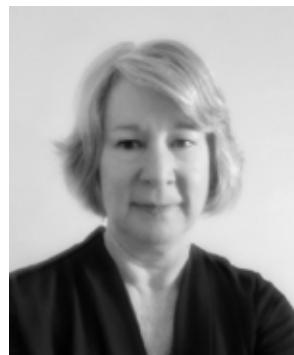
*Continued from page 2...*

This tradition, which we have honored at Grace since 2010, dates to the early 19th century. (The most famous lessons and carols broadcast hails from Kings College at Cambridge University in England. WPSU typically broadcasts their service--including original and traditional carols--on Christmas Eve morning and again on Christmas Day.) Grace Lutheran's *Nine Lessons and Carols* will be broadcast on WRSC radio 1390 AM and 93.3 FM at 10:30 AM on Sunday, December 13, as part of the morning broadcast service of worship. Please join us as we prepare our hearts for Christ's coming.

~ Laurel Sanders, Music & Arts Ministry Coordinator

## Grace Hires Lead Organist

We are thrilled to announce that starting in early January, 2021, we will welcome **Cynthia**



**Mills** to our staff as our new lead organist. Cynthia, who was an organ student of June Miller (our lead organist for many years and a highly valued member of our music team), has served as an organist at Park Forest Village United Methodist Church since 1991. During that time she was also accompanist for Penn State Opera Theater and occasionally sanctuary and chime choir director at Park Forest Village UMC. Before that she served in several other churches as organist and was a private piano instructor. Cynthia received her Bachelor of Music from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio on piano and studied organ at Penn State with June Miller from 1992-1996. In her spare time, she enjoys baking and hiking in the Pennsylvania woods most weekends (and they haven't repeated the same trail twice!).

June and Pat will continue to play the 8 a.m. piano-led services when they resume, but you will hear (and eventually see!) Cynthia at all of our organ-led services except when she is on vacation. We welcome Cynthia with great enthusiasm and also thank June and Pat, as well as Ryan Ditmer and Chris Wilhelm for helping to make sure we have always had able hands (and feet!) to lead us through Sunday worship during the past 16 months.

## A LIVING NATIVITY

There is still time to sign up to help us tell the story of the birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve. Help us tell the Good News of Jesus' birth in a new way as a living nativity scene along with live animals this Christmas Eve in front of the building at Grace. **Our services at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. are fully subscribed**, but there are still some spots in our 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. services for those who are looking for an early time. We also hope to fill our evening services at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30 p.m. While most participants can distance, Joseph and Mary do need to come from the same home. Contact [pastro-rhetrick@glcpa.org](mailto:pasto-rhetrick@glcpa.org) with any questions or to sign up. You can also use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48aeaf2ea4f5c52-christmas>

We have costumes for you! For all who will be participating, we will have costume pickup time at the Main Entrance on Saturday December 19th from Noon to 2 p.m. and Sunday December 20th from Noon to 3 p.m. We have halos and angel wings, shepherd's staffs, crowns for kings and outfits for big and little folk. Each participant will get their own outfit to wear and return. You can expect to hear from Pastor Hetrick about arranging a time slot so you can avoid the waiting. Thank you for helping our Grace family celebrate the heart of Christmas together!



## Christmas CAR-oling

While we can't have the usual joy of a rollicking bus ride to sing carols for our homebound folks, we have a 2020 Limited Edition alternative: Christmas CAR-oling. Christmas caroling Car Parade style. **SUNDAY DECEMBER 13th @ 1:00 PM COME TO GRACE.** This is your chance to break out the tacky sweater, the reindeer antlers, angel halo, the blinky lights, window clings or any way you want to decorate your car, and yourselves. Bring along jingle bells, noisemakers, even a pot and a spoon to bang. Make a Merry Christmas or "God Bless You!" or a "WE LOVE YOU!" sign. Then come and join the parade. We will gather at Grace's parking lot then out as a **Car-oling Caravan** to drive by the homes of homebound members, the Oaks and the Village at Penn State. The lead car will knock on the door, hand a bought tin of cookies, and then we, from a distance will make noise, share God's love and hopefully have a little music to play because we all need a little Christmas joy. This is an all ages event. The itinerary will be handed out that day along with an approximate timetable for merry making. **To sign up, you can click on the link:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D48AEAF2EA4F5C52-christmas>

This helps us know how many to expect, but you can also just show up and join in! Any questions, contact Pastor Hetrick.



## Disciples Together

While we are not able to physically gather as Disciples Together, we have embraced sharing small acts that bless our disciples and caregivers. Many of us know this can be an isolating time, even more so for our Disciples who may have been unable to go to jobs and social programs, and who have almost all services delivered via Zoom. Some of our folks have been trapped in the same difficult choices of what to do for the holidays, made even more challenging as they struggle to process the information and when they so need physical interaction.

> For Thanksgiving, a small crew of us sent individualized cards expressing gratitude for our fellow disciples, and we ordered Cookies from Good Day Café which were delivered to the community group homes as a lovely treat.

> In December we will be providing gift bags with an Advent/Christmas Bible booklet, an angel and a treat.

> In January we hope to start the new year off well by gifting large print Bibles in the Message translation which have been graciously gifted by the Voigts and a coupon for a DQ Blizzard, the only reference to snow some of us want.

If you are interested in sending cards and notes, or helping to make drop off deliveries to our beloved disciples, please contact Ellen Campbell or Pastor Hetrick.

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**Dear Friends,**

**This year our tender losses feel even deeper and greater. We are saddened we cannot gather for our Blue Christmas service for grief and loss as we usually do. But we pray you may be consoled by joining us and watching our livestream time led by our pastors and Stephen Minister Brenda Palmgren. Allow Christ's light to meet you.**

**We will broadcast from our Main Entrance with our Advent wreath, Chrismons tree and luminaria and we invite you to perhaps light a candle where you are as we are knit together in love.**

**Since this service will be streamed live, there will be a time to name your beloveds as we are joined by a God who always finds a way to gather us in mutual consolation and to be our Emmanuel, "God with Us."**



**Lost in the night?**

**May God's peace be yours**

**"Virtual Blue Christmas"**

**Watch live or watch later**

**Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30 pm**



## Finances for 2020

	Actual Income vs Expense July 2019- October 2020	Budgeted Income vs Expense July 2019- October 2020	+ or (-)	%
Income	\$ 72,250.11	\$62,000	\$10,250.11	16.53%
Expenses	\$68,452.64	\$78,381.88	-\$9,929.24 (under budget)	-12.67%
Net Income	\$3,797.47	-\$16,381.88		

October giving exceeded budget for the first time in many months, largely due to members' willingness to convert October building fund donations into donations to support our operating budget after our mortgage was fully paid mid-month. If you have previously contributed to Grace's building fund, we ask you to prayerfully consider continuing to give at that level to in order to support the many ministries at Grace which have been underfunded since our building campaign began. You can continue to donate via checks and postal mail, or you can access our automated bank transfer form and/or make credit card donations using Tithe.ly via the GIVE button on our website at [www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org). Contact Laurel Sanders at [lSanders@glcpa.org](mailto:lSanders@glcpa.org) with questions.

## Building Campaign Ends: Request for "Rollover Giving" to Support Underfunded Ministries

In October we were able to fully retire our mortgage debt, thanks to generous donations from our congregation and funds from several generous estate bequests. By paying off our debt ten years early, we saved Grace \$540,000 in interest. Thank you! If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider continuing to support Grace at the level you have given during the building campaign so that underfunded ministries can be fully funded. Thank you for your faithful stewardship to Grace.

## Convenient Giving:

### Automating Your Support of Ministry at Grace

The needs of a church that is living its mission are always great, and your support of our church's work within and beyond this community during the current pandemic are the grease that keep our gears turning. If you find it cumbersome to write checks--or if remembering to support God's work regularly is one thing too many to manage during these strange times--consider automating your contribution through automated transfer or online giving. Both options are simple to set up, guarantee your support reaches our church on time on whatever schedule is right for you, and are accessible via the GIVE page on our website (the upper right-hand menu option at [www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org)).

### Automated bank transfer via direct debit

The best and easiest way to give is to set up a transfer of funds that you pre-authorize to have moved monthly from your bank account to the bank account at Grace Lutheran Church. The form, which is available on our website at [www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org), requires your bank account and routing number, along with a voided check and your signed designation of how funds should be used (current expenses, which supports all of our ministries and programs, or benevolence). Funds are transferred from the account you designate into our account on the first business day of each month.

*...continued on the top of the next page*

## **Tithe.ly - Online Giving App**

The online giving app, Tithe.ly, which is used by thousands of churches around the world, is another easy and secure way to support our church ministries. Simply download the app from the App Store or visit the Give menu on our website for access to the link. Create an account with a password and PIN number, select Grace Lutheran Church in State College as the recipient, and indicate whether yours is a recurring gift (and at what interval) or one-time contribution. There is a flat 2.9% fee plus a 30-cent credit card charge for each transaction. You can choose to cover the fee or have it deducted from your contribution and retained by Tithe.ly as their processing fee, in which case Grace receives the net contribution. It is an easy way to give!

Please direct your questions to Laurel Sanders, Business Manager, at [lsanders@glcpa.org](mailto:lsanders@glcpa.org). Thank you for your support of our ministries.

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## **MANY THANKS FROM OUR MINISTRY TEAMS**

To all who participated in the **Lutheran World Relief Blanket Sunday** event I would like thank you. A special thanks to the Grace's Women of Grace circle Comfort Makers for their quilts, The Naomi Circle for their successful effort getting Personal Care Kits, and to the Youth of Grace for their collection of School Kits. Our totals were: 30 Quilts, 31 Personal Care Kits and 70 School Kits. Thank you also to John Palmgren and Chris Roberts for driving the donated items to the next destination site.

- Susan Ferro

Congratulations and thank you for your generous support of this year's **CROP WALK**. The 2020 State College CROP Walk raised over \$14,908.73 total. Grace raised over \$4,600.00 in donations. This is an awesome expression of fellowship and Christian community support, especially during the Pandemic. You helped to feed people both in and outside of our area. We all know people are hurting and going without enough food. You gave, and you made a difference. God bless each and every one of you.

- Judy Rockey

### **The Jared Box Project Wrap Up**

Thank you to all who packed Jared Boxes! We truly thank you all this year for your participation. As with many activities this year, COVID-19 presented challenges with getting the boxes to you to pack. Your extra efforts are appreciated by the hospitals that will receive them for their youngest patients. **We collected 81 Jared Boxes** plus whatever comes in thru the end of November. Once again, we will spread the smiles around by delivering Jared Boxes to several of our local hospitals: Clearfield, Lewistown and Tyrone. We will be back again next year to help fulfill Jared's mission for sick children. Watch the clearance aisles for Jared box-size fun!

- Marilyn Peterson



## **Council Highlights**

At its November 2020 meeting, Grace's Church Council:

- Selected discussion topics for the balance of the council year that include Grace's Preschool/Kindergarten, diversity/social justice, revisions to the GLC constitution, the operation of Grace's Faith Formation ministries, and discernment of future ministries in light of the successful completion of the building campaign; and
- Joyfully affirmed the hire of Cynthia Mills as Grace's new lead organist.

## **DID YOU KNOW...**

 ...We as a church community we raised \$1,069.49 for the September Bucket Collection which benefitted Lutheran Disaster Response? Thank you!

- Janet Lybarger

## **From Congregational Care: Phone Ministry**

With love and concern for our homebound members, over the coming winter months, a Phone Ministry will be established. Those to receive phone calls may be homebound, someone who lives alone, a caregiver, or someone who recently has had some medical challenges. Callers may be anyone in our congregation.

If you would like to participate as a caller, or you know of someone who might appreciate a call, please let us know.

Contact Sally Horn, Congregational Care Team leader -- (814) 360-0146, or email at [sjh10@psu.edu](mailto:sjh10@psu.edu).





## Out of the Cold

A lot is happening to keep our guests, staff, and volunteers safe during COVID. We have hired overnight staff that stay up all night and this means that the **congregations do not need to have volunteers stay overnight**. You are still welcome to do this if you want.

We are asking the congregations to provide hosts and persons to serve the dinner between 8:00 and 11:00 p.m. Congregations also provide a grab-and-go type breakfast so staff can ensure guests are on their way by 7:00 a.m. and the space is cleaned. The day shelter continues to host about 16 persons per day. Our current overnight guests average about 12. **Grace will host in March.** Watch for more information as we get closer.

Our fund-raising dinner has been postponed and we do not currently have a new date. To keep up with what is happening with *Out of the Cold Centre County*, what you can do to help, and any fundraising events, go to our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=out%20of%20the%20cold%20centre%20county>.

Please reach out to Pam Soule ([pjsoule610@gmail.com](mailto:pjsoule610@gmail.com) or (260) 367-1323) if you would like to know more.



Interfaith Human Services continues to support clients through these difficult times.



- People like 82-year-old Alice who was facing foreclosure and many overdue bills. IHS case managers were able to develop a budget for her small Social Security income and keep Alice in her home and to have money for food and heat.
- The Furniture Recycling Program has been working to move people out of shelters and into independent living situations to help reduce COVID-19 risks.
- A working single mom leaving an abusive situation said, "Now my kids will have a place to sit when they come home."
- And, when Nittany Energy delivered fuel to an IHS client, the family met them wrapped in blankets, jumping for joy as we were able to bring heat back to their home.

These and many others are grateful for your support. If you are unable to make it out to Meyer Dairy this year to contribute to the **IHS Wishing Well Campaign**, please go to <https://www.interfaithhumanservices.org/wishing-well/> to make your gift to keep people in their homes this holiday season!



### Bell Ringing for IHS!

The Interfaith Human Services Wishing Well Campaign will run November 27 through December 23 at Meyer Dairy. race Lutherans date is **Tuesday, December 15**. Please contact Sue Forster at [fsue58521@gmail.com](mailto:fsue58521@gmail.com) to sign up for an hour of this enjoyable activity while helping to support the programs at IHS. Hours are between 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Children may help, but must be accompanied by an adult. Bell ringing is fun, will be outside, bundled up, masked, and no singing.

### Centre Volunteers in Medicine (CVIM)

has assumed the responsibilities of the Centre County Breast Cancer Coalition (CCBCC) and services will continue for free mammograms and other screenings for individuals living and working in Centre County. Our breast care coalition is a collaboration among agencies, organizations, and private citizens in the community helping to overcome barriers to obtain effective and affordable breast care services.

In 1997, the CCBCC was established as an all-volunteer grass roots effort to provide breast care services to Centre County women and men who were uninsured or under-insured. As of June 30, 2020, over 1,600 vouchers had been issued and paid an amount of more than \$270,000 to health care providers. The voucher guarantees payment by the Coalition for diagnostic and/or ultrasound and/or screening mammograms along with the associated review of the films by a radiologist. Other services include ultrasound core biopsies, stereotactic biopsies, needle localizations, and cyst aspirations. With the addition of the breast cancer coalition, CVIM is poised to better help our patients get this important health care aspect. To volunteer or to make a donation, please visit our website at: [www.cvim.net](http://www.cvim.net).

## A letter from the OAKS in Pleasant Gap

Greetings!

As we look forward to the Advent season, it is also time to think about sharing our blessings with others.

As you know, each year Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries (ALSM) appeals to congregations to share gifts with our residents. This year Angel tags are available for residents at The Oaks at Pleasant Gap. The tags list wish items and gift suggestions. The gifts can come in many different shapes and fashions, but all help to bring Christmas cheer to those persons in our care.

For those congregations that have already contacted our office, thank you for your prompt attention. For those who may wish to participate and have not yet done so, please contact Mariya Anosova at 814.359.1101.

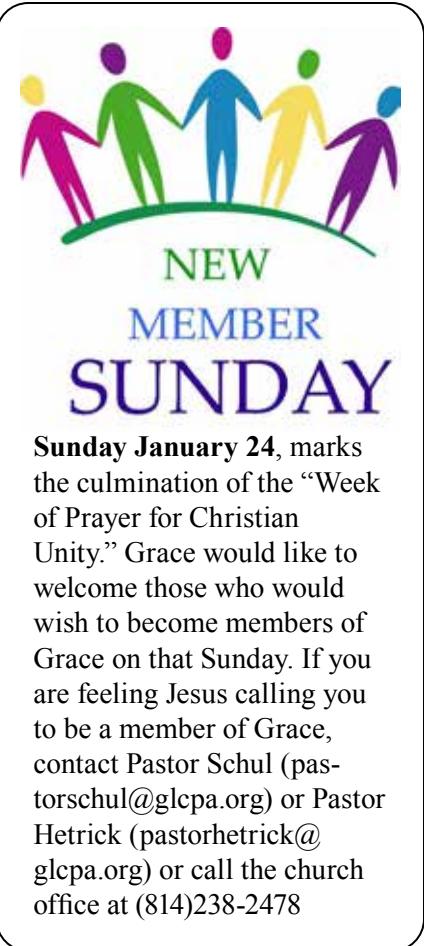
Please know any gift that you may share with our residents is most appreciated. So that we may distribute the items in a timely manner, please return all items to the personal care entrance of The Oaks at Pleasant Gap no later than Wednesday, December 16.

May your congregation experience a blessed Advent season and a very Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

*Nichole Walker*

Nichole Walker  
Administrator, The Oaks at Pleasant Gap



NEW  
MEMBER  
**SUNDAY**

Sunday January 24, marks the culmination of the "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity." Grace would like to welcome those who would wish to become members of Grace on that Sunday. If you are feeling Jesus calling you to be a member of Grace, contact Pastor Schul ([pasterschul@glepa.org](mailto:pasterschul@glepa.org)) or Pastor Hetrick ([pastorhetrick@glepa.org](mailto:pastorhetrick@glepa.org)) or call the church office at (814)238-2478



### • Green Tip for December

- This Christmas is likely to be very different for us. With that in mind, perhaps consider starting some new traditions this year with a focus on environmentally friendly gifts and activities or a reduction in the number of gifts. There are lots of ideas, here are a few to consider:
  - Make donations to charitable organizations in honor of family and friends (consider [ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://ELCA.org/goodgifts) or the Alternative Christmas Fair on page 14.)
  - Contact businesses in towns where extended family and friends live and order gift cards to be sent to you in time to then mail them back to your gift recipients.
  - Limit use of non-compostable or non-recyclable wrapping paper. Use newspaper, plain brown packing paper (have kiddos decorate) or even useful items like towels, scarves or small blankets instead.
  - Offer the gift of time and talent instead of purchasing something (are you a handy-man, a baker, a gardener, a window washer, etc.) A home made gift card offering x hours of your skill or x meals from you might mean more than something you buy at a store.
  - Put together an album of photos of you and your family to share with relatives. That can be done through various sharing mechanisms online where access is limited by links or named people only.
  - If you have adult (or nearly so) children and/or grandchildren, make them a memory book of events from your life they may not know (include old photos, stories - did you get into trouble at school for something, favorite recipes, bible verses, etc.). It will be something they will cherish for years.
  - If you really want to give physical gifts, consider things that can be good for the environment (e.g. solar powered items like outdoor path lighting, phone chargers, flashlights, etc. or reusable items as stocking stuffers - grocery bags, filtered water bottles, "waxed" papers, cloth napkins, etc.)



The University Baptist & Brethren Church in State College is holding its 38<sup>th</sup> annual **Alternative Christmas Fair** but it will take place “virtually” this year, **December 6 through December 20**, due to COVID-19 concerns. On those days holiday “shoppers” can donate to 30 local, national, and international charities. A quick trip to <https://ubbcwelcome.org/acf> will show you how to give online or by check. You can also use the QR code below to access the online shopping center via your mobile device.

Last year, 26 charities shared in more than \$43,000 that was given by people in our community. While we miss the opportunity to have representatives of our beneficiaries gather in Fellowship Hall to meet and talk with our “shoppers,” (we’ll do that again next year) we are excited at being able to offer to our patrons the ease of online giving. And the extra “space” we gain by not being in a physical place has allowed us to add four new organizations for 2020.

Here are the organizations to which you may donate:

Center for Alternatives in Community Justice  
Centre County PAWS  
Centre County Youth Service Bureau  
Centre Helps  
Centre LGBTQA Support Network  
CentrePeace  
Centre Region Down Syndrome Society  
Centre Safe  
Centre Volunteers in Medicine  
Centre Wildlife Care  
Church World Service  
Clearwater Conservancy of Central PA  
Dyslexia Reading Center of Central PA  
Habitat for Humanity of Centre County  
Heifer International

Hope International Services  
House of Care  
Housing Transitions  
Interfaith Human Services  
Jana Marie Foundation  
Midstate Literacy Council  
Out of the Cold  
PA Interfaith Power and Light  
PA Prison Society Centre County Chapter  
Park Forest Preschool  
Save the Children  
State College Food Bank  
State College Meals on Wheels  
Ten Thousand Villages  
Tides Program

Make the season merrier by supporting the good work of these charities! See you at The Alternative Christmas Fair!



**Lutheran Student Community/  
Lutheran Campus Ministry at  
Penn State**

[lutheranpennstate.org](http://lutheranpennstate.org)



We offer a variety of ways for Penn State students to connect with other students, participate in worship and discussions that are designed with students in mind, and find support from our community of students and staff. Whether we are in person (socially distanced) or online, LSC and LCM are a welcoming community, here to support students. We continue to offer a community where all are truly welcome to come as you are, where care and connection can be found, and where you can share both the struggles and the joys you encounter.

Remember, things may change as the semester unfolds, so check our socials and the calendar on our website for the most up-to-date info.

**WEEKLY FOR DECEMBER AND EARLY JANUARY**

**Night Prayer on Sundays at 9-9:30 p.m. *Online***

Set aside time for prayer, to connect with God, and feel centered for the week. This casual service will include scripture readings, prayers, music and time for reflection and community.

**Pop Up Office Hours on Tuesday at 3-4 p.m. *Online (other times by appointment)***

Campus minister Alicia Anderson will be available for you to drop by and just chat about your day, ask questions big or small, pray with you, or talk about something tough. Check our events calendar for the link while we are virtual. If you need to arrange a different time, just email or text.

**Evening Prayer ONLINE Thursdays 8-9 p.m. *Online* – see our calendar for the link**

Gather for prayer, music, reflection, and community together via Zoom while the University is virtual. We'll use music from our own community. Digital worship resources will be shared as we gather.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**QNA (Questions Not Answers) – December 13th at 7-8 p.m. *Online***

Join an inter-generational discussion with lots of questions and no easy answers! December's topic is sparked by Lenny Duncan's book *Dear Church* and will explore systemic racism. Led by campus minister Alicia Anderson. Come join the conversation! Email Carla Rossi for the event link: [ckrossi@comcast.net](mailto:ckrossi@comcast.net).

**Graduate Student Group? Service-Learning Projects? Bible Study/Discussion? Advocacy Projects? Spanish Language?**

You can get more information about these and other plans by visiting this **interest form:** [tinyurl.com/yy8ppdog](https://tinyurl.com/yy8ppdog)

Contact Alicia Anderson, Campus Minister at [ara2@psu.edu](mailto:ara2@psu.edu) or 814.360.0601 with questions. **Have a great end of the semester! Stay safe! We thank God for you every time we think of you.**

**Garden of Readin'**

(*Women's Book Club*)

The next meeting of our book club is **Tuesday, December 15** via Zoom. Susan Hirth will be facilitating our discussion of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson. This is a children's novel and, according to Susan, is not very long. We may have time during our meeting to talk about our personal Christmas traditions, both pre- and post-pandemic. The December meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. Please note that change.

**QNA - Questions,**

**Not Answers** - will meet

**Sunday, December 13 at 7 p.m. via Zoom.** If you are interested in attending, please email Carla Rossi at [ckrossi@comcast.net](mailto:ckrossi@comcast.net) for the link to the meeting.

If you previously participated in QNA, we hope you will join us again. If you haven't, newcomers are always welcome.

Alicia Anderson will facilitate a discussion centered on Lenny Duncan's book - *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.* (In case you don't know, that denomination is the ELCA and Lenny Duncan is a Lutheran minister.) You don't need to have read the book to participate. This will be a continuation of the discussion from our October meeting, but it isn't necessary to have been part of that discussion to join this next one.

Please come, via your computer or phone, with your additional questions; be prepared to leave without answers.

# Faith Formation Ministries

## What's Happening?

### November 29

6-7 p.m. – Advent Drive-In,  
Grace Lutheran Parking Lot

### DECEMBER CALENDAR

#### Wednesday, December 2

5:30 p.m. – Mid-week Advent  
Prayer Live on Facebook &  
YouTube

#### Sunday, December 6

9:30-10:00 a.m. – Zoom  
Family Sunday School

#### Wednesday, December 9

5:30 p.m. – Mid-week Advent  
Prayer Live on Facebook &  
YouTube

#### Wednesday, December 16

5:30 p.m. – Mid-week Advent  
Prayer Live on Facebook &  
YouTube

#### Sunday, December 20

- 9:30-10:00 a.m. – Zoom Family Sunday School
- 6:30-8:00 p.m. – High School Youth Group, Grace Lutheran Miller Center Gym

#### Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve Drive-in Services

### JANUARY PREVIEW

#### Sunday, January 10

- 9:30-10:00 a.m. – Zoom Family Sunday School
- 7:00 p.m. – Confirmation Parent/Youth Meeting, Grace Lutheran Porch

#### Sunday, January 17

6:30-8:00 p.m. – High School Youth Group, Grace Lutheran Miller Center Gym

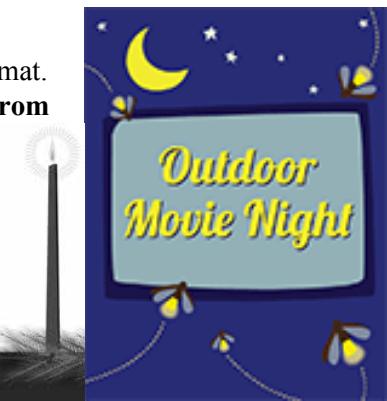
#### Sunday, January 24

9:30-10:00 a.m. – Zoom Family Sunday School

### Advent Drive-In

Advent at the Grace will be a Drive-in format.  
It will be held on **Sunday, November 29 from**

**6-7 p.m.** featuring a drive-in movie style showing of *Holy Moly Advent* (yes, we bought a 20-foot blowup screen; can you say “possible future drive-in movie nights?”). Plus, you will receive a take home craft, coloring pages, and an Advent family devotional. Please sign up for your 15-minute viewing time by emailing Cindy & Peter at [faithformation@glcpa.org](mailto:faithformation@glcpa.org).



### Family Sunday School

Family Sunday School continues in its NEW format. December’s topic is “Advent and Christmas.” With the weather turning colder, we will now Zoom our Family Sunday School times. Please check your email for the Zoom link the week prior to Sunday, December 10th and December 20th. Since we are not hosting in-person classes, Sunday school content will be posted on our Faith Formation website: <http://www.glcfaithformation.org/sunday-school.html> with the password Grace2020. The Sunday School materials include both the *Whirl* and *Spark* Bibles.

### Christmas Eve Sign ups

For Christmas Eve this year, we will be having several drive-in worship experiences at:

**2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 5 p.m.,  
8:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m.,  
and 10:30 p.m.**

These drive-in times will also have a **Live Nativity**. In case you are wondering, the 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. services will be the “children’s service” similar to the 4:30 p.m. worship in years past. Please consider **signing up for a service to be a part of the live nativity**. Email us at [faithformation@glcpa.org](mailto:faithformation@glcpa.org) or email Pastor Hetrick at [pastorhetrick@glcpa.org](mailto:pastorhetrick@glcpa.org). You can also see more information on page 8.



### High School Youth Group

We continue the socially-distanced and masked Youth Group on the third Sunday each month. Our time together will include a check-in and discussion of the ELCA *Faith Lens*. As the weather turns colder, we will be masked and socially distanced in the Miller Center Gym. This month’s meeting will be on **December 20 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.** and will include dinner. See you safely there!



Affirmation of Baptism service at Medlar Field at Lubrano Park  
on Sunday, October 25, 2020

## **Confirmation Classes, Confirmation to Go**

We end our 2020 confirmation lessons on the theme of generosity. The December assignment is a self-reflection regarding our personal gratitude. Watch your email for the January parent meeting on January 10. We will review instruction and expectations as we journey through winter. Due to the uncertainty of the pandemic, we are taking one season at a time.



## **Holy Communion Milestone**

Holy Communicants gathered with their families on Saturday, October 31 for a special socially distanced service to celebrate communion. This service is on the Grace YouTube channel which can be found through the [www.glcfaithformation.org](http://www.glcfaithformation.org) website. There are plans to hold a second Holy Communion Milestone time in the spring for those who are interested. Let us know.

## **LET IT snow!**

Create a winter wonderland with this fun craft.



### **What you need:**

- Glass jar with lid but no label
- Laminated photo (that will fit in the jar)
- Small plastic Christmas trinkets
- Hot or waterproof glue
- Container with spout
- 1 cup distilled water
- 3 tsp. glycerin
- Glitter



### **What you do:**

1. Unscrew lid and flip jar upside down. Glue the photo and trinkets to the inside of the lid, standing upright.
2. In a container, mix water and glycerin. Pour the mixture into the jar, leaving space at the top.
3. Spoon in some glitter.
4. When glue is dry, attach the decorated lid tightly. Shake the jar to see "snow" swirl and settle.



## Mark your Calendars!

**Monday, November 30**

GLPK's Online Holiday  
Scholastic Book Fair Begins

**Monday, Nov. 30 - Dec. 13**

GLPK closed

**Sunday, December 13**

Last day of Online Scholastic  
Book Fair

**Monday, December 14**

School resumes

**Thurs. & Fri., December 17 & 18**

10:30 a.m. Chapel

**Friday, December 18**

GLPK's Christmas Video  
“The Story of Christmas”

**December 24 – January 3**

School Closed for the Holidays

**Monday, January 4**

School Resumes

## Butter Braids Fundraisers

Thank you for supporting the school through our very popular Butter Braids Pastries fundraiser. We sold 293 pastries and earned \$1,598.75! The money raised will go toward tuition assistance which helps families to bridge the gap between the cost of tuition and what they can afford. This fundraiser also helps us purchase things that are not in our budget and can benefit everyone.

- E-mail: [glpk@glcpa.org](mailto:glpk@glcpa.org)
- Phone: 814-238-8110
- Web: [www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org)



## CHRISTIAN FOCUS BOX FOR DECEMBER!

“We Celebrate Jesus’ Birthday” – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. Luke 2:10

**SCIENCE EXPLORATION:** Exploring Water: Open Exploration

**ENRICHMENT CLASSES DECEMBER THEME:** STEM

## Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten Presents a Virtual Christmas Program, “The Story of Christmas”



This year a video will be made of each class presenting a part in a book series, *The Story of Christmas*, which features the following parts of the story “While Shepherds,” “O Little Town,” “Little Donkey,” “Away In A Manger,” “Hark The Herald,” and “We Three Kings.”

Each class will also be providing

Christmas poems, instrumentals, crafts and more for all of our GLPK families to enjoy in the comfort and safety of their own homes.

## Scholastic Online Holiday Book Fair

You're invited to shop our Scholastic Book Fair online from **November 30 to December 13, 2020**.

All purchases benefit our school and connect kids with new books, favorite characters, complete series, and more.

You'll love the NEW option to shop for Book Fair exclusives directly from the **interactive booklist** and enjoy these special online shopping features:

- Over 6,000 items, including new releases, best sellers, and value packs
- All orders ship direct to home
- FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25\*
- All purchases support our school and earn 25% in rewards



Visit our Book Fair Homepage and click “Shop Now” to get started:  
<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/gracelutheran>

*\*Free standard shipping is available on book-only orders of \$25 or more, after all discounts are applied. Free standard shipping (books) must be selected during checkout. Orders containing products other than books are not eligible for this shipping promotion.*

# November Highlights



Our youngest class, Miss Debbie's 2.5-3.5-year-olds, enjoyed playing in the Miller Center. You may notice that some are wearing their favorite hats for Hat Day.



Miss Amanda's class made Veterans Day hats with red, white and blue stars.



Miss Teri's class also made patriotic red, white and blue hats.



Miss Anne's class did a measuring project by making patriotic wind socks. They marched (ran) around the Miller Center waving the wind socks through the air.



Mrs. Wylie's class made the American flag and marched through the building hallways. Later they learned about the Pledge of Allegiance.



## Veterans Day Recognition at GLPK

For many years, GLPK has recognized our church and community veterans by holding an assembly and parade. This year, each class celebrated the rainy Veterans Day in their own way.

## December Worship Sponsors



### Bulletin Sponsors

### Radio Sponsors

- December 6** Susan Bardo and Curtis Johnson dedicated in memory of Frank Bardo Jr.
- December 13** Jim and Ellen Campbell dedicated in honor of their 49th wedding anniversary
- December 20** Joyce Sipple dedicated to the memory of her husband Bill Sipple and son Scott Sipple
- December 24** Sally Keiser-Bankert, Polly McWilliams dedicated in memory of Pete and Lois Keiser
- December 25** Don and Deana Coine dedicated in honor of their children & grandchildren
- December 27** Jim, Ellen and Matt Campbell dedicated to the Glory of God

- December 6** The Nieweg Family dedicated in memory of Bill Featherman
- December 13** Jim, Ellen & Matt Campbell dedicated in honor of Disciples Together Ministry
- December 20** Jeya and Emeline Chandra dedicated to the Glory of God
- December 24** Greg and Kathy Weimer dedicated in honor of their grandchildren Drew, Dana, Jaxson and Emmy
- December 25** Michelle Thal Dedicated to the memory of her grandparents Walter and Phyllis Jodon and Sonny and Roseann Thal
- December 27** William and Carolyn Fishburn dedicated to the Glory of God

## November Pastoral Acts

### Deaths - Funerals/Memorials

- Wanetta Lohr November 2, 2020
- Jean Sutherland November 4, 2020
- Gertrude Mentzer November 15, 2020
- Thomas Watschke November 18, 2020

We sincerely thank  
all of our  
generous sponsors!

## Prayer List for December

All Military & Nat'l Guard and all serving in war-torn countries	Patrick Dugan, grandson of Paul and Kathryn Mackes	Kate Kempf, daughter of Pete and Angie Kempf and granddaughter of Merle and Kathy McCalips	Bob Miller, father of Julie Miller	Ken Shultz
Theresa Alves, friend of Brenda Kim	Laurel Sanders and family, upon the death of Laurel's cousin John Elliott	June Krumrine	Amy Nevling	William D. Snape Sr., brother of Phyllis Favorite
Deb Baysinger's cousin Sylvia Belanger, mother of Joe Belanger	Steve Ellis	The family of Wanetta Lohr, upon her death	Dottie Niklos, mother of Bob Igoe	Emily & Charlotte Spearly
Debbie Bolthouse	Craig Evanego	Paul & Sandy Larson	Allison Peretin, friend of Elaine Ebeling	The family of Jean Sutherland upon her death
Mary and Phil Bucher	Jane Gamble, sister-in-law of Holly Stoltzfus	Paul Lloyd, son of Pat Lloyd	Zach Pfeil, brother of Megan Widener	Jack Sylves and family and grandparents, Tom and Marj Eakin
Sandy Cassady	Darrell Engelhardt, father of Lisa	Shirley Lucas	Margie Prothro, sister of Ed Jenkins	Tom & Claudette, friends of Helen and Dick Brenneman
Denise Centini	Carol Confer	Tom Lucas	Sophia Reutzel	Karen Tupman, cousin of Phyllis Favorite
Nancy Chapa	Cathy Cutter	Paul Mackes	Dottie Roberts	Brenda & Ken Walsh
Scott Cocolin	William Davies	Carol Major, friend of Brenda Palmgren	Becky Rogers	The family of Thomas Watschke upon his death
Carol Confer	Marie Dallery mother of Sharon Shurgalla	Dennis McClure	Bruce, Lynn & Becky Rogers upon the death of Bruce's father, Bill	Greg Weimer
Cathy Cutter	Damaris Dougherty, daughter of Bob Hampton	Danielle McHenry	Margaret Schrock, mother of Kathy Weimer	Janet Zerbe
William Davies	Eti Dvir, mother-in-law of Rachel Wolkenhauer	Kim Marsh	Nancy Schuchert, mother of Joe Schuchert	
Marie Dallery mother of Sharon Shurgalla		The family of Gertrude Mentzer, upon her death		
Damaris Dougherty, daughter of Bob Hampton				
Eti Dvir, mother-in-law of Rachel Wolkenhauer				

## December Birthdays

1 Michael L. Fullington	9 Rachel Wolkenhauer	14 Isabelle Williams	22 Alyson Hoegg
1 Michael J. Fullington	9 Carter Hosband	15 Jason Barber	26 Jane Foor
1 Jeya Chandra	9 Wendell Williams	15 Sophia Lynn Reutzel	26 Teri Howes
1 Christian Waite	10 Christa Sechler	16 Geraldine Slear	26 Alexis Weyandt
2 Walter Kay	10 Eleanor Johnson	17 Edward T. Reutzel	26 Barbara Krumrine
2 Lydia Peters	10 Jon Hartzler	17 George Conklin	26 Sandra Hall
2 Anna Bahnfleth	11 Eric Updegrove	17 Alexis Arbutina	26 Lois Martin
2 Terry Hoover	11 Saylor Milhomme	17 Haley Haller	27 Dawn Anderson
2 Patrick Williams	11 Erica Edgar	17 Theresa Facini	27 Robert Zipf
3 Timothy Everhart	11 Caroline Banerjee	18 Barbara Fiscus	27 Melvin Rockey
3 Martha Musser	11 Bret Buterbaugh	18 Sally Keiser-Bankert	27 Elizabeth Horn
3 Charlotte Bahnfleth	11 Samantha Smith	18 William Gray	27 Hailee Rusnak
4 Brian Kim	11 Joseph Cathcart	18 Amy Shearer	28 Alissa Davies
4 Lily Traver	12 Jackson Hockenberry	18 Edwin Strong Jr.	28 Paul Haris
4 Brenda Palmgren	12 Nancy Doyle	18 Rebecca Horn	28 Michael McShea
5 Mary Yarnell	12 Nancy Reinert	18 Damon Heebner	29 Sydney O'Donnell
6 George Weigand	12 Christiane Fleagle	18 Isaac Myler	30 Carol Shultz
6 Robert Byers	12 Deborah Balaban	19 Elizabeth Walsh	30 Debra Lambert
6 Zachary Freeman	12 Ronald Smith	19 Edna (Jo) Bortz	30 James Pletcher
6 Wayne Pauley	12 Vicki Kellogg	20 Kathryn Mackes	30 Natalie Giacobe
6 Jeremiah Northridge	13 Anna Carol Buffington	20 David Guss Jr.	30 Elizabeth Giacobe
6 Lauren Long	13 Heather Baney	20 Jessica Griel	30 Andrew Rosenwie
6 Charles Long	13 Rochelle Debnar	21 Andrea Forster	31 Donald Widener
7 Evan Rosengrant	13 Amanda Simcoe	21 Mia Steward	31 James Graef
7 Paula Droege	13 Sarah Elizabeth Chapman	21 Mary Lou Swan	31 Neil Foster
8 Jim McDyre	14 Nancy Tamminga	22 K. Brian Humm	31 Nicholas Richardson
8 Alexis Greer	14 Sydney Lintal	22 Melissa Hockenberry	31 Rebecca Ann Caylor
8 Ainsley Greer	14 Paul Cocolin	22 Catherine Pletcher	
8 Andrea Harrington		22 Michael Blake	

### WORSHIP SPONSORS FOR 2021



The pandemic has not allowed person-to-person contact in the building and therefore we do not have any sign-up sheets available to reserve a Sunday sponsorship. Instead, you may contact Sheri Rider in the church office if you wish to reserve a date at 238-2478 or [sriter@glcpa.org](mailto:sriter@glcpa.org). The following are available to sponsor:

- **RADIO** costs are \$200\* per Sunday, Thanksgiving Eve, and Christmas Eve or \$100 for a shared broadcast.
- **BULLETIN** sponsorships are \$25 per Sunday

\* As of January 1, 2021, the radio sponsorship will increase to \$200 due to increased costs by WRSC.

### Web page has a new look for easier access

In order to quickly find pre-recorded worship services, Bible studies, prayer services, and music that are posted on Facebook, YouTube, or Twiter, we have included three icons on the right side of our front page on our web site, [www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org).



**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**  
SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

# Grace Notes

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

205 South Garner Street  
State College, PA 16801  
(814) 238-2478

[www.glcpa.org](http://www.glcpa.org)

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State College, PA

**CURRENT RESIDENT OR:**

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:30 a.m. Worship on the Radio  
Broadcast on WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM is active

Enjoy pre-recorded Sunday Video Worship from our website: [glcpa.org](http://glcpa.org) anytime



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

- Grace Lutheran Church  
[churchoffice@glcpa.org](mailto:churchoffice@glcpa.org)
- GLC Preschool and Kindergarten  
[glpk@glcpa.org](mailto:glpk@glcpa.org)  
814-238-8110
- Faith Formation Ministry  
[faithformation@glcpa.org](mailto: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.