



Grace Notes

Gather • Feed • Send

December 2018

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Advent 4 – Sunday, December 23

Regular Sunday worship, 8:00, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.
There is no Sunday School or coffee hour.

Christmas Eve – Monday, December 24

There are four opportunities to worship on Christmas Eve:

- The 4:30 p.m. worship service is designed particularly as a children's service. The Christmas story will be told with a nativity of live animals and a visit from Santa as he comes to worship the Christ child.
- The 7:00 p.m. candlelight worship service, features Holy Communion, organ, carols, adult choir, and soloists.
- The 9:00 p.m. candlelight worship service is a piano-led service with Holy Communion, carols, choral ensembles and instrumental solos.
- The 11:00 p.m. candlelight worship service includes Holy Communion, organ, carols, adult choir, and soloists.

Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day Worship is at 10 00 a.m. which is organ-led with Holy Communion and carols.



Grace Christmas Dinner Wednesday, December 19



A Christmas dinner for members and friends of Grace will be held on **Wednesday, December 19 at 5:30 p.m. in the Miller Center**. We will enjoy a ham & turkey dinner with all the trimmings prepared by our Super Wednesday cooks.

Please join your fellow Grace members as we share this time of fellowship. After the meal, we'll sing Christmas carols, including Grace's special version of "The Twelve Days of Christmas," led by our own Frank Bortz who has been our song leader for over 40 years, and accompanied by Pastor Schul on the bass and June Miller on the piano. The dinner and caroling will take the place of regular Super Wednesday evening activities.

A donation of \$4/person or \$10/family is suggested.

Please bring one dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies to share.



OUR Senior Pastor

The Power of Example and Habit

This past summer I spent a week in Concord, Massachusetts, to explore the homes and favorite haunts of some of my most beloved authors. While there, I was surprised at the regularity with which motorists stopped for pedestrians

to cross the street. No matter what time of day or how busy the roads were, all I had to do is be near a crosswalk and a driver would stop. As the week wore on, this began to change the way I drove in Concord. I found myself stopping for each and every pedestrian. I think it was easier to “do the right thing” because “the right thing” was also the community’s expectation. When I got back to State College, however, the Concord community expectations no longer constrained me to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks. But I have continued to do so. I’d like to think this shows how I have grown and matured in my driving hospitality. But I think the simpler explanation is that my conduct, formed initially by the good example of others, has now become a habit.

Example and habit are powerful tools in a Christian community as well. We all need and benefit from faithful people who, by the way they live their lives, demonstrate the essence of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Perhaps we follow their example of serving the community, giving generously, praying and worshiping consistently, and reading scripture regularly because it’s “the right thing to do.” But living the Christian life isn’t always intuitive, and so adopting Christian discipleship practices based on the example of others is a time-tested way to live out your faith. Best of all, do those things enough and eventually you make them your own as they become a regular, ongoing habit of your faith and life.

Advent offers a perfect opportunity to put this notion into practice. It has long been a tradition at Advent to light a candle – one for each of the four Sundays in Advent. I remember doing that when I was a small boy, which is probably the reason I continue to love this tradition. Make it a tradition of your family, too, by combining it with a bit of scripture. You can use a verse or two from Sunday’s bulletin or – even easier – grab one of the free Advent Stars in our Narthex. These paper stars, kindly provided by United Lutheran Seminary, include a scripture and prayer for every day of Advent. Make a little ritual of it. Combine it with a food snack if that helps. Whether you are an empty-nester or a family with small children, in five minutes you can easily begin and maintain a little devotional practice that will bring you closer to Christ. Discipleship doesn’t have to be difficult. It only has to be meaningful.

Coming up...

- Our full **Advent and Christmas worship schedule** is in this issue of Grace Notes. Christmas Eve at Grace is always a remarkable and richly fulfilling experience. After their absence last Christmas, our adult choir is back and better than ever and has some terrific things in store for you at the 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. services. Our 9 p.m. Christmas Eve service is going to be mighty special, too, and will feature some terrific ensembles organized by Laurel Sanders. →

Pastor Lynn’s photo retrospective is available on our website

The booklet features photos from Pastor Lynn’s service as a called pastor



(other churches as well as Grace), items submitted by members, member poems and other writings. Photos from the retirement event in August are also included. Thanks to Brenda Palmgren and Alison Hoegg for taking photos of the occasion.

To access the book:

1. Go to the News and Events drop-down menu of our website at www.glcpa.org;
2. Visit the Events and E-Notes page;
3. Click on the Members Only Photo Gallery button, and enter the following information to access the file:
 1. Username: GraceFamily
 2. Password: Grace4all!

- **Midweek Advent worship** is something brand new for us this year and will be held on two Wednesdays, December 5 and December 12, at 6:30 p.m. (right after the Super Wednesday meal). Worship will be filled with light, beautiful music, moments of contemplation and wonder, and plenty of features to ensure it is family friendly. Give it a try. I think you’ll find it a perfect accompaniment to the season of Advent.

~Pastor Schul

Preparing our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Sunday	First Reading	Psalms	Second Reading	Holy Gospel
December 2 1 st Sunday of Advent	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Psalms 25:1-10	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Luke 21:25-36
December 9 2 nd Sunday of Advent	Malachi 3:1-4	Luke 1:68-79	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
December 16 3 rd Sunday of Advent	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Isaiah 12:2-6	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
December 23 4 th Sunday of Advent	Micah 5:2-5a	Psalms 80:1-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]
December 30 1 st Sunday of Christmas	1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26	Psalms 148	Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:41-52

MUSIC IN THE LITURGY

Advent, Christmas and Epiphany Carols: Seasonal Harvests

These days we can have almost anything we want, whenever we want it. However, perhaps some of you remember the days when strawberries were only available for a few weeks in June, and we couldn't wait for late summer, when fresh cherries and apricots were in season. Since we had to wait, we did so with eager anticipation, mouths watering as we dreamed about the arrival of the seasonal harvest. We had to pay attention, too, so we didn't miss the blessings of each season.

Advent carols are designed to help us anticipate Christmas in a similar way. The carols of Advent are typically somber. They tug on our heart-strings, with a desperate longing and pleading for Christ to come. As eager as we are to sing our favorite Christmas carols, counting down the days of Advent and waiting to sing Christmas carols on Christmas enables us to savor each season's gifts. As a result, anticipation multiplies our joy when we can finally sing about the miracle of Jesus' birth with our brothers and sisters in faith. At the end of the twelfth day of Christmas (January 6), we enter the Epiphany season. Carols are sung about light, the Magi (Kings from the East who came to worship Jesus), the star that led the Magi to Bethlehem, and the miracle of the incarnation of God in the flesh.

If you compare strawberries and other fruits when they are in season with the pale imitations that are available year-round, you know that good things are worth waiting for. Thus it is with music. Savor anticipation during Advent; join in the joyful celebration of Christmas; and marvel at the miracle of the incarnation. Music, "harvested" at just the right time, will help you to appreciate the fruits of each season.



Mid-Week Advent Service

As we wait and prepare for the birth of Jesus, Grace offers a CrossGen mid-week service.

On Wednesday, **December 5 and December 12 at 6:30 p.m.**, all Kids Clubs and Bible Studies will take a break from those activities as we worship together. This 45-minute service has something for all members. Mark your calendar to join this celebration of the season of Advent and Christmas by lighting the Advent wreath, singing songs, and praying prayers written specifically for this time of anticipation. We will have youth and children singing from the Crossfire Choir and the Sing 'n Ring Choir. In the Narthex there will be devotionals and calendars for all ages.



A Hymn for Contemplation

The season of Advent is often referred to as a season of waiting. On the grandest scale, we wait for Jesus to return and to set our sin-sick world aright. But on a daily basis, we find ourselves mired in worry as we wait for the resolution of a multitude of smaller yet surely important things. We wait for the doctor's diagnosis. We wait for healing. We wait for reconciliation. We wait for peace. We wait for our broken heart to stop aching at the loss of a dear one. In our waiting, we feel utterly helpless. And yet our faith reassures us that in Jesus Christ, there is hope. It is that crossroads of waiting, worry, and comfort in Christ that best defines Advent.



A hymn which beautifully captures this Advent feeling is *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*, which is our Hymn for Contemplation this month. The words to that precious hymn were written by Johann Olearius (1635-1711), who was a German Lutheran pastor, writer, hymnbook compiler, and hymn text author. It beautifully speaks to the comfort from Christ we so need to receive and the comfort we are called to give to our neighbors as together we trust in faith that “God’s word is never broken” and that “God will reign in peace forever.” As you read and contemplate these words, I pray that you may experience and share Christ’s comfort this Advent season.

~ Pastor Schul

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (ELW #256)

1. “Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To God’s people now proclaim that God’s pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever.
2. For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior; hills, bow down in humble favor.
3. Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God’s holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.

Advent: Grace Lutheran Steps into the New Church Year with Online Giving

Christians’ support of the Church during the past two thousand years has evolved in response to changing times and needs. One or two generations ago, members tithed by donating some of the crops from their harvest or meat from the animals they raised. Eventually, times changed. We moved to a money-based economy, and people began supporting the Church with gifts in the form of checks and cash.

Times have changed again. As we move toward a cashless society, Grace Lutheran Church has taken a big step forward: we now enable you to contribute online to our Building Fund, General Fund (to support our ministries), and Bucket Collections (for designated outreach programs). We selected Tithe.ly as our online provider; they have more than 6,000 participating churches and work closely with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). We know several churches that use Tithe.ly, and all are happy with it. We have tested it thoroughly, and it is already working well for us!



Tithe.ly makes giving online easy via our website. They accept major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, JCB, Discover, or Diners Club) and also enable you to download the Tithe.ly giving app onto your phone or other mobile devices. There are no up-front or maintenance fees, only a minimal processing fee for each donation,

continued on next page...



Finances for 2018

	Actual Income vs Expense July-Oct 2018	Budgeted Income vs Expense July-Oct 2018	+ or (-)	%
Income	\$256,554.62	\$268,000.00	(\$11,445.38)	-4.27 %
Expenses	\$265,771.52	\$280,661.84	(14,890.32)	-5.31 %
Net Income	(\$9,216.90)	(\$12,661.84)		

- Budgeted offering has remained at \$847,734 since 2014-15 (five years).
- Year-to-date offering is at approximately the same level as last year at this time, 4.2 % behind budgeted giving.
- In order to carry out the ministries we agreed upon at the annual meeting and establish a rainy day fund for future building repairs, contributions you missed, please be generous and consistent in your giving. If you have been away, please consider making up contributions you missed. We appreciate and depend upon your kind support. Contact Laurel Sanders at lsanders@glcpa.org if you wish to sign up for the monthly automatic bank withdrawal.

Building Campaign

Actual Receipts this month	Monthly Mortgage*	Fiscal YTD Receipts	Fiscal YTD Mortgage
\$12,855.91	\$15,742.70	\$52,089.00	\$62,971.00

* Our monthly payment is \$15,742.70. Mortgage rates are due for renegotiation in 2021.

Current building campaign donations are less than our monthly mortgage obligation. Funds we set aside at the start of the building campaign have enabled us to meet our obligations. One hundred people or teams of people giving \$16,000 each would completely eliminate our debt. When the debt is eliminated, all donations can support effective ministry. Please consider whether you can make a donation to our building in ANY amount to bring us closer to this goal!

Building contributions can now be made on our website at www.glcpa.org under the GIVE section (upper right side of screen).

which donors can choose to cover if they wish. The Tithe.ly app can be downloaded onto mobile devices for future gifts as well.

Online giving via Tithe.ly is NOT designed to replace our automatic bank withdrawals for donations, since that is the most cost-effective way to ensure regular and consistent giving. It is, however, a great option for special collections

(disaster relief, etc.) or when members spontaneously decide to make an extra contribution toward our ministries or building fund.

If you find yourself cashless and are moved to make a gift, please check out the options on our website. We have taken all recommended steps with our website provider to ensure transactions are secure, and you will receive a receipt automatically

when you give. Step into the future with us – visit www.glcpa.org and consider making a gift through Tithe.ly!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Laurel Sanders, Business Manager, at lsanders@glcpa.org or call the church office at 814-238-2478.

Lessons and Carols

Ear Candy: Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 16 at 10:30 a.m.

If Advent carols are meaningful to you as you prepare for Christ's coming, don't miss **CROSSFIRE'S tenth annual presentation** of this global Christian

tradition at Grace. Nine scripture readings, primarily from the prophetic books of the Old Testament and the Gospels, are interspersed with choral and congregational carols. This type of service is held primarily in Anglican, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Episcopalian and other mainline churches, typically on Christmas Eve or on the Sunday closest to Christmas. At Grace Lutheran, our service is in the middle of Advent, so we focus on Advent carols that feature the longing of believers for Christ to come.

The first Lessons and Carols service was held in Truro Cathedral in Cornwall, England, in 1878. America introduced the service at Brown University in 1917, one year before Kings College at Cambridge University in England began theirs. The Kings service is the best-known Lessons and Carols service in the world, broadcast each year on Christmas Eve, and has been broadcast in the United States since 1979 on American Public Media. Historically, local broadcasts are on Christmas Eve morning and on Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m. and include a newly-commissioned carol as well as long-standing favorites, sung by one of the finest choirs in the world. Check the WPSU online calendar in December to confirm.

This year our music will include some carols of Spanish origin (in English) since our second annual AdventFest (December 2) focuses on Mexico. If you miss the service at Grace, you can hear a Lessons and Carols service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and some other churches in the Centre Region. Each church's format is different, yet all are unified in telling the greatest story ever told, in Word and in song. Christ IS coming...Alleluia (praise God!).



ADULT FORUM
Dialogues On:
"The Refugee Crisis"
Text, scripture, video and discussion are central to this study.

Dec. 2: Looking for Home

To create welcoming communities, issues of tolerance vs. inclusion must be addressed. When we welcome strangers, how open are our communal practices?

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Dec. 9: Where Do We Go From Here?

Options to explore for churches and individuals include partnering with resettlement agencies and advocacy locally and globally. What options fit your personal interests and perspective?

Luke 18:1-8

Dec. 16: Life as a Refugee with Guest Speaker, Christy Delafield

Through her work with Mercy Corps, Christy has seen first hand the living conditions experienced by refugees and will share information about refugee life and programs in place to aid displaced persons.

Sundays at 9 a.m. in Fireside
Join us as your schedule allows

Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins **Sunday, December 16**

**Meet in Harkins Hall -
Light Lunch Provided
at 11:45 a.m.**

Please join your fellow Grace members as we share the joy of Christmas by caroling at the homes of homebound members of our congregation. We will go caroling on **Sunday, December 16, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.** A light lunch in Harkins Hall will be provided before the caroling begins. Then, at 12:30, a bus will take us as a group to Grace's homebound members. The sign-up sheet for caroling is on the bulletin board across from the office. If you have questions about this event, please contact Lois Lynn (234-1078) or loissteve@comcast.net.



DID YOU KNOW...

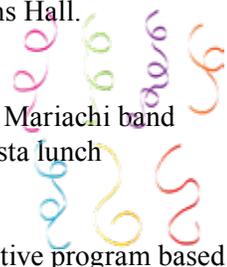
...on December 2 we will have a special congregational meeting at Grace to consider calling Rev. Carolyn Hetrick as our new associate pastor? Eligible voting members will be able to vote at the end of each of our four Sunday services.

**AdventFest 2018:
Mariachi, carols, food,
displays and giveaways
set international tone
for Advent**

Join our Grace family for our second annual international AdventFest on **December 2**, the first Sunday of Advent. We will mark the season of waiting and anticipation with a Mexican-style fiesta in Harkins Hall.

Schedule:

- 11:45 – 12:30 Mariachi band and fiesta lunch
- 12:30 – 1:45
 - Carols
 - Interactive program based on the Mexican “posada”
 - Mexican-themed displays
 - Kids’ activities
 - Giveaway of Mexican Christmas items
- 2:00 – Event ends



**Blue Christmas Worship Service
Friday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.**

State College Presbyterian Church,
132 W. Beaver Ave., State College, PA



The Blue Christmas worship service is typically held on December 21 as it is the longest night of the year. For people who are struggling through this Advent to Christmas season due to the death of a loved one, health challenges and fears, or suffering from another source, this service acknowledges a person’s heartache. While the person’s pain is honored, the service’s intention is to offer those hurting the hope found in Jesus Christ. This service is an ecumenical ministry of Grace Lutheran Church, State College Presbyterian Church, and St. Paul’s United Methodist Church & Wesley Foundation.

**Mark Your Calendar: Stairwell Carols and the
Arrival of the Magi on Jan. 6 (Epiphany)**

The sixth of January marks the end of the 12 days of Christmas and the start of the Epiphany season, when the magi (astronomers) journeyed from afar to Bethlehem to see the Christ Child. Themes of light and God made manifest in the flesh (the kings’ “epiphany” or “aha!” moment) are everywhere in worship. This year three costumed kings will enhance our 9 and 10:30 worship, singing two epiphany carols. Between the two services, during coffee hour, you will hear festive seasonal carols in the circular stairwell, bringing the festivities of the holiday (holy day) season to a joyful close. Mark your calendars!

MITTEN AND HAT TREE

The Knit Wits are sponsoring the hat and mitten tree again this year. The collected items will be going to...

**THE YOUTH SERVICE
BUREAU**
We will collect items through
December 12.



**Finals Week Care Packages
for Penn State Students!**

Again this year Lutheran Campus Ministry and Grace Lutheran are partnering to gather snacks and other treats for Finals Week Care Packages!

We are gathering single-serving packages of granola bars, chips, popcorn, gum, candy, cocoa, snack crackers, cookies, or other small treats for students. Volunteers will package items into bags that will be given to students on the Sunday before finals begin (December 10), along with a note of encouragement and Christmas greetings.

If you would like to help encourage students and lift their spirits as they study and take final exams, please bring your donation to the church office on **before Wednesday, December 5th.**





Out of the Cold

Grace will host **Out of the Cold: Centre County** March 25th through April 7th for this season.



For those who are not familiar, OOTC3 provides warm, safe, overnight space for homeless in the area to sleep. An evening and morning meal are provided. There are 13 congregations that host our homeless guests for two-week periods during the colder months.

Grace has in excess of 100 volunteers who register our guests, volunteer to sleep overnight, make food, unload supplies, call volunteers, and otherwise support the mission. There are also numerous members who provide monetary support to the program. Thank you for all of your support. There is a short (1 to 1.5 hour) training program for those who want to register guests in the evening or sleep overnight. The training will be provided several times beginning in January. Watch for training time announcements.

OOTC3 began October 22nd this season. We are currently averaging seven or eight people per evening.

During December there will be a fundraiser. You will be able to order framed prints from *Howie Shultz Adventures in Light*. More information will be available on the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/out-ofthecoldcentreco/>

~ Pam Soule, Grace Lutheran OOTC3 coordinator



- Gluten-Free products (any kind, but especially pasta, cereal, etc.)
- Hot chocolate
- Oil
- Laundry detergent
- Canned fruits
- Salt, pepper, and spices
- Canned pasta and sloppy joe sauce (Chef Boyardee, Manwich, etc.)
- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, or Spam)
- Canned green beans
- Soup (especially Progresso or Chunky)
- Tomato products (diced, stewed, paste, sauce, etc.)
- Juice (100% fruit or vegetable juice)
- Canned corn
- Canned mixed veggies
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Feminine hygiene products
- Soap (bar or liquid)

visit us online at:
<http://scfoodbank.org>

Keep the tradition going! Please ring bells to raise money for our neighbors who need a hand up through Interfaith Human Services. **Sign up** in the Upper Commons on the bulletin board to the left of the men's room.



Friday, November 30
at Meyer's Dairy

Sunday, December 9
in front of the Benner Pike Walmart

Thursday, December 20
at Meyer's Dairy



The Jared Box Project

Thank you to all who packed Jared Boxes. We collected 174 boxes! That was more than enough to fill the requests of several local hospitals.

The boxes have already been delivered to local hospitals. We spread the smiles around by delivering Jared Boxes to Mount Nittany Medical Center, Altoona Hospital, Clearfield Hospital, Jersey Shore Hospital, J C Blair Hospital, and Lewistown Hospital!

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!

Holiday Collection for Centre Safe: Opportunity to Share Our Resources and Love with Those In Need!

Continuing through December, Grace Lutheran Church will be collecting much needed items and monetary donations to benefit the adults and children receiving services through Centre Safe, *formerly the Centre County Women's Resource Center*.



Centre Safe provides a variety of services, including counseling and advocacy, as well as shelter services for single adults and families. All its services are free, professional, and confidential. Services are for women, men, and children who have experienced dating and domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and services are inclusive of all gender identities and sexual orientations.

Whether it be providing a bed pillow or just some granola bars, members of Grace Lutheran Church can show those receiving services through Centre Safe that love and generosity is alive and well. Below is a list of much needed items for people receiving services through Centre Safe. Checks can also be written out to Centre Safe to continue providing needed services, and cash and gift cards are also greatly appreciated.

For those able to donate in any form, please feel free to drop off donations at the collection table in the Commons area through December.

If you have any questions about this collection, please feel free to call Jennifer Pencek at 867-2174, e-mail j06374@yahoo.com, or just stop by the church nursery.

WISH LIST:

- Bed pillows – regular size
- Dish sets for 2-4
- Sweats and tees in all sizes – for kids and adults
- Lysol wipes – 80 count
- Laundry detergent = HE and scent free
- Umbrellas – regular size
- Cans of soup
- Jars of pasta sauce
- Granola/snack bars

GIFT CARDS, \$10-\$25 (used frequently among Centre Safe teams, any amount appreciated)

- Giant
- Wal-Mart
- Sheetz
- Weis
- Target



Stephen Ministry

We have seen a need to expand our ministry to offer the services of our Stephen Ministers to others in the congregation who don't get to church as often and need a caring friend to listen or just visit. Our mission statement is "Keeping Grace members connected to their church family."

We need more congregational members interested in doing this type of visitation to join us. We will be having training sessions this winter. **If you are someone who is comfortable talking to others, have skills (or interested in learning skills) in listening, and want to bring the church to others in their homes, we would love for you to join us.** Some of the other skills you will learn include making that first visit, providing spiritual care, and maintaining boundaries and confidentiality. Contact Brenda Palmgren at bpalmgren@glppa.org, (814) 574-1039 or Pastor Schul at the church office (238-2478) to sign up.



Green Tip for December

With Christmas just around the corner, one thing we may not think about is the amount of material waste the season creates. There are many great websites with ideas on ways to reduce that. One that I liked is <https://wellnessmama.com/62543/eco-friendly-gift-wrap/>

It claims that in the U.S. we use 4 million tons of gift wrap and decorations each year, much of which ends up in landfills. To help reduce that, consider some of these ideas as you prepare for Christmas gift giving:

- Reduce the number of gifts given - 1 or 2 high quality items rather than many per person.
- Give “experiences” rather than material gifts - event tickets, museum memberships, etc.
- Use fabric scraps, scarves, towels or blankets as gift wrap and reuse them again and again (I bet “Scraps & Skeins”-- see Ellen Campbell -- can help you with that!)
- Have children decorate plain brown paper grocery bags and use as wrapping paper. If you do buy gift wrap, get a type that is recyclable (avoid foils, glittering or plasticized versions) and encourage recipients to recycle, not trash.
- Forego bows and ribbons and opt for twine or burlap instead
- Cut out parts of Christmas cards to use as next year’s gift tags before disposing of them and, if they are paperboard, recycle used cards rather than putting in the trash.



Holiday Gift Shopping

‘Tis the season to bring others joy, and we have a great way for you to help **Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten’s** fundraising program. We sell **Weis, Giant, RedLine Speed Shine and Sheetz gift cards** from the school office. To purchase any of these gift cards, please stop in the school office Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Toys for Tots

Grace Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten will serve as a collection site for the Toys for Tots program again this year. This impressive program provides toys for needy children in our area. If you would like to donate a toy, please place your unwrapped gift in its original packaging in one of the collection boxes located at the entrances to the school or in the Narthex **through December 10th.**

If you would like to make a cash donation or would like to volunteer, go to <http://marines.centreconnect.org> for details.



CrossGen Advent Coloring Event

Our Cross-Gen gathering for Advent Coloring resulted in some beautiful posters. Please be sure to look in the Upper Commons or Narthex to see the beautiful work. The theme is based on the *Magnificat: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.*



Women of Grace

Schedule



Naomi Circle - First Tuesday in the Stinson Library

Contact Person: Carolyn Fishburn (cxf1@pps.edu)

December 4 - We will meet at 12 noon in the library. Then after a brief meeting, we will visit Ten Thousand Villages and go to lunch at IHop.

Daughters of Eve Circle - Fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Fireside

Contact Person: Bonnie Burris (bonnieburris@comcast.net)

No December meeting

Comfort Makers (Sewing Group) - Second and fourth Tuesday at 9 a.m. in the Stinson Library

Contact Person: Yvonne Koths (ygk1951@gmail.com)

December 11

Knit Wits (Knitting and Crocheting group) - Second Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Stinson Library

Contact Person: Cindy Tibbott (ctibbott1@verizon.net)

December 13

Garden of Readin' (Women's Book Club) - Third Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. or 6 p.m. (your choice) in Fireside - **No December meeting**

Contact Person: Lois Lynn (loissteve@comcast.net)

January 15 - *My Jesus Year: A Rabbi's Son Wanders the Bible Belt in Search of His Own Faith* by Benyamin Cohen. This is the selection of Cindy Keith, and she will be facilitating our discussions

Board Meeting - Every other Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Fireside.

Contact Person: Susan Ferro (ferro71@comcast.net)

- **No December meeting**

Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Kits -- Thanks!

Comfort Makers, Women of Grace's sewing circle, is grateful to the entire Grace family for making LWR Quilt and Kit Sunday such a success. Due to your support, we sent **25 quilts, 182 school kits, 18 personal care kits, 2 fabric kits and 1 baby kit** to Lutheran World Relief. In addition, Comfort Makers distributed **19 other lap and full-sized quilts** to Grace and community members in need.



Special thanks to *Thrivent* for grant money and to everyone in the congregation who donated school supplies or sewed a quilt or backpack.

We are deeply appreciative of the high school and middle school Sunday school classes and their leaders who packed

the school kits and to our faithful drivers who delivered all the kits and blankets to the distribution center. As one body and one spirit, together we can do amazing things. Thank you!



Weekly Events

- Sunday Morning Worship with Grace Lutheran Church 8 a.m., 9 a.m., or 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday Evening Worship at Grace Lutheran Church 6:00–6:50 p.m.
- Sunday Dinner after worship at 7–8 p.m. (with Video discussion November 26 and December 3); Green Team dish washing 8:00–8:30 p.m.
- Wednesdays Table Talk Study & Discussion on campus, 12:10-1 p.m.
- Thursday Evening Worship at Pasquerilla Spiritual Center 6:00–6:45 p.m.; Thursday Dinner after Worship at 6:45–8:00 p.m.

December Highlights:

Friday, December 7

Free Pizza Friday outside The Forum by Palmer Art Museum. Join Muslim Students at Penn State feeding hungry students and spreading joy with pizza!

Sunday, December 2

11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. – **Advent Fest** with all of Grace Lutheran Church to celebrate Advent together

Sunday, December 9

7-8:30 p.m. (after 6 p.m. worship) **Christmas Hoopla!** Come take a study break and celebrate Christmas before exams begin!

Monday, December 10

9-11:30 a.m. – **Finals Week Breakfast** at The Corner Room. What better way to start exams! Gather with Alicia and other students before or after your first final!

For more information about worship on campus, Bible study and discussion, meals, service projects, and everything else the Lutheran Student Community does, visit the website at www.lutheranpennstate.org.



DECEMBER CALENDAR:

Sunday, December 2

12:00-2:00 p.m. – AdventFest, Harkins Hall

Wednesday, December 5

6:30-7:15 p.m. – Cross-Gen Mid-Week Advent Service, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 9

12-2 p.m. – Confirmation & high school youth combined service event, Miller Center

Wednesday, December 12

6:30-7:15 p.m. – Cross-Gen Mid-Week Advent Service, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 16

10 a.m. – Munchkin Brunchkin, Miller Center
 11:45 a.m. – Cross-Gen Christmas Caroling, Harkins Hall

Sunday, December 23

No Sunday School

Monday, December 24

4:30 p.m. – Children’s Christmas Eve service with Santa Claus

Wednesday, December 26

10 a.m. – Munchkin Brunchkin, Miller Center

Sunday, December 30

No Sunday School

JANUARY PREVIEW:

Sunday January 6

9-10 a.m. – Sunday School Classes resume

Sunday, January 13

Noon - 2 p.m. – Confirmation Class in the Miller Center
 Sermon Notes #2 due
 6:00-7:30 p.m. – High school youth group in the Miller Center

Sunday, January 20

10 a.m. – Munchkin Brunchkin, Miller Center

AdventFest -- Join our Grace family our Second Annual International AdventFest in Harkins Hall on December 2nd, following the 10:30 worship service. We will begin to mark the season of waiting and anticipating with a Mexican style fiesta.

Our themed meal includes tacos, nachos, and rice & beans. There will be live music from a Mariachi band (made up of members from Oakwood Presbyterian Church), seasonal carols performed by our Crossfire (teen choir) and Sing ‘n Ring (children’s choir), as well as instrumentalists. We conclude our event with an Advent-themed interactive skit: *La Posada*. *La Posada* is a traditional Mexican Christmas drama depicting the journey made by Joseph & Mary as they search for lodging.

Contact Cindy Fritz & Peter Horn, faithformation@glcpa.org or Laurel Sanders at lsanders@glcpa.org if you can contribute a casserole, side dish, or dessert. While the theme is Mexican, all food donations will be accepted. Look for details on page 7.

Go Tell it on the Mountain -- We offer a special Christmas Eve service specifically designed for the young and the young at heart. At 4:30 p.m. on December 24th, worship and learn about the birth of Jesus and what Santa Claus thinks about that. This service features live animals and traditional Christmas carols.



ELCA Good Gifts

Looking for a gift for the person who “has it all” to benefit those that have less? Look at the ELCA Good Gifts Ornaments. You can take the ornament home (or give as a gift) as a reminder of your gift.

This year we are offering ELCA Good Gifts as an alternative giving to poinsettias, especially if you have missed the deadline! Your contributions are eligible tax deductions. Fill our Good Gifts insert located in your bulletin or at the Welcome Center. ELCA Good Gifts is a program of our church-wide body in which we can support specific ministries of our church. Some of those are Global Church Sponsorship, World Hunger, Disability Ministries, and Lutheran Disaster Response, just to name a few. If you have any questions, there are ELCA Good Gifts catalogs at the Welcome Center in the Narthex. The booklets contain information about ELCA Good Gifts and the ministries it supports.

Sunday School -- We will have no Sunday School on **Sunday, December 23 and 30** due to the Christmas and New Year’s holidays. Safe travels as you may visit family and friends.

High School Youth Group goes to the dogs!

Fourteen of our high school youth gathered at Centre County PAWS. We cleaned and organized rooms to provide much needed space for pet adoptions. Afterward, we took a facilities tour and got to visit with the animals in need of a forever home. While no one took home a pet that night, a few adoption applications did go home.



Confirmation Class

Confirmation class is **December 9th, noon to 2:00 p.m.** in the Miller Center. This month we will address homelessness and compassion. We are going to combine with our High School Youth Group to prepare and freeze a meal for the **Out of the Cold Program**. Church member Pam Soule, Grace's Out of the Cold Coordinator, will provide an overview of this Centre County program. Out of the Cold provides an overnight sleeping area in local churches for homeless people throughout the winter months.

Sermon Notes Reminder: The teal/green papers labeled "Worship Notes" are located in the Narthex and the Upper Commons next to the confirmation bulletin board. **Sermon Notes #2 (out of 4) is due on January 13th.**

For those who have not accessed the Google Classroom, please try with a non-school Gmail account. We have noticed those who have tried to access the Google classroom with their school district email have not been able to get the assignments. Please create a Gmail account or use your parents' email/Gmail account. Our hope, over all, is for parents and confirmation students to do the lessons together. As long as your family has at least one person on the Google Classroom then you will receive the information.



Milestone Ministry: The First Anniversary of Baptism

Milestones are designated times we celebrate the good things happening in a person's faith life. On **Sunday, January 13**, in conjunction with Baptism of Our

Lord Sunday, we are blessing and remembering all who were baptized in 2018. This milestone reinforces the commitment parents made on behalf of their children. Check your email for an invitation to attend our 10:30 a.m. worship service; we have a small gift to honor this special anniversary.

Munchkin Brunchkin

Have you participated in Grace's Mustard Seed Ministry? This ministry targets our families with children ages 0-3 years of age. Typically, on the third Sunday of each month, families gather at 10:00 a.m. in the Miller Center. There is playtime, coffee, brunch foods, an age-appropriate Bible lesson, and adult conversation. What a great way socialize with other adults at Grace and begin the foundations of faith for your little one(s). Older siblings are also included in this experience as well! Our next Sunday date is **December 16th at 10 a.m. in the Miller Center**. We have added a **BONUS date: Wednesday, December 26th at 10 a.m.-Noon** in the Miller Center. Getting out of the house over the school break might be a nice change?!

High School Seniors -- It's the time to begin sending in senior pictures for the 2019 class. If you can, please share them digitally to Cindy or Peter at faithformation@glcpa.org. Photographs will be published in Grace Notes and the bulletin this spring.



Dates to Remember!

Thursday, November 29

Scholastic Book Fair begins,
Room 107
6 to 7:30 p.m. – Advent Family
Fun Night

Sunday, December 2

Scholastic Book Fair open during
coffee hour, room 107

Tuesday, December 4

6:00 p.m. – School Christmas
Concert in the Sanctuary,
Reception in Harkins Hall
following concert (Snow date
Thursday, Dec. 6th)

Thursday, December 6

Last day of Scholastic Book Fair

Monday, December 10

Last day for Toys for Tots
donations

Wednesday, December 12

8:00 a.m. – Staff Appreciation
Breakfast provided by GLPK
parents, room 107

Thur. & Fri. December 13 & 14

Mrs. Wylie's classes visit
Kindergarten

Mon. & Tues. December 17 & 18

10:30 a.m. Chapel

Wednesday, December 19

Kindergarten health screenings

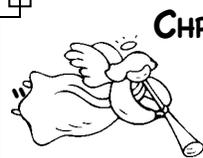
December 24 – January 1

School Closed for the Holidays

Wednesday, January 2

School Resumes

- E-mail: glpk@glcpa.org
- Phone: 814-238-8110
- Web: 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 CLASS'S DECEMBER THEME – TRADITIONS OF CHRISTMAS



Scholastic Holiday Book Fair

November 29th through December 6th in Room 107

The book fair hours will be as follows:

- **Thursday, November 29**, 9 – 9:30 a.m.; noon to 12:30 p.m.; and during Advent Family Fun Night, 6-7:30 p.m.
- **Friday, November 30**, 9 – 9:30 a.m.; noon to 12:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, December 2** during coffee hour, 10– 10:30 a.m.
- **Monday, December 3**, 9– 9:30 a.m.; noon to 12:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, December 4**, 9 – 9:30 a.m.; noon to 12:30 p.m.; and after the Christmas show, 6:30-7:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday, December 5**, 9 – 9:30 a.m.; noon to 12:30 p.m.; and during Super Wednesday, 5-7 p.m.
- **Thursday, December 6**, 9 – 9:30 a.m.; noon to 12:30 p.m.
- Shop online beginning November 23rd at <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/gracelutheran>

Shop for Christmas or birthday presents for your children or grandchildren and help support our school. For everything purchased, our school earns points to purchase books, teaching resources, and more for our library and classrooms.

THANK YOU!

Butter Braids and Christmas Wreath Fundraisers

Thank you for supporting the school through our annual Christmas Wreath Sale and the very popular Butter Braids Pastries fundraiser. We sold 190 wreaths and earned \$1023.75 through the sale of Butter Braids. The money raised will go toward tuition assistance and unbudgeted expenses.

Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten's Annual Christmas Concert

Please join us for the school's annual Christmas show

"Go Tell It On The Mountain"
on Tuesday, December 4 at 6:00 p.m.
in the Sanctuary



Cookies and milk to follow in Harkins Hall.
*If there are school closings due to weather,
the program will be held on December 6 at 6 p.m.*

GLPK's Annual Veterans Day Parade

We celebrated Veterans Day on a very rainy Friday, November 9th. Instead of parading around downtown State College, we paraded throughout the school building. Veterans, current military personnel and PSU ROTC students joined us to celebrate Veterans Day at our assembly and parade. Following the parade our guests spoke to the Jr. Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes.





December Worship Volunteers



LECTORS - Ann Burke (364-5096/ ambrmb1@verizon.net)

8 a.m.
 December 2 - Erin Luley
 December 9 - Dennis Snider
 December 16 - Julie Miller
 December 23 - Dotty Delafield
 December 30 - Open

9 a.m.
 December 2 - Open
 December 9 - Angie Hardyk
 December 16 - Open
 December 23 - Erin Luley
 December 30 - Open

10:30 a.m.
 December 2 - Lois Voigt
 December 9 - Linda Schul
 December 16 - *Nine Lessons and Carols*
 December 23 - Brian Christian
 December 30 - Open

GREETERS - Sue Forster (876-2029/sforster@cvim.net)

8 a.m.
 December 2 - June Krumrine
 December 9 - Open
 December 16 - Kay Weigand
 December 23 - Nancy Reinert
 December 30 - Martha Musser

9 a.m.
 December 2 - Louise Tarman, Gerry Slear
 December 9 - Joann McCormick
 December 16 - Kelly Conron, Louise Tarman
 December 23 - Dotty and Gary Delafield
 December 30 - Open

10:30 a.m.
 December 2 - Gerry Slear, Leslie Elder, Ed Prince
 December 9 - Pete & Sue Forster, Leslie Wagner
 December 16 - John & Brenda Palmgren
 December 23 - Open
 December 30 - Don and Gina Leon

WELCOME CENTER HOSTS - Sue Forster (876-2029/sforster@cvim.net)

9 a.m.
 December 2 - Brenda Palmgren
 December 9 - Linda Domin
 December 16 - Joann McCormick
 December 23 - Joann McCormick
 December 30 - Open

10:30 a.m.
 December 2 - Jim and Lynda Stephenson
 December 9 - Sharyn Everhart
 December 16 - Barbara Fiscus
 December 23 - Sue Forster
 December 30 - Sharon Rivell

ACOLYTES - Stephanie Fozard (238-7935/steph@fozards.com)

8 a.m.
 December 2 - Open
 December 9 - Ryan Pencek
 December 16 - Open
 December 23 - Open
 December 30 - Ryan Pencek

9 a.m.
 December 2 - Jacob Fritz, Nicholas Kewitt
 December 9 - Ethan & Spencer Hardyk
 December 16 - Abby & Carter Fozard
 December 23 - Open
 December 30 - Ethan & Spencer Hardyk

10:30 a.m.
 December 2 - Sophia & Mirabella Bills
 December 9 - Lincoln Hockenberry, Emilio Schul
 December 16 - Ella & Ireland McDyre
 December 23 - Lincoln Hockenberry, Emilio Schul
 December 30 - Sophia & Mirabella Bills

Christmas Eve: 7:00 p.m. - Abby and Carter Fozard; 9:00 p.m. - Alexis and Matthew Weyandt; 11:00 p.m. - Open; Christmas Day, 10:00 a.m. - Emily Whitney

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Sally Keiser-Bankert (814-571-3672/sallykb@verizon.net)

8 a.m.
 December 2 - Don Widener
 December 9 - Nancy Reinert
 December 16 - Don Widener
 December 23 - Cindy Nicosia
 December 30 - Don Widener

9 a.m.
 December 2 - Carl Bankert, Sally Keiser-Bankert
 December 9 - Nick Downs and Mardi McDonough
 December 16 - John Diercks, Rachel Wolkenhaurer
 December 23 - Carl Bankert, Sally Keiser-Bankert
 December 30 - Carl Bankert, Sally Keiser-Bankert

10:30 a.m.
 December 2 - Dennis Glocke, Rich Rivell
 December 9 - Brian Bills, Beth Shafranko
 December 16 - John and Brenda Palmgren
 December 23 - Paul and Leslie Wagner
 December 30 - Rich and Sharon Rivell

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Sally Keiser-Bankert
 (814-571-3672/sallykb@verizon.net)

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Joyce Arbutina
 (237-4512/joycearb@comcast.net)

SOUND BOOTH

Karl Hosterman
 (355-4818/karl@centrecommonline.com)

8 a.m.
 December 2 - George Weigand
 December 9 - Carla Rossi
 December 16 - George Weigand
 December 23 - George Weigand
 December 30 - Carla Rossi

10:00 a.m.
 December 2 - Tammy and Grant Davis
 December 9 - Holly Stoltzfus
 December 16 - Julia Nelson
 December 23 - Dave and Joyce Arbutina
 December 30 - Les and Cathy Cutter

10:30 a.m.
 December 2 - Lester Griel, Jr.
 December 9 - Lester Griel, III
 December 16 - Richard Brenneman
 December 23 - Wayne Pauley
 December 30 - Karl Hosterman



December Worship Sponsors

The church office (238-2478) or Sheri Rider (srider@glcpa.org)



Altar Flowers Bulletin Covers Radio Sponsors

December 2 - Bob and Lois Voigt
December 9 - Carol and Gorman Findley
December 16 - Ruth Kistler
December 23 - Susan Bardo and Curtis Johnson
December 25 - Kerry Richards
December 30 - Lusy Alton

December 2 - Brenda and Mia Kim
December 9 - Jim and Ellen Campbell
December 16 - Susan Bardo
December 23 - Joyce Sipple
December 24 - Pat Ishler
December 25 - Betta Kriner
December 30 - John and Brenda Palmgren

December 2 - Open
December 9 - Open
December 16 - Ruth Kistler
December 23 - Helen and Dick Brenneman
December 24 - Greg and Kathy Weimer
December 25 - Betta Kriner
December 30 - Jim and Ellen Campbell

November Pastoral Acts

New Births and Baptisms Deaths - Funerals/Memorials Weddings

- Birth of Hugo Chastain to Joseph and Stephanie Chastain, Nov. 11
- Baptism of Kyla Lynn Kelley, daughter of Teague Willits-Kelley and Michelle Lynn Kelley, Nov. 25

- Anthony Ferraro
- Betta Kriner

Prayer List for December

All deployed military and those traveling in war-torn countries	Larry Kuhns
Susan Antle	Tuckey Louder
Celeste Barnes & family of Ed Jenkins	Phil Lucas
Marion & Winnie Deppen	Danielle McHenry
Sheri Ebeling & family daughter of Elaine Ebeling	Jo Anne Miller
Vicki Garvin	Maryann Newcomb
Cay Griel	Chuck Noel
Alice Griffin	Robert Schlegel
Donna Pedersen Hershey, niece of Gina Leon	Craig Peery
Sharron and Carl Hintosh	Margie Prothro, sister of Ed Jenkins
Dick Houtz	Kyle Steffens, college roommate of Laurel Sanders
Darlene Jenkins	Ken Schmell
Ruth Kistler	Ken Shultz
The family of Betta Kriner upon her death	Jack Sylves and family, grandson of Tom and Marj Eakin
	Lisa Thomas, Sally & Carl's friend

December Birthdays

1 Elizabeth Fortmann	11 Joseph Cathcart	21 Mary Lou Swan
1 Michael Fullington, Sr.	11 Erica Edgar	21 Mia Steward
1 Michael Fullington	11 Saylor Milhomme	22 Michael Blake
1 Christian Waite	11 Samantha Smith	22 Melissa Hockenberry
2 Anna Bahnfleth	11 Eric Updegrove	22 Brian Humm
2 Jeya Chandra	12 Nancy Doyle	22 Catherine Pletcher
2 Terry Hoover	12 Hiedy Fleagle	22 Alyson Hoegg
2 Walter J. Kay	12 Jackson Hockenberry	23 Gladys Carlson
2 Lydia Peters	12 Nancy Reinert	26 Jane Foor
2 Patrick Williams	12 Deborah Balaban	26 Sandra Hall
3 Charlotte Bahnfleth	12 Ronald Smith	26 Teri Howes
3 Timothy Everhart	13 Anna Carol Buffington	26 Barbara Krumrine
3 Martha Musser	13 Rochelle Debnar	26 Mardi McDonough
4 Briana Kim	13 Amanda Simcoe	26 Alexis Weyandt
4 Brenda Palmgren	13 Heather Baney	27 Dawn Anderson
4 Lily Traver	13 Sarah Chapman	27 Melvin Rockey
5 Mary Yarnell	14 Sydney Lintal	27 Robert Zipf
6 Robert Byers	14 Nancy Tamminga	27 Elizabeth Horn
6 Zachary Freeman	14 Paul Cocolin	27 Hailee Rusnak
6 George Weigand	15 Sophia Reutzel	28 Alissa Davies
6 Jeremiah Northridge	16 Geraldine Slear	28 Paul Haris
6 Wayne Pauley	17 Alexis Arbutina	28 Michael McShea
7 Paula Droege	17 George Conklin	29 Sydney O'Donnell
7 Herbert Graves	17 Haley Haller	30 Natalie Giacobe
7 Evan Rosengrant	17 Edward Reutzel	30 Elizabeth Giacobe
8 Andrea Harrington	18 Sally Keiser-Bankert	30 Debra Lambert
8 Jim McDyre	18 Barbara Fiscus	30 James Pletcher
8 Alexis Greer	18 William Gray	30 Carol Shultz
8 Ainsley Greer	18 Damon Heebner	31 Neil Foster
9 Carter Hosband	18 Isaac Myler	31 James Graef
9 Rachel Wolkenhauer	18 Amy Shearer	31 Nicholas Richardson
10 Eleanor Johnson	18 Edwin Strong, Jr.	31 Donald Widener
10 Christa Sechler	18 Rebecca Horn	31 Rebecca Ann Caylor
10 Jon Hartzler	19 Jo Bortz	
11 Caroline Banerjee	20 Jessica Griel	
11 Bret Buterbaugh	20 David Guss, Jr.	



Grace Notes

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

205 South Garner Street

State College, PA 16801

(814) 238-2478

www.glcpa.org

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CURRENT RESIDENT OR:

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Piano and flute accompaniment

9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Organ accompaniment

Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Organ accompaniment

Children's Message

6 p.m. Prayer & Praise Worship with Holy Communion

Christian praise songs with Psalm 151 worship team

Casual worship in the Sanctuary



The Rev. Scott E. Schul, Senior Pastor

- Grace Lutheran Church
churchoffice@glcpa.org
- GLC Preschool and Kindergarten
glpk@glcpa.org
814-238-8110
- 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.