



Grace Notes

Gather • Feed • Send

January 2019

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Epiphany Sunday, January 6: Magi Sing; King Cake

Question: What comes after the twelfth day of Christmas?

Answer: Epiphany!

January 6 recalls the arrival of the Magi (astronomers) in Bethlehem, where they journeyed to worship the Christ Child. This year we plan to mark the day in a celebratory way.

Since January 6 falls on a Sunday, three costumed Magi – who will visit us during 9:00 and 10:30 worship – will sing about the star and the light of Christ.

Those who wander into the circular stairwell between services will hear instrumental carols from the season. Also during coffee hour, King Cake will be available in Harkins Hall and, as global tradition dictates, a bean (representing the Baby Jesus) will be hidden in the cake; whoever receives the slice with the hidden bean will be named an honorary King for a day.

It is our hope that the music of our Magi and instrumentalists will help to make the day memorable and meaningful to you as you go out into the world to share the Light of Christ. Join us!

Lessons in wise faith

“The Magi teach us true faith,” said Martin Luther. Given the obstacles they encountered, we would understand if they had given up altogether!

First, the travelers were “off the mark,” coming to Jerusalem to seek a newborn king in a “royal palace.” Then, directed to Bethlehem, the wise men found a sight “so utterly out of keeping with a king” — a poor young woman and child, in a “poor hut” — that one might expect them to head straight home. “But,” declares Luther, “with a great, strong and full faith they ... follow the word of the prophet and the witness of the star in all purity of heart,” bowing to worship and honor the Savior.

—Based on Luther’s sermon for the Festival of the Epiphany (1522), Luther’s Works

THEY SAW *The Child*
WITH HIS MOTHER MARY,
AND *they Bowed Down*
AND *Worshiped Him.*
MATTHEW 2:11, NIV





Winter

At the end of a cold Massachusetts winter day on February 13, 1859, writer, naturalist, and mystic Henry David Thoreau wrote the following in his journal: “Never is there so much light in the air as in one of these bright winter afternoons, when all the earth is covered with new-fallen snow

and there is not a cloud in the sky.” Thoreau’s experience has been mine as well. I love a winter walk through a snowy forest. The absence of leaves opens up the landscape so that I can view it in a new and fuller fashion. The sun, hanging low in the sky, pours out a very special kind of light, and there is a frosty stillness in the air that brings such peace to me. Winter can be so very clarifying and enlightening.

Winter is not just a season though. It can also represent those times in our lives when we feel a little lost, lonely, and distant from the people and things we treasure. A fierce wind of despair rattles our heart, and we retreat to cold emptiness and lonely isolation. Sometimes, however, the bleakness of our emotional winter can yield the kind of light and clarity Thoreau was describing in the winter landscape. Suddenly we can identify the people who truly care for us. We can distinguish the investments of time and energy which are life-giving from those that are soul-stifling. And stripped of the illusion that we can *do* everything, *fix* everything, and *be* everything, we can finally see the real source of our strength: Jesus Christ. He is the true light who gives meaning and direction to our lives. And so in this time of winter – however you might define it – may you see Jesus Christ clearly, and may his light touch, heal, and bless you.

Coming up...

- January 13, 2019, is *Baptism of our Lord Sunday*. As detailed elsewhere in this issue, that day we inaugurate a new tradition at Grace as we recognize and give thanks for all the baptisms that took place at Grace during 2018. It will be a special time for you to also remember and give thanks for *your* baptism.
- Our new associate pastor, Rev. Carolyn Hetrick, will start her service to Grace in mid-January. Her installation will take place on Sunday, February 10 at all of our services.

Finally...

A few words of thanks. To everyone who sent Christmas greetings or dropped off goodies and gifts in my office, I am very grateful. Your love and care warm my heart. How blessed I am to be your pastor. I am also very thankful at this time of the year for our Grace staff. They work so hard and with such faith and dedication: Sheri, our office manager, who had to navigate and produce countless bulletins during Advent and Christmas; Cindy and Peter – our Faith Formation team – who are creatively building the premier youth/family ministry in our region; Laurel, our business manager, who handles so many details of money and requisitions and still finds time to make beautiful music; Roy and his team of sextons,

2019 is the year for you to SING WITH THE ADULT CHOIR!

If you like to sing, read music fairly well and are high school aged or older, NOW is the time for you to join the talented, fun-loving folks in the adult choir!

Rehearsals are Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings in the choir room. Although a semester commitment to the ensemble is preferred, if you can make the Wednesday night and Sunday morning rehearsal, we’d love to have you join us, even if it’s only for a week or two.

Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, January 9, and we will be singing at the 10:30 service beginning Sunday, Jan. 13.

Please contact Jayne Glocke at jpg9@psu.edu if you’re interested or have any questions. It would be GREAT to have you with us... give it a try!

who keep our building ship-shape and do the unsung but essential work of setting rooms up for our many events; Cathy and Dawn, who so capably lead our corps of excellent preschool and kindergarten teachers; and Jayne, Erik, June, Pat, Anna Carol, and all our musicians who help us praise and experience God in music. You all bless me and you bless Grace with your faithful service. Thank you.

Peace be with you.
Pastor Schul

Preparing our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Sunday	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Holy Gospel
January 6 Epiphany of our Lord	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
January 13 Baptism of our Lord	Isaiah 43:1-7	Psalm 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
January 20 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany	Isaiah 62:1-5	Psalm 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
January 27 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21

MUSIC IN THE LITURGY

Music in the Liturgy: The Sounds of Light

Commencing on the first Sunday in January – the Feast of Epiphany – the Church focuses on seeing the Light of Christ, and we try to follow the path Jesus sets before us in our daily lives. During the season, we celebrate God made manifest in human form. We mark the revelation to the Magi – and subsequently the world – that God is among us.

Many hymns and texts of the Epiphany season (seven Sundays plus Transfiguration Sunday, the last Sunday before Lent) have readings that speak about illumination, rejoicing in God's presence and clothing ourselves in holiness and light. The themes are hard to latch onto at first because as soon as Epiphany starts, we take a step sideways as another important Sunday arrives, the Baptism of Christ. Music parallels this short detour to the redeeming waters of baptism before returning to focus on God's radiance.

Epiphany Sunday and Transfiguration Sunday (eight weeks later) are bookends: we start by following a bright star to Bethlehem and end it when we see Jesus transfigured in garments of white (holiness) on a mountaintop. Throughout the season, songs call us to follow the light and to grow in love as we follow Christ's example in caring for all people. Listen for these themes as we sing our way through worship services. Internalize the joy and hold onto it, for the light will be harder to see and hear as we move into the penitential season of Lent that follows.

Super Wednesday Resumes January 9

Study times at 11:00 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.

After worship, Super Wednesday is probably the most important ministry we undertake here at Grace. It offers us a terrific opportunity to pause amidst our busy work weeks and gather together as the family of Grace to share an outstanding meal prepared by Dave and his team, enjoy fellowship and conversation, make new friends, and be renewed in our relationships with one another and with Christ. Super Wednesday is also the time when many of our musical ensembles, including the adult choir, gather for rehearsal. In addition, Bible studies led by the pastors are offered on Super Wednesday at 11 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.

Super Wednesday activities will resume from Christmas break on Wednesday, January 9. The first adult education class that Pastor Schul will offer and teach is a course that will explore four guiding emphases of being the Church that ELCA Presiding Bishop Eaton has set forth: (1) We are church; (2) We are Lutheran; (3) We are church together; and (4) We are church for the sake of the world.

As winter weather sets in, remember that Super Wednesday activities are tied to the State College Area School District cancellation policies. If school is cancelled, so is Super Wednesday. But if school is merely delayed, then our Super Wednesday activities will be held.

DID YOU KNOW...



... each week, our altar flowers are taken to Grace members who are in the hospital, homebound, or in need of some tangible love from the congregation? We are **in need of empty large juice cans** to use as vases for the flowers. You may bring empty cans to the office. Thank you!

A Hymn for Contemplation

On January 13, 2019, *Baptism of our Lord Sunday*, we are going to initiate a new tradition at Grace. As we read and hear about Jesus's baptism, we're going to remember our own baptism, and we're going to give special thanks for all the baptisms that took place at Grace during 2018. It is going to resemble the kind of remembering we do on All Saints Day, when we give thanks for our saints who have had their birthday into heaven. Our baptism is our birthday into the family of God, and is just as worthy of our ongoing gratitude.

An ideal hymn for you to contemplate in connection with your baptism is a contemporary text written by Ruth C. Duck entitled *Remember and Rejoice*, which is hymn #454 in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal. She is an ordained pastor within the United Church of Christ and, at age 71, continues to produce highly regarded Christian hymn texts. *Remember and Rejoice* has become a particular favorite of mine because it emphasizes the remarkable blessings Jesus pours out on us at our baptism, as well as the comfort and assurance we experience when we regularly reflect on the gift of baptism we have received.

As you read and contemplate these words, I pray that you may remember your baptism and rejoice at the great gift you received from Jesus in those holy waters. *Pastor Schul*

Remember and Rejoice (ELW #454)

- 1 Remember and rejoice, renewed by floods of grace.
We bear the sign of Jesus Christ, that time cannot erase.
- 2 In life, in death, we trust in God's most holy name,
forever traced by water sign, and sealed by Spirit flame.
- 3 We pledge ourselves anew to flee the lures of hell,
to cling to Christ's community, in justice, peace to dwell.
- 4 God, bless us by your grace; remind us of your care.
Renewing Spirit, fill us now, inspire our work, our prayer.
- 5 Remember and rejoice, renewed by floods of grace.
We bear the sign of Jesus Christ, that time cannot erase.



The people of Grace are invited to an **Open House** at the home of **Pastor and Linda Schul**. Come to **159 W Park Ave in State College on Sunday, January 27** from **2-5 p.m.** for light refreshments and fellowship. It's a small way for the Schul family to

express their gratitude to the people of Grace for their ongoing prayers, love, and support. You need bring only yourself. Parking is very limited, so we suggest you use the parking decks near the Nittany Lion Inn. Parking is free on Sundays. We look forward to seeing you!



Angels Among Us: Children's Worship Bags

We normally think of angels as winged creatures from heaven who act as God's messengers. But angels – messengers of God's love – walk among us as well! One such angel was Pat Ishler who, with no desire for credit or acclaim, carried out several quiet but critically important ministries for Grace Lutheran. One such ministry was her work stocking and maintaining our Children's Worship Bags. Countless children have benefited from those bags. We are now looking for people to help support this ministry that Pat sustained for so many years. Helping is easy. Simply donate boxes of Cheerios cereal (just the normal, basic version), zip lock bags, and crayons. If you have questions, contact Cindy and Peter in our Faith Formation team or email them at faithformation@glcpa.org. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW...

...that Pastor Carolyn Hetrick's installation as Grace's Associate Pastor will take place on **Sunday, February 10** at all of our Sunday services?

A look ahead



March 10 is the first Sunday in Lent. Church Council has proposed the following workshop for Grace members to participate in during lent. Please consider this prayer activity.

Be still and know that I am God (Psalm 46:10)

But how can we be still when a good portion of our days are spent frantically running from one task to another? **Centering Prayer** can help us develop this stillness that enables us to experience a deeper relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. It is a receptive method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplation.

Centering Prayer is based on the wisdom of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount: "When you pray, go to your inner room, close the door and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father, who sees in secret will reward you" (MT 6:6). We may think of prayer as thoughts or feelings expressed in words. But this is only one type of prayer. Centering Prayer is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer; rather, it strengthens and deepens the meaning of them.

This year during Lent, Grace is hosting a **Centering Prayer Introductory Workshop**. The purpose of this workshop is to familiarize participants with the method of Centering Prayer and its conceptual background. The workshop will be led by Nancy Cord-Baran, an experienced facilitator trained in Centering Prayer who frequently offers this workshop as part of our local Contemplative Outreach chapter's work. Many Christian churches in our area have groups that meet regularly and practice Centering Prayer. We are hoping to build a similar prayer community at Grace.

Whether you are simply curious about Centering Prayer or have tried it before and want to give it another try, please join us for the Centering Prayer workshop. Guidance and resources will be offered. Everyone is welcome!

Mark this information on your calendars.

Dates: March 7 through April 11

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Grace Lutheran (room TBA)

Cost: Suggested donation of \$30.00 (supports local Contemplative Outreach chapter; scholarships available)

RSVP: Please send an email to Sheri Rider, srider@glpca.org, to tell us you're coming.

If you have any questions about the Centering Prayer workshop, please contact the workshop facilitator, Nancy Cord-Baran, ncb612@gmail.com. Two council members have previously attended this workshop (Ellen Campbell, elncamp@gmail.com; Del Bright, kdb9@psu.edu) and practice Centering Prayer. They are both happy to answer any questions you might have, too.

WANTED: Singers for 10th Ecumenical Choir Concert, April 3 at Grace

If you would enjoy the experience of singing a masterwork in a large choir with instrumentalists, please sign up to sing Michael John Trotta's masterwork, *Seven Last Words* on Wednesday, April 3, at 7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church.

This is our tenth annual Lenten ecumenical concert and will again be directed by Laurel Sanders. Typically choristers come from 12-15 churches of all denominations; all are welcome and it is a great way to walk toward the cross with your brothers and sisters in Christ. The masterwork will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra including strings, several brass and winds, and Anne Sullivan on harp. (Howard Goodall's Psalm 23 from *The Vicar of Dibley* and selections from our bell choir will also be on the program.)

Rehearsals are on Sunday afternoons from 2-4 p.m. in our sanctuary starting February 24.

Contact Laurel Sanders at lsanders@glcpa.org by **February 15** if you are interested in singing or have questions.



THANK YOU for Finals Week Care Packages

Thank you to everyone who donated items for **Penn State students** as they prepared for and took their finals! They enjoyed the chips, cookies, granola bars and candy. We gave 35+ bags away on the Sunday before finals, and they all were very grateful for the snacks and the encouragement! Thank you for helping to care for the students in our midst! Yet another wonderful way Lutheran Campus Ministry and Grace partner in ministry!

January Adult Forum

Adult Forum is a class of inquiring minds with diverse perspectives and experiences who gather Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside room to learn together how we might better follow Jesus in the world today. All are welcome at this discussion-style class; come frequently or just drop in now and then when you can!

JANUARY 6

No class--Happy New Year!

JANUARY 13

You Can Write a Devotion

Each year Grace members write a devotional booklet to be used during Lent. We can't do this without...US! Come for a nonthreatening, easy workshop in which you will--start and maybe even finish!--a devotion. No obligation with attendance!

JANUARY 20

Where is God calling me now?

Whether you grew up in the church or found your way later on, wherever life has taken you thus far, whether your faith has been more like a clear crystal pool or a mud puddle, God has been and is working in your life. Where has God been in your past experiences, and where would God have you go next? In this one-day session, we will reflect together to discern how God has been working in and through us in the many experiences and stories that make up our lives.

FOUR-WEEK SERIES STARTING JANUARY 27

Jonah: Called, pushed, pursued by God

The book of Jonah paints a picture of a God who pushes God's people to go beyond religious and ethnic boundaries to share the love and mercy of God with all of God's desire to save all people. What can we learn from Jonah for our lives today? Come and learn!

School cancellations follow SCASD public school closings

Staff and parents of GLPK children are responsible for checking for school closing information sent via email by the GLPK administrators, checking the GLPK website (www.glcpapre-school.org), checking the SCASD website, or checking the SCASD app. (This app can be downloaded through the Apple Store or Google-Play).



Thank you, Thank you, from the Preschool



TOYS FOR TOTS

Thank you for supporting the Toys for Tots Campaign again this year. The four boxes were overflowing. All donations go to children in the Centre County area.

GIANT A+ SCHOOL REWARDS

So far, our school has earned \$233.59 with the A+ School Rewards program. If you shop at Giant, use their Bonus card and designate our school, Giant will donate cash to us at the end of the year. If you would like to participate in this easy program, log on to www.GiantAplus.com. Our school ID is 20787. You can also sign up at the Giant store.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Thank you for continuing to collect Box Tops. Our fall submission earned us \$266.10. You can drop them off in the Box Tops mailbox at the entrance to our school.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION

This year our preschool and kindergarten children donated non-perishable food items to the Centre County Food Bank during our Thanksgiving Chapel. We collected 137 pounds of food. The food and other necessities collected were greatly appreciated.



Finances for 2018

	Actual Income vs Expense July 2018-Oct. 2018	Budgeted Income vs Expense July 2018-Oct. 2018	+ or (-)	%
Income	\$320,500.43	\$336,000.00	(\$15,449.57)	-4.59%
Expenses	\$322,779.33	\$341,573.31	(\$18,793.98)	-5.50%
Net Income	(\$2,228.90)	(\$5,573.31)		

Budgeted offering has remained at \$847,734 since 2014-15 (five years). Year-to-date offering is approximately the same as last year. Income and attendance fell during football season. Please be generous and consistent in your giving. If you have been away, please consider making up contributions you missed so that we can faithfully carry out the ministries we agreed upon at the annual meeting and prudently save for future anticipated building repairs. 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
\$9,277.40	\$15,742.70	\$61,367.00	\$78,714.00

* Our monthly payment is \$15,972. Mortgage rates are due for renegotiation in 2021.

Current building campaign donations this month are significantly less than our monthly mortgage obligation. We are meeting our obligation with reserve funds that were set aside in case of need. When the debt is eliminated, all donations can support effective ministry: feeding the poor, clothing the homeless, educating our youth and much more.

Council Highlights

At its December 2018 meeting, Grace's Church Council

- Celebrated the coming establishment of a centering prayer group; and
- Discussed ways to promote and encourage faithful stewardship of time, talents, and treasure by Grace's members. Council will be especially emphasizing the benefits and importance of automated giving so that members can easily support Grace's ministries even if they have to be away on Sundays.

Offering Envelopes

New offering envelope boxes for 2019 are available for pick-up located on the tables in the commons area. If you didn't pick yours up yet, remember to do so!



Please confirm that the envelope number on the top label of the box matches the number in the little window on the front left side of the box. If they do not, please let the office know immediately. You may use the envelopes beginning Sunday, January 6, 2019.

Bike Riders Wanted

Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light is making plans for our **8th Annual PA to D.C. Bike Trip** from May 10-15, 2019.

For the second year in a row, we'll have two groups, one originating in the State College area and one in the Philadelphia area, making the trip to raise a faith voice for action against climate change. Since this public statement of concern is also a fundraiser for PA IPL, riders spend a day on Capitol Hill advocating for policies that will turn the tide of climate change and protect God's creation and God's most vulnerable people.

This year we hope to recruit more riders and still have a diverse group, so are asking potential riders to fill out an application form between **now and January 28**. The participants will be selected and make commitments by mid-February.

To learn more about our work or to fill out the application, go to PAIPL.us and type "bike trip 2019" in the search this site box.



Shortly after Thanksgiving, we received a lovely letter from an orphanage school we support in India, so we are sharing it with you. Thanks to you, Grace Lutheran's loving arms stretch around the world! See photos on next page.

Dear Pastor Schul,

Greetings to you and to all the Members at GRACE! I ought to have written to you earlier when you became Senior Pastor at Grace Lutheran Church. I wish you God's blessings for your Pastoral ministry at the Grace! I am Adiss Arnold, brother of Emeline Chandra in State College and I am looking after the service projects which were started by my Dad Dr.B.H.Jackayya in Kollegal, India. Since 1990s GLCPA has been supporting our service activity at the Karunalaya School Home for Special Children.

Thanksgiving is a time to remember all our loved ones, families, friends and partners in mission in the service of human care and to thank God for them all. We at the Karunalaya School Home for the Mentally Challenged are being greatly blessed by your support. Our grateful thanks to the Members of the Grace Lutheran Church for this. I am also attaching a Thanksgiving Wish.

God has been gracious to us in our children's ministry at Karunalaya School Home vfor Special Children and our Child Rights activities and Women Empowerment programme in 45 villages through the support we receive from GLCPA, through friends, well wishers and relatives. We are yet to find a funding support from a Donor Agency for Karunalaya School Home which we are trying.

Wishing you all a blessed and happy Thanksgiving. Wishing you, Pastor Schul, God's blessing for good health, peace & joy in your ministry.

In Christ,
Adiss Arnold

Christmas Cards for Inmates



THANK YOU

to everyone who participated in this year's Christmas Cards for Inmates initiative. Grace created more than 120 cards that will be distributed to inmates across Pennsylvania this Christmas.



Winners at the District Special Olympics



Dear Pastor Schul and Members of Grace Lutheran Church

Remembering you all this Thanksgiving. Have a nice and happy thanksgiving! Our grateful thanks also to you for your prayers, partnership and support to Karunalaya School Home for Special Children in India. That means a lot for us. God bless,

*AdissArnold
On behalf of the Children and Staff at Karunalaya*

Advent Fest 2018



La Posada
Fiesta



Annual Christmas Dinner 2018





A Card-Raiser for our new Guatemalan Family

We have some new neighbors! A Guatemalan family is in Centre County legally as they go through the process of seeking asylum. The family consists

of six adults and seven children. The youngest is a few months old, and the oldest is seventeen. There is a group of four women who are coordinating the help this family is receiving. They are Maren Grossman, Carmen Frost, Sabine Carey, and Charlotte Eubanks. This group asked for help from the Centre County Refugee Welcome Committee of which we at Grace are members. We have been asked to hold a 'card-raiser' for this new family in which we raise money and buy gift cards to local grocery stores. A mini-card-raiser has already been held in the Adult Forum Sunday School class in which \$450 was raised. The grocery store gift cards were purchased from our Grace preschool and delivered to the family.



Now our entire congregation is being given the opportunity to help this family during the month of January. A table will be in the upper commons with information. It will be staffed before and after each of the Sunday services in January. You may make a monetary donation or drop off a gift card for Giant, Weis, Walmart, or Wegmans. Any monetary donations received will be used to purchase gift cards from our own Grace preschool. You may also place a check in the offering plate. The check should be payable to "Grace Lutheran Church" with "Guatemalan Family" in the memo line.

You may read the latest update at <https://shoutout.wix.com/so/50MUWGsOc?cid=faeb5e25-da8f-400d-9c00-b6752d465711#/main>

The group is asking for other help which is presented in this document.

Dear Grace Members,

My heart is full of gratitude for all of you who gave your time to ring bells for the Interfaith Human Services Wishing Well Campaign. Thank you! My thanks also go to those who supported the campaign with monetary donations. The clients of IHS are the winners and I know first hand of their happiness and thankfulness when they receive help.

*Best,
Janet Lybarger*



PS: Please call the IHS office to donate your used appliances and furniture. Harry will arrange to pick up your item and a qualifying client will reap the benefit! 814-234-7731

Green Tip for January



By now most households and businesses have stopped using old-style incandescent light bulbs in favor of more energy efficient options. Although incandescent bulbs are initially less expensive (assuming they can even be found!), they use considerably more energy than either compact fluorescent (CFL) or LED light bulbs so the initial cost outlay of the newer options is quickly offset by savings in the cost of energy.

There is an important distinction between CFL and LED bulbs. CFLs contain mercury, a toxic metal. CFLs should, therefore, never be disposed of in regular household trash. The EPA provides guidelines at <https://www.epa.gov/cfl>. Grace's Green Team provides a collection site for CFL bulbs in the recycling center in the downstairs hallway, but the Green Team now strongly encourages Grace members to switch from CFLs to LEDs. The cost of LED bulbs has dropped very significantly in the last few years, making them competitive with CFLs. In addition to eliminating mercury, LEDs are more resistant to breakage, generally have longer lifetimes, and warm up more quickly than CFLs.

LED bulbs are available with a wide range of features. In selecting a light bulb, one should consider the brightness (expressed in lumens) of the bulb, its color rating (warm white, cool white, daylight, also sometimes expressed as a "color temperature") and whether or not the bulb can be used with a dimmer switch. More information can be found at the Federal Trade Commission website <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0164-shopping-light-bulbs>

Women of Grace

January Schedule



Naomi Circle - First Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Stinson Library

Contact Person: Carolyn Fishburn (cxfl@pps.u.edu)

January 8 - Hostess - Gerry Slear

Program - Carolyn Fishburn

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

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

January 22 - Program - Tracie Pletcher will present the benefits of massage therapy, a brief demonstration and lesson on Tai chi, and then self-care techniques for headache and shoulder massage. Tracie is a Licensed Massage Therapist with over 25 years of experience. She has been a Co-Owner and operator of Dragonfly Therapeutic Massage for over 14 years. Tracie holds a second degree black belt in Shotin Ryu Karate and has begun to study Tai Chi and Chi Gung to bring some calm to her busy lifestyle.

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

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

January 8 and 22

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

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

January 10

Garden of Readin' (Women's Book Club) - Third Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. or 6 p.m. (your choice) in Fireside

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 Meetings - Every other Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Fireside.

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



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. (including activity, discussion, or guest topic each week); Green Team dish washing 7:45–8:15 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Discerning Our Stories Retreat Friday, January 18 - Saturday, January 19, 2019

Come explore your story, the ways it has shaped you, and how it will be part of your life in the future! We'll gather at the Hilton Garden Inn in State College from 5 p.m. Friday thru 6 p.m. on Saturday. This is part of the discernPSU project, so it is free for students! Contact Alicia Anderson ara2@psu.edu

Austin Channing Brown Wednesday, January 30 at 7 p.m. in Freeman Auditorium

Hear about the intersections of racial justice, faith, and black womanhood, infused with justice, pop culture, humor, and truth-telling. Questions? Contact Alicia Anderson ara2@psu.edu.

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.

The Food Bank Needs List

- Gluten-free products (any kind, but especially pasta, cereal, etc.)
- Laundry detergent
- Canned fruits
- Juice (100% fruit or vegetable juice)
- Salt, pepper, and spices
- Tomato product (diced, stewed, paste, sauce, etc.)
- Canned pasta sauce and Sloppy Joe sauce (Chef Boyardee, Manwich, etc.)
- Soup (especially Progresso or Chunky)
- Canned meats (tuna, chicken, Spam, other canned fish)
- Oil
- Canned mixed veggies
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Feminine hygiene products
- Soap (bar or liquid)





Christmas Eve Worship Thank You

Thank you to all who helped make our Christmas Eve family worship service a success! Your participation helped spread the love of God in the telling of the story of the birth of Jesus. We hope you will all shine Christ's light this Christmas season!

Joseph, Mary, and Jesus: Michael, Dawn, Jackson and Jacob Leidy

Angels: Caroline Banerjee, Anna Coup, Mya Hockenberry, Andrew Horn, Elizabeth Horn, Manetta Horn, Olivia Houseknecht, Nora Houseknecht, Leah Leidy, Olivia Myers, and Kaylin Slane

Shepherds: Jordan Hockenberry, Zachary Myers, Nathan Pencek, and Ryan Pencek

Bulletin Cover: Drawn by Manetta Horn

Epiphany Celebration

On Sunday, January 6th, in lieu of Sunday School, we will celebrate Epiphany during our worship services at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. We are in need of children to participate in this service by dressing in costume as sheep and other barn animals (we have the costumes). There would be different children for each service. During coffee hour, we will continue the celebration with a King Cake. Please check your email for the animal request.



A New Milestone: The Anniversary of 2018 Baptisms

As we continue to celebrate Milestones (significant faith events) in our lives through our Milestones Ministry, we are adding a new one! **On January 13th**, *Baptism of our Lord Sunday*, we will recognize and lift-up those who were baptized at Grace in 2018. In addition to being named in our prayers, they will have a personalized rite at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. This is one more juncture where our faith as the church can support parents, sponsors, and the baptized child or person. And better yet, remembering our baptism helps us to remember who we are and whose we are!



Confirmation and High School Lock-In

On **February 8-9**, we will have a Lock-in for the confirmation and high school youth. We will gather in the **Miller Center from 7:00 p.m. Feb 8th – 9:00 a.m. Feb 9th** for fun, food, fellowship, learning, and eventually sleep. Please bring a food to share (snack, dessert, or otherwise). If any parents would like to join in on the fun, especially if you would like to stay overnight, please contact Cindy & Peter at faithformation@glcpa.org. Confirmation students, please bring your Bible and Small Catechism as we will have a class during the evening. High school students, we will have activities for you to do during the confirmation lesson. Check your emails for more details as we get closer to the event!

What's Happening?

JANUARY CALENDAR

Sunday, January 6

Epiphany Celebration in lieu of Sunday School, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. worship, Sanctuary

Sunday, January 13

9 a.m. -- Sunday school classes resume
10:30 a.m. worship service -- Milestone Ministry: Anniversary of 2018 Baptisms
Noon-2 p.m. -- Confirmation Class/Miller Center
6:00-7:30 p.m. -- High school youth group

Sunday, January 20

10-11 a.m. -- Munchkin Brunchkin in the Miller Center

FEBRUARY PREVIEW

Sunday, February 3

9:00 and 10:30 a.m. worship services -- Youth-led worship

Fri. & Sat., February 8 & 9

Middle and High school Lock-in

Sunday, February 17

10-11 a.m. -- Munchkin Brunchkin in the Miller Center

Youth Sunday

We will be holding our annual Youth Sunday on **February 3** at both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. We are excited to announce our guest student preacher is Jessica Griel. She will preach at 8, 9, and 10:30 a.m. If your child or youth is interested in participating, please contact Cindy Fritz and Peter Horn: faithformation@glcpa.org. We are in need of lectors, speaking parts, ushers, and greeters.

Confirmation and High School Youth

Middle and high school youth united to cook up chili, cornbread, and brownies for Out of the Cold. Our freezer meal can be warmed up quickly to feed anyone in need of a little extra. Speaker Pam Soule, Grace's Out of the Cold coordinator, relayed the importance of this Centre County program. Pam also informed us how much the guests look forward to and enjoy our brownies!



Confirmation class will meet on January 13th in the Miller Center from noon-2:00 p.m. where we will be discussing baptism. High School Youth Group will meet that evening, January 13th, from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Miller Center for food and discussion.



Advent Fest Recap

What a joyous way to begin the advent season! Our Harkins Hall was transformed into a fiesta as we experienced and learned about Advent and Christmas in Mexico! We had food, displays, and Mariachi music. We also participated in La Posada, “the inn,” which tells of Mary and Joseph seeking lodging in Bethlehem to give birth to Jesus, our Savior. Special thanks to Alejandro Mijangos Sampsell, Jim Johnston (Meals on Wheels), Tammy Davis, Sharon Schultz, Julia Nelson, Kathy Kalbach, Mirabella & Sophia Bills, Sam Krantweiss, Bob Hampton, Stephanie Flanagan, Elena Blazina, TJ Nelson, Susan Buda, and Jon Peters. AdventFest is such a big undertaking. We are so grateful to all who lent a hand from cooking, clean up, decorating, organizing food, donating display items, and offering moral support! *See pictures on page 10.*

Munchkin Brunchkin

This ministry for 0-3-year-olds and their families has been a wonderful addition! The last four events have been very well attended by many of our



Grace families and by some preschool families, too! We gather for food and a lesson, as well as play time for the kids and adult conversation. The next few Munchkin Brunchkin gatherings will be on the **Sundays of Jan. 20, Feb. 17, and March 17**, all at **10 a.m.** If you have kids this age, we invite you to join us and bring older siblings. If you don't have kids and are curious, please come pop in to see what we're up to!



NYC High School Youth Trip

The National Youth Gathering occurs every three years. Consequently we are working to expand our summertime youth programming. With that said, the High School Youth Group will be heading to New York City from **July 14-19**. Included in this opportunity are youth currently in 8th grade. We will be staying at the Seafarers International House, a port authority ministry of our wider (Lutheran) church. While there, we will take part in social service ministries like food pantries, soup kitchens, and meals-on-heels. Of course, sightseeing is fundamental to this experience—the 911 Memorial, a Broadway show, and more! Due to our fall car parking fundraiser, many youth have already raised enough money to go, but we would like a deposit from each youth for the trip. Please send a \$50 check to the church office with “NYC Youth Trip” on the memo line to reserve your spot and complete the application. If you have any questions, please email at faithformation@glcpa.org or talk to Cindy or Peter.



Dates to Remember!

Wednesday, January 2

School Reopens

Wednesday, January 9

12:15 p.m. – GLPK curriculum meeting in the Library

Friday, January 11

5-day 4-year-old class visits Kindergarten

Saturday, January 12

10 a.m. to 12 p.m. – Moms Club Preschool Fair, Mount Nittany Middle School

Mon. & Tues., January 14 & 15

10:30 a.m. Chapel

Week of January 14 – 19

Dads Are Cool Week

Saturday, January 19

9-10 a.m. -- Dads Are Cool Breakfast, Harkins Hall

Monday, January 21

NO school in observance of MLK Day

Tues.-Mon., January 22-28

Preschool conferences

Thur. & Fri., January 24 & 25

- 9:15-10:15 a.m. Kindergarten readiness meetings, Fireside
- Registration forms go home in weekend folders and are mailed to church members

Thursday, January 24

- 4-5:30 p.m. – GLPK Open House for 2019-2020 School Year
- 6-8 p.m. – GLPK Staff Meeting

Tuesday, February 5

2019-2020 Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., Fireside



CHRISTIAN FOCUS BOX FOR JANUARY

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD!

"GOD FILLS MY LIFE WITH GOOD THINGS." – PSALM 103:5

SCIENCE EXPLORATION:

BUILDING STRUCTURES – ENCLOSURES

Help Wanted

We are looking for substitute teacher's aides. If you or someone you know may be interested in applying, please contact the school office at 814-238-8110 or glpk@glcpa.org.

Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten 2019 – 2020 Registration Begins

- Priority registration forms for Grace Lutheran Church members will be mailed January 24th.
- Priority registration forms for current school members will be sent home with your child(ren) on January 24th and 25th.
- Grace Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten Open House will be held on January 24th from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Please drop in to meet our teachers and staff and see the classrooms.
- Priority registration begins Tuesday, February 5th at 8:30 a.m. in Fireside for the 2019 – 2020 school year. All registration forms will be processed in the order in which they are received.
- Open registration forms will be accepted on Tuesday, February 5th, but will be processed on February 12th. Registration forms will be processed in the order in which they were received.

Dads are Cool Breakfast

Saturday, January 19th

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

All school children are invited to bring their dad, grandpa, uncle or other significant male in their life to a pancake breakfast in Harkins Hall. This is an opportunity for the children to spend some time with their special guys.



"Deck the Halls"

A Very Merry December



"Deck the Halls"



Serving pizza and brownies for Advent Family Fun Night. GLPK students and their families played games and made Christmas crafts.



The Kindergarten class played the chimes to the song "Bells Are Ringing."



Our Christmas program, "Go Tell It On The Mountain," was adorable as always, and the cookies and milk reception was yummy! Thank you to everyone!



January Worship Volunteers



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

8 a.m.
 January 6 - Open
 January 13 - Open
 January 20 - Open
 January 27 - Nancy Reinert

9 a.m.
 January 6 - Anne Rohrbach
 January 13 - Angie Hardyk
 January 20 - Lisa Wiedemer
 January 27 - Erin Luley

10:30 a.m.
 January 6 - Brian Christian
 January 13 - Terry Roof
 January 20 - Jeff Ulmer
 January 27 - Ellen Campbell

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

8 a.m.
 January 6 - June Krumrine
 January 13 - Open
 January 20 - Kay Weigand
 January 27 - Nancy Reinert

9 a.m.
 January 6 - Gerry Slear, Louise Tarman
 January 13 - Open
 January 20 - Louise Tarman, Kelly Conron
 January 27 - Open

10:30 a.m.
 January 6 - Gerry Slear, Marilyn Peterson
 January 13 - Helen and Dick Brenneman
 January 20 - Leslie Wagner, Helen Brenneman,
 Sue Forster
 January 27 - Leslie Elder, Sharyn Everhart,
 Gina and Don Leon

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

9 a.m.
 January 6 - Joann McCormick
 January 13 - Anne Rohrbach
 January 20 - Joann McCormick
 January 27 - Open

10:30 a.m.
 January 6 - Sue Forster
 January 13 - Sharyn Everhart
 January 20 - Barbara Fiscus
 January 27 - Sue Forster

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

8 a.m.
 January 6 - Ryan Pencek
 January 13 - Open
 January 20 - Ryan Pencek
 January 27 - Open

9 a.m.
 January 6 - Jacob Fritz, Nicholas Kewitt
 January 13 - Ethan Hardyk, Spencer Hardyk
 January 20 - Alexis Weyandt, Matt Weyandt
 January 27 - Ella McDyre, Ireland McDyre

10:30 a.m.
 January 6 - Sophia Bills, Mirabella Bills
 January 13 - Lincoln Hockenberry, Emilio Schul
 January 20 - Open
 January 27 - Open

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

8 a.m.
 January 6 - Don Widener
 January 13 - Nancy Reinert
 January 20 - Don Widener
 January 27 - Cindy Nicosia

9 a.m.
 January 6 - Carl Bankert, Sally Keiser-Bankert
 January 13 - Nick Downs and Mardi McDonough
 January 20 - John Diercks, Rachel Wolkenhauser
 January 27 - Carl Bankert, Sally Keiser-Bankert

10:30 a.m.
 January 6 - Dennis Glocke, Bob Voigt
 January 13 - Brian Bills, Beth Shafranko
 January 20 - John and Brenda Palmgren
 January 27 - Paul and Leslie Wagner

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS
 Sally Keiser-Bankert
 (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.
 January 6 - George Weigand
 January 13 - Carla Rossi
 January 20 - George Weigand
 January 27 - George Weigand

10:00 a.m.
 January 6 - Ken and Nancy Fogelman
 January 13 - Leslie Wagner, Lois Lynn
 January 20 - Open
 January 27 - Open

10:30 a.m.
 January 6 - Lester Griel, Jr.
 January 13 - Lester Griel, III
 January 20 - Richard Brenneman
 January 27 - Wayne Pauley



January Worship Sponsors



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

Altar Flowers	Bulletin Covers	Radio Sponsors
January 6 - Curt and Jackie Kunes	January 6 - Open	January 6 - Open
January 13 - Paul and Kathy Mackes	January 13 - Open	January 13 - Open
January 20 - Bonnie and John Miller	January 20 - Richard and June Walter	January 20 - William and Carolyn Fishburn
January 27 - Joanne and George McCormick	January 27 - Joyce Sipple	January 27 - Open

December Pastoral Acts

New Births and Baptisms	Deaths - Funerals/Memorials	Weddings
		Kayla Nardi and Frank Schubert, Married Dec 21

Prayer List for January

All deployed military and those traveling in war-torn countries	Ryan Louder	Lisa Thomas,
Susan Antle	Tuckey Louder	Sally and Carl's friend
Celeste Barnes and family of Ed Jenkins	Phil Lucas	Karen Tupman, cousin of
Scott Cocolin	Danielle McHenry	Phyllis Favorite
Marion and Winnie Deppen	Jo Anne Miller	
Sherri Ebeling and family, daughter of Elaine Ebeling	Maryann Newcomb	
Vicki Garvin	Chuck Noel	
Cay Griel	Robert Schlegel	
Donna Pedersen	Craig Peery	
Hershey, niece of Gina Leon	Margie Prothro, sister of Ed Jenkins	
Sharron and Carl Hintosh	Kyle Steffens, college roommate of Laurel Sanders	
Dick Houtz	Ken Shultz	
Darlene Jenkins	William D. Snape, Sr., brother of Phyllis Favorite	
Ruth Kistler	Jack Sylves and family and grandparents	
Larry Kuhns	Tom and Marj Eakin	

January Birthdays

1 Carol Findley	11 Joel Nelson	19 Gordon Robinson
1 Corey (Colin) Lovell	11 Bethany Zucco	20 Samuel Hallacher
1 Donelle Pickering	12 Elise Bechtel	21 Jack Bechtel
1 Melissa Chapman	12 Kevin Luhman	21 Carolyn Fishburn
2 Colin Hill	12 Cameron McCurdy	22 Maximilian Andrew Kennedy
2 Meghan Elizabeth Maggi	13 Rod Egan	23 Kenneth Harpster
3 Drew Hardyk	13 Andrew Elder	23 Rachel Rundle
3 Michael Ludwig	13 Rita Graef	24 Mary Anne Claar
3 Patricia Murphy	13 Robert Jeanmenne	24 Caroline Humm
3 Douglas Stuart	13 Pastor Larry Louder	24 Daryl Johnson
3 Nicholas Smith	13 Scott Richardson	24 Sabrina Odland
4 Julie Miller	14 Troy Heatwole	24 Matthew O'Donnell
5 Ronald Krumrine	14 Sam Shively	24 Susan Bardo
5 Holly Veenis	14 Kasie Peterson	26 Nathan Waite
6 Jeannie McCurdy	14 Tracy Wagner	26 Noah Peeler
6 Colin Stuart	15 Declan Flanagan	27 Kenneth Shultz
6 Carol Ann Spangler	15 Linda Louder	28 Rachel Christian
6 KaLeena Davidson	15 Gertrude Mentzer	28 George Curtis
7 Renee Shively	16 Katelyn Watschke	28 Thomas Simcoe
7 Kathy Kalbach	16 Madison Watschke	29 Sheri Rider
7 Michael Zucco	16 Marguerite Marlin	29 Madison Rusnak
8 Rebecca Chisholm	16 Miriam Mae Walsh	29 Erin Luley
8 Jamie Cunningham	16 McGonegal	30 Donald Coine, Jr.
8 Fiona Knowles	16 Margaret Deysher	30 Gina Horn
8 Caitlin Knowles	17 Susan Buda	30 Sally Horn
9 Goldie Kroger	17 Jeffrey Jones	30 Braden Wandrisco
9 Nicole Egan	17 Doug Long	31 Daniel Bright
10 Sarah Zipf	17 Dawn Myers	31 Emily Walsh
11 Claire Hosband	18 Taylor Badger	McGonegal
11 Stephen Shurgalla	18 David Zazworsky	
	19 James Carr	



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
The Rev. Carolyn K. Hetrick, Associate
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.