



Grace Notes

Gather • Feed • Send

November 2020

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The Communion of Saints

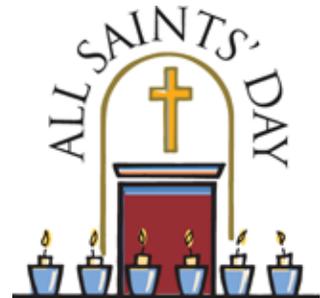
Two very meaningful times in the church year are when **children receive first Holy Communion** and when **we remember the departed saints** and our communion with them on All Saints' Sunday. This year, while we cannot all gather in our Sanctuary together, we can gather around these moments in new ways. In addition to remembering the saints at our drive-in service and on our radio service, we wanted to more deeply invite the Grace family into these tender moments.

On November 1st we will DEBUT
 A VIDEO featuring our newest

WORTH Watching communicants and their families sharing in the sacrament together with Pastor Schul, Pastor Hetrick, Cindy Fritz, and Peter Horn. It will also include the lighting of the candles and ringing of the bell, naming each saint from Grace, and recalling all those saints beyond our Grace family for whom we give thanks to God.

We know we would prefer a different way, but we pray you will experience in a new and poignant way our bond in the communion of the saints, the body and blood of Christ and a foretaste of the feast to come. They are strong, yet mystical.

The video will be posted and made available on our website and Faith Formation website, www.glcfathformation.org as well as our Youtube channel, Grace Lutheran State College, PA which you may visit by searching for the page, or via this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8rY7q1i7Lr1RS-QWPwnISQ>.



- Dean Arnold*
- Anna Boyer*
- Melanie Buffington*
- Gladys Carlson*
- Helen Evans*
- Norm Fischer*
- Elizabeth Fortmann*
- Herb Graves*
- Phillip Keeney*
- Larry Kuhns*
- Phil Lucas*
- Lucille Magnusson*
- Mardi McDonough*
- Jo Anne Miller*
- Vernon Neubert*
- Janet Rogers*
- Betty Shirk*
- Marcile Tressler*
- Billy Willits*
- The Rev. Donald Willman*

Remember to turn your clocks **BACK** one hour before going to bed Saturday, October 31st.



From Our Senior Pastor



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

Crisis Fatigue

Experts tell us that six to seven months into a crisis, people's spirits naturally sag. Despair sets in as it becomes apparent that the time of crisis will extend. I've felt that way with this pandemic, and I sense many others in our community have felt that way as well. I'm weary of the constant precautions, the constant shifting and adjusting, the inability to visit our sick and homebound, and the fear that the most casual of encounters could result in me or someone else getting very sick.

I doubt there's anyone who wants us to resume in-person worship more than me and Pastor Hetrick. We miss seeing your smiling faces, hearing you share your joys and struggles, and worshiping as one in our beautiful sanctuary. Sundays are not the same now that I cannot hear your soaring voices during the hymns, see your humble, expectant faces around the communion rail, or look into your eyes as I preach God's Word to you. Maintaining our suspension on in-person worship has been difficult for all of us.

But with COVID infection rates rising in Centre County and our hospital at full-capacity, it seems like this pandemic will be with us for many more months. Physicians who are Grace members have told us that our region is at peak risk right now because the high infection rates experienced on campus seem to be spreading into the community. And so we must remain cautious, because God called me to Grace to tend and protect not only the wellbeing of your soul but also the wellbeing of your body.

Yet even as we lament what we DON'T have during this season of pandemic, God takes time to remind us what we DO have. God's Word is being proclaimed in a multitude of meaningful and creative ways. Our congregation continues to reach out to serve our neighbors. Christ is drawing new people to Grace. Lives are still being transformed. Indeed, our doors must remain closed for a while longer. But Christ's Church remains robustly open. God has not abandoned us during this pandemic but instead is finding new ways to work in, with, and through us.

So please do not surrender to despair. Do not give up. Show up for drive-in worship. Tune in to video worship, radio worship, and the podcast. Hang in there, because God is hanging in there with us, and we need God's Spirit more now than ever before. Don't let the voices of pessimism or fear reign in your head. God is indeed with us. You are loved, you are redeemed, and you are remembered.

Christmas 2020

Needless to say, this Christmas we cannot safely offer in-person worship to 1,400 people as we normally would. But in every challenge, God provides opportunities, and our opportunity this Christmas is to re-center our hearts on Christ. Accordingly, our plan this Christmas is to celebrate an "**Old Bethlehem Christmas.**" The idea is simple: the pandemic has stripped away so many things from us, but when you peel away the pomp and circumstance from Christmas, what remains? Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who comes to us in the humblest form of all, a vulnerable little baby. In the end, he is what is essential.

This "back to basics" service will be held outdoors, with a living nativity on the porch (Pastor Hetrick is coordinating volunteers to take shifts; see her article page 5) and we will have animals too. Laurel Sanders and Nate Glocke are collaborating on prerecorded carols sung by Grace singers, and the service will include confession, communion, and a homily. We will even find a way to approximate the "service of light" that accompanies the singing of Silent Night each year; it's always the highlight of Christmas Eve worship. We will broadcast the service via our FM transmitter, and so all attendees will be able to remain in their cars and tune in to the audio on their car radios.

We will try to keep each service to about 30 minutes in length so that we can offer it many times that evening in order to accommodate anticipated demand. Christmas Eve drive-in service times will be **4, 5, 8:30, 9:30, and 10:30.**

In addition, we will replicate our very popular **service for children** (which features Santa Claus coming to worship the newborn Christ) as a drive-in service at **2 and 3** in the afternoon on Christmas Eve.

As is our longstanding tradition, we will broadcast a full one hour Christmas Eve worship service on **WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM at 7 p.m.** (also available for streaming on “smart devices”). This will be a very traditional service and will feature even more hymns by our “virtual Grace choirs.” Finally, Grace will again offer Christmas Day worship. It will not be in-person but will be broadcast live on **WRSC at 10 a.m.**

We know this isn't the Christmas worship experience we want, but it is the prudent way to proceed. And by God's grace, the experience of an Old Bethlehem Christmas promises to contain a special and unique blessing for all of us.

Final Mortgage Payment Made

On Tuesday, October 20 I met with Grace's representative at Northwest Bank, Donna Holmes, to finalize the very last payment on our mortgage. With Donna's help, I was able to compile a few facts and figures about our loan which I think you will find interesting:

- Original Loan Date: Nov. 5, 2010
- Original Loan Amount: \$3.1 million
- Original Loan Due Date: Nov. 5, 2030

Here's the most exciting statistic of all: by paying off our loan 10 years early, we saved over \$540,000 in interest. That's a remarkable savings, and represents sound and faithful stewardship by the generous people of Grace Lutheran Church. Thank you.

For so long we have been dreaming about paying off the mortgage; it doesn't seem possible that it has really happened. But it has! If you have been making regular building campaign contributions, please prayerfully consider redirecting those funds to support our operating budget, which for years has lagged because of the demands of the mortgage. Many of our donors have already done this. We are so grateful for your financial support of Grace, and grateful to God for all of the wonderful building, parking, classroom, and accessibility enhancements the loan made possible. A chapter of Grace's history has joyfully concluded. May other joyful chapters now be written!

Finally...

The pandemic is not ending anytime soon, but it will not be with us forever. So stay safe, stay connected, and stay hopeful. You are beloved by Christ and by your Grace family. I pray constantly for your wellbeing. Please continue to pray for Grace and our staff as well.

Peace be with you.
Pastor Schul

Why attend church? It's where you learn to see the world differently. (Part 10 of 11)

“One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.” Psalm 27:4

Medieval theologians formulated the notion that the best things in life are centered upon three transcendent things: beauty, truth, and goodness. Intuitively, we have all experienced a measure of this.

For example, it's joyful to behold a lovely seascape, waterfall, or mountain range because it is *beautiful*. When you muster the courage to take a principled stand, it feels right because you have embraced *truth*. And when you help someone, that warm feeling in your heart is the validation of *goodness*. Those can be fleeting moments in our everyday life, but beauty, truth, and goodness encompass the very building blocks of our faith because they are important means by which God speaks to us, guides us, and works through us. Experiencing beauty, truth, and goodness are really important reasons for attending church, because church teaches us to see the world differently.

In matters of theology, politics, and culture, we are living in a “post-truth” world. What I mean by this is that we have less trust than ever before in the validity of objective truth. Instead, we've come to accept the notion that truth is subjective. Many now claim a right to their “own truth.” This development stems from our growing distrust of

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continued from page 3...

institutions, as well as the proliferation of information and dis-information that we encounter (especially online) on a daily basis. So often nowadays, truth is contested and up for grabs. This makes it difficult for Christ's Church to proclaim its truth – the eternal timeless truth of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of the world. It's my experience that few people begin attending Grace or any other church out of conviction that THIS church or denomination has a monopoly on truth.

Truth may be on the wane. But beauty continues to reveal God's love and draw people closer to Christ's heart. Many people – even those with a minimal background in Christianity – have been moved to join Grace Lutheran because of their experience of beauty at our church.

That beauty takes many shapes: the elegant simplicity of our soaring white walls and clean lines of our sanctuary architecture; the vibrant glow of our stained glass; the moving music of organs, harps, pianos, and choirs; and the inspiring faith of an elder who disregards pain and disability to slowly walk up our long aisle in order to receive the body and blood of Christ and have a most personal encounter with the Lord. These very different forms of beauty uplift, inspire, and proclaim the love of Jesus in a very real and tangible way.

God of course uses beauty both within and without the church in order to draw us closer. But by coming to church we receive crucial assistance in better interpreting and understanding that beauty and its underlying messages.

Perhaps most amazing of all is that experiencing God in beauty transforms our way of seeing the world around us. Our eyes open as God's metaphorical fingerprints are revealed all over creation. Eventually, we even develop the ability to see God's beauty reflected in the people we encounter, even those who seem very different from us and perhaps even opposed to us. Seeing God in our neighbor inevitably changes the way we view and even treat that neighbor. When that happens, this world becomes a much lovelier place to dwell. So get involved with your congregation. Doing so will change the way you see the world. That's a great reason to attend church!

Pastor Schul

DID YOU KNOW...

... that Grace currently offers **three** different worship opportunities each Sunday? Drive-in worship is at 8:30 a.m. in our parking lot, video worship can be found on our website (www.glcpa.org) and Facebook site (www.facebook.com/GLCStateCollege), and we broadcast a live one-hour worship service at 10:30 a.m. on WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM that can also be streamed on smart devices.



...that at the June 2021 Allegheny Synod Assembly the Synod will elect a new bishop? Please pray for the entire Synod as we approach this important task.

Grace's 2020-21 Church Council Now Complete

With the congregation's election of three new council members, the election of two council representatives by the coordinators, and Council's election of officers, the annual reorganization of Grace's council is now complete. We are grateful for all who have agreed to serve. Following is a list of council's members, officers, and terms:

	NAME	OFFICE	TERM ENDING
1)	Joyce Arbutina		6/30/21; elected by coordinators
2)	Les Cutter, Treasurer and Finance Chair		Council appointed
3)	Nick Downs	President	6/30/2021
4)	Steph Flanagan		6/30/2023
5)	Bob Griffin		6/30/2021
6)	Angie Hardyk	Vice President	6/30/2022
7)	Bruce Hockenberry		6/30/2022
8)	Alyson Hoegg		6/30/2023
9)	Sally Horn		6/30/2021; elected by coordinators
10)	Joe Nicosia		6/30/2021
11)	Sara Rodgers	Secretary	6/30/2022
12)	Don Widener		6/30/2023

Preparing our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Sunday	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Holy Gospel
November 1 All Saints' Day	Revelation 7:9-17	Psalm 34:1-10, 22	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12
November 8 23 rd Sunday after Pentecost	Amos 5:18-24	Psalm 70	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
November 15 24 th Sunday after Pentecost	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18	Psalm 90:1-8, 12	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
November 22 Christ the King Sunday	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 95:1-7a	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
November 29 1 st Sunday in Advent	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	1 Corinthians 1:3- 9	Mark 13:24-37

Mini-series on Composers of Church Music

Walking Through the Church Year with Vaughan Williams' Hymn Tunes

Do you want to take a walk while remaining in the comfort of your home? Just pick up a copy of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal and let your fingers walk (and your heart sing!) through the tuneful melodies penned by Vaughan Williams, which will take you through the Church year, from Advent through Christ the King Sunday. The ELW includes eleven settings of eight tunes by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), who added original lyrical tunes to the previously German-dominated hymnody (our Lutheran heritage), set to carefully chosen texts. As music editor of *The English Hymnal* (1906) and *The Oxford Book of Carols* (1928), congregations around the world have benefitted from melodies Vaughan Williams penned, as well as many he collected and edited.



Our hymnal bears the following Vaughan Williams tunes, all of which are typically sung every year: Blessed Be the God of Israel (ELW 250); My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness, Lord (ELW 251); Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life (816); God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven (ELW 564); Go, My Children, with My Blessing (ELW 543); For the Fruit of All Creation (ELW 679); Hail Thee, Festival Day (ELW 394); Come Down, O Love Divine (ELW 804); As Saints of Old (ELW 695); For All the Saints (ELW 422); and At the Name of Jesus (ELW 416).

On the first Sunday in November (All Saints Sunday) we will remember the family of saints: people of faith, including those who are dear to us, who have entered God's kingdom. As you sing, perhaps you might remember one more saint: Ralph Vaughan Williams. On this day we can be thankful for his wonderful tune to For All the Saints, a joyful means of remembering those who are forever blessed, and who rest from their labors in the arms of our Lord and savior.

Thanks be to God!

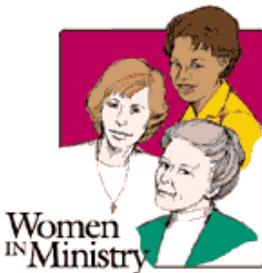
Help Grace Offer an Old Bethlehem Christmas

This year we will be engaging the story of the birth of Jesus in a whole new way - by focusing upon the heart of Christmas in the birth of Christ. On Christmas Eve, we plan to have an outdoor living Nativity manger scene to accompany outdoor **children's services at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.** In addition, we will have traditional outdoor services at **4 p.m., 5 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.** Plans are underway to construct our manger, create the scenery, and arrange for animals and music, but the story cannot be told without you! We will be looking for people/families of any age to serve as Mary and Joseph, shepherds, angels and wise men/people. While we cannot distance Mary and Joseph, all others can be distanced. We hope to have a total of 10 people for each service for a time commitment of about 45 minutes. No speaking is needed and costuming will be easy. We will help ensure you have an unforgettable experience. We hope to have volunteers lined up by December 1st. To sign up and learn more, you may contact Pastor Hetrick at pastorhetrick@glcpa.org, or Cindy Fritz and Peter Horn at faithformation@glcpa.org.

From the Associate Pastor

Fifty years ago, the Lutheran Church in America decided to ordain women to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament and on November 22, 1970, Elizabeth Platz became the first ordained Lutheran woman in America. A first generation college student and Gettysburg Seminary graduate, she worked as a lay minister at the University of Maryland for five years before her ordination. When others want to place the focus upon her and a bright line moment, Platz turns the narrative of her ordination away from herself, as an individual, pointing to the work of the Holy Spirit who called her to serve to the glory of God. There are two things I note about not only this date but this reality. First, despite the fanfare, Rev. Dr. Norma Everest Cook noted that at the 10th anniversary gathering of female pastors across the Lutheran denominations, there was an element of fear—they were uncertain how long women's ordination would last. Alongside that fear is the rejoicing that Rev. Platz faithfully served in university ministry across 47 years. That's a long journey with the Lord -- faithful, trusting labor of love.

This year, the Allegheny Synod is creating a worship service to commemorate and rejoice in these 50 years, entitled "For All the Faithful Women." **A video will be made available which we will share on November 22nd.** Of course, our plans had been for in person worship. I envisioned



processing and rejoicing and singing with my sisters in ministry and all who gathered with us. Instead, just the other day, I traveled to Zion Lutheran in Hollidaysburg to put on my vestments and be recorded leading the Prayers of the Church and sharing a "virtual" Peace of Christ for a pre-recorded video. Someone asked whether it mattered whether the participants actually wore robes and stoles. For me it really did, even though I was flanked by two candles and a cross, in an empty room full of technological equipment. It was jarring to speak "the peace of Christ be with you always" and then smile and only imagine someone saying back, "And also with you." And I know that you know, friends. It was one more example of how this pandemic has changed our current reality. These days, what we are unsure how long it will last is this time. What will be taken away and what will be restored. That's the fear. I know many of you join me in being weary, and others are finally coming to terms with the fact that we are in a longer journey with the Lord in a way we did not seek. I could choose to lament this, and be disillusioned, and in truth, sometimes I do.

But, at the same time, I marvel at the faithful trusting labors of love: the gracious care of a Stephen Minister when a spouse was declining; a new Eucharistic Minister who began bringing communion to Grace members; the creativity of outdoor events and earnest efforts to include music and musicians as best we can. I look at our worship videos, our parking lot worship, our Bible study, our podcast, our new faith formation website, our You-



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

Tube channel. I also see our collecting for Lutheran Disaster response, Lutheran World Relief Blanket Sunday, CROP, Jared Boxes, the Food Bank, and Centre Peace. I see the faithful delivery of devotions and other resources, the cards that are sent- all of these are songs that are being sung by the Spirit's hand.

Our own Laurel Sanders has coordinated music for the Ordination Anniversary video, gathering many individual recordings from folks across the synod and together with her husband producing them so that there will be singing after all. It is a time consuming labor to be sure, but it is another faithful labor of love. I give thanks for her inspiration dedication, and patience as many of us have figured out how to place a phone and some other device, and don earphones or earbuds and sing and record into the emptiness. We have to imagine we are actually singing with others. In some ways, of course, we are not.

However, in other ways, we are. We are being woven into a collective song, even if one verse sounds like sighs and chuckles, surprised we are that it works. And another sounds like "that took so much longer than I thought." It brings me

back to the many faithful women ordained. Louisa Grace, ordained in her 80's, noted, "I have seen God sweep away barriers of ethnicity, gender and age to help me become a pastor of Christ's beloved people. Each step of the way, this I was not a calling I sought, nor did it come about by my effort. It has all been God's work from the beginning to end."

In some ways these last months have placed many barriers in our way. But I also see barriers removed- We are being given a chance to see what is most important, and encouraged in our faithful labors to stay connected to God and one another. This is not a time we sought, but God is in it, active and working, from beginning to end. The hymn "For All the Faithful Women" lifts up women like Miriam, who sang triumphantly after Pharaoh's army was crushed, but then the Israelites began what turned out to be long journey into promise. Hannah prayed for a child for what seemed like forever. "Grant us her perseverance; Lord, teach us how to pray. And trust in your deliverance when darkness hides our way." Imagine Mary at the tomb that Easter dawn having lived through the days of the Passion. It can be easy and indeed attractive for us to focus upon the victory and the spectacular, but I think Scripture has much to tell us about the long journeys in between, words we perhaps hear anew. Though it is still hard to live in faithful, trusting labors of love, the reassurance is how much our Lord Jesus Christ embodies this for us and the Spirit accompanies us. Faithfully laboring in love for us, with us and through us. For that, for the holy privilege of being one of your pastors, and for each of you, I give thanks to God.

- Pastor Hetrick

Sunday Morning Adult Education

Adult Forum
9:30-10:30 A.M.
on ZOOM

We continue
our study of Care for Creation
and environmental justice from
a Christian perspective

November 1
More than Washing Dishes!

November 8
Creation Care in Action

November 15
Speaking Up for the
Environment

November 1: More than Washing Dishes!

Hear from Grace's Green Team about its origins and its activities so far, and help the team think about ways it might grow its ministry into the future.

November 8: Creation Care in Action

How can we apply the ideas we've been working with in our study of Care for Creation? We'll consider the range of spheres: home, congregation, workplace, town, synod, state and beyond.

November 15: Speaking Up for The Environment

One voice combined with other "one voices" can make a mighty roar. Learn effective ways to advocate for the environmental concerns you care about.

November 22 and 29: break for Thanksgiving

*Any adult is welcome to join us anytime—no preparation needed.
Contact Dotty Delafield (readooodles@me.com)
for a zoom link to the class.*

DID YOU KNOW...

...that Pastor Schul offered the opening and closing prayers at the October 11 dedication of the John M. Kriner II Scout Lodge at the Seven Mountains Scout Camp? The lodge was funded in part by a generous lead gift from John and Betta Kriner, and named in memory of their son, Eagle Scout and Grace member "John John" Kriner.





Finances for 2020

	Actual Income vs Expense July 2019 - Sep. 2020	Budgeted Income vs Expense July 2019 - Sep. 2020	+ or (-)	%
Income	\$55,216.72	\$63,000.00	(\$7,783.28)	12.35%
Expenses	\$62,157.01	\$71,204.38	(\$9,047.37)	12.71%
Net Income	(\$6,940.29)	(\$8,204.38)		

Giving in September improved over August, although we still had a shortfall, which was not surprising since our focus has been on completing payments for the mortgage on our building additions and renovations. The shortfall was thankfully offset by our staff keeping expenses in check. Now that our building campaign has successfully concluded, many members have decided to roll over their current building donations, or a major portion of the building giving, to support our current budget, which funds many ministries. To automate your giving, contact Laurel Sanders at lsanders@glcpa.org. This is a wonderful time to prayerfully consider your stewardship. To change how your gifts are allocated, contact Laurel or Sheri Rider at srider@glcpa.org. You can access our automated bank transfer form or make credit card donations using Tithe.ly via the GIVE button on our website at www.glcpa.org.

Building Campaign

Actual Building Receipts this month (donations)	Monthly Mortgage obligation	Year-to-date Receipts for the building (donations)	Year-to-date Mortgage obligation
\$8,654.43	\$15,742.70	\$26,893.55	\$47,228.00

This month we received \$8,654.43 from building-designated offerings and an additional \$3,852 toward the building payoff fund. As of this writing (October 20), our entire mortgage debt has been paid off with your past and current contributions, bequests, and funds set aside in a CD at the start of the campaign ten years ago to assure timely monthly payments. Now our focus will become fully funding our ministries, which serve many within and beyond our community of faith, the Centre Region, and around the world. Please prayerfully consider sustaining your current giving, redirecting funds set aside for our building toward ensuing effective ministries. Thank you!

Council Highlights

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

- Elected Nick Downs as President, Angie Hardyk as Vice President, and Sarah Rodgers as Secretary; and
- Reappointed Les Cutter as Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Team.

DID YOU KNOW...

...that you can conveniently give online to support the ministries of Grace? Just click the word GIVE at the far right hand menu of Grace's website: www.glcpa.org.

...that Grace's building campaign has successfully ended, and that we retired our mortgage 10 years ahead of schedule? Doing so saved our congregation over \$540,000 in interest!



- Visit our website at lutheranpennstate.org
- You'll find us on Facebook and Instagram @lutheranpennstate
- Sign up for our weekly listserve with a reflection, prayer, updates and event info: bit.ly/2ODOSZq
- Contact Alicia Anderson, Campus Minister at ara2@psu.edu or 814.360.0601 with questions.



QNA - Questions, not Answers - will meet **Sunday, November 22 at 7 p.m. via Zoom**. If you are interested in attending, please email Carla Rossi at ckrossi@comcast.net for the link to the meeting.

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

We will continue our previous discussion (from September) on the relationship between faith and politics. The discussion will include a general history of church-state relations, or on how Christians can participate in the modern political world, or both, if time permits.

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

LUTHERAN STUDENT COMMUNITY / LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT PENN STATE

Whether online or in person, LSC and LCM are a welcoming community that is here to support students. We continue to offer a community where all are truly welcome, where care and connection can be found, and where you can share both the struggles and the joys you encounter. Remember, things may change as the semester unfolds, so check our socials and the calendar on our website for the most up-to-date info.

WEEKLY EVENTS

- **Night Prayer on Sundays at 9-9:30 p.m. Online** -- Set aside time for prayer, to connect with God, and feel centered for the week. This casual service will include scripture readings, prayers, music and time for reflection and community.
- **Pop Up Office Hours on Tuesday at 3-4 p.m. On Campus or Online (other times by appointment)** -- Whether in-person (socially distanced & masked) or online, campus minister Alicia Anderson will be available for you to drop by and just chat about your day, ask questions big or small, pray with you, or talk about something tough. Check our events calendar or contact Alicia for each week's location. And if you need to arrange a different time, just email or text.
- **Evening Prayer on Thursdays at 6-6:45 p.m. Pasquerilla Spiritual Center's Worship Hall** -- Using Penn State's guidelines for safe in-person gatherings (including social distance, masks and cleaning), we'll have prayer, music, reflection together and we'll find community in God's presence. -- **Grab 'n Go Dinner** (following worship) Pasquerilla Spiritual Center. A bag dinner will be available for students to share take along after worship!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Antiracism Discussion – November 10 at 7-8 p.m. Online** -- Learn and talk together with students and campus ministers from various groups. We're using various online resources throughout the year to explore race and antiracism. This month, the topic is reparations. Check our event calendar for the resource link and the Zoom link. Contact Alicia Anderson at ara2@psu.edu with questions.
- **QNA (Questions Not Answers) – November 22 at 7-8 p.m. Online** Join and inter-generational discussion with lots of questions and no easy answers! November's topic church-state relations in our country, and how Christians can participate in the modern political world. John Hall is facilitating. Come join the conversation! Email Carla Rossi for the event link: ckrossi@comcast.net.
- **Graduate Student Group? Service-Learning Projects? Bible Study/Discussion? Advocacy Projects? Spanish Language?** You can get more information about these and other plans by visiting this interest form: tinyurl.com/yy8ppdog

We thank God for you every time we think of you.



Bell Ringing for IHS!

The Interfaith Human Services Wishing Well Campaign will run November 27 through December 23. Grace Lutheran has always been a part of this event by ringing bells at Meyer Dairy.

**Our date is
Tuesday, December 15**

Bell ringing is fun, will be outside, bundled up, masked, and no singing.

Sign-up for hours between 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Children may help, but must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact Sue Forster at fsue58521@gmail.com to sign up for an hour of this enjoyable activity while helping to support the programs at IHS.



Change is in the air! In previous years we held a Christmas collection to benefit those receiving services at Centre Safe, formerly named the Women’s Resource Center. This year we’re going to **HOLD A MONETARY COLLECTION** to benefit Centre Safe which will be in late January and early February. Stay tuned!

Bucket Collection

The Jana Marie Foundation is the recipient of the November Bucket Collection. Our Faith Formation team, using an ELCA grant, teamed with the foundation to have programming focused on youth depression, anxiety, and suicide prevention. Some of the training included adults and many of us took advantage of the programs. As a congregation we hope to work with The Jana Marie Foundation again.



- You may donate through Tithe.ly by going to the church website and clicking on the “Give” button
- Or by mailing a check to the church at 205 South Garner Street, State College, PA 16801



Christmas Cards for Inmates

“Remember those in prison as if you were bound with them.” Heb:13:3
“I was in prison and you came to visit me ...I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.” Matt :25:36, 40

Join with Grace and make a Christmas card for inmates. **Pick up a card** and instructions on the cart outside the church doors, M-F 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

Return your completed card by Sunday, November 22



Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?
Matt: 25:37
...covid-19 goes on...food insecurity continues

We are continuing to support the **State College Food Bank** through a monthly monetary donation.

We won’t be collecting food at this time.

Checks: “Grace Lutheran Church”
“food bank” in the memo line
205 S. Garner St.
State College, PA 16801

Donate via Tithe.ly at glcpa.org.
Click on the “give” button at top of the page.

So many of you have contributed to the Food Bank via Grace.
It’s what we do, isn’t it? It’s our response to Jesus’ love.



Jared Boxes - There is still time! There are plenty of boxes left for you to take and fill. Please stop by the main entrance at the church on **Sundays 8:00-11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 p.m.** to pick up (and return) your Jared Box! (Yes, you can also choose to use your own box!)

To make a Jared Box, fill a plastic storage box with small toys, games, and fun activities, selected for a specific age and gender. **The greatest need is for 1-3 year olds and 3-5 year olds.** A Jared Box is the gift of play to children in the hospital. Play is important, and a serious illness or injury shouldn't interfere with the need to play! The Jared Box Project, now known throughout the U.S. and Canada, was started to honor a little boy from STATE COLLEGE named Jared. He was a brave little boy who battled cancer with courage, a positive attitude, and a sense of humor.

Remember, Sunday, November 22 – Jared Box Dedication Sunday! Bring your filled boxes back to Grace by then for prayers before they are delivered to hospitals in our region! Learn more about The Jared Box Project at: <http://www.thejaredbox.com>



Blanket Sunday

Blankets, personal care kits, and school kits, were dedicated on Sunday, October 25th. The blankets were displayed outside on the railings at the 8:30 a.m. drive-in service. Thank you to the comfort makers and all who contributed to making the quilts and supplying materials for the kits. Grace Lutheran contributed 32 quilts, 70 backpack school kits and 31 personal care kits.



Congregational Care

If you are experiencing **Pandemic Fatigue**, Grace Lutheran is here to help. We have Stephen Ministers and "Graceful Friends" who are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. As well, new phone ministry initiative is in the works to address concerns of isolation for those who live alone, are caregivers, or just might appreciate a familiar voice. Please look for more information in the December Grace Notes or contact [Pastor Hetrick \(pastorhetrick@glcpa.org\)](mailto:pastorhetrick@glcpa.org) for more information.



Garden of Readin'

(Women's Book Club)

The November meeting of *Garden of Readin'* (women's book club) will meet **November 17 at 10:30 a.m. remotely via Zoom**. The next book is *Call Your Daughter Home* by Deb Spera, co-facilitated by Linda Domin and Lois Lynn. Contact Persons: Lois Lynn (loissteve@comcast.net) or Laura Pauley (llp1@psu.edu)

What's Happening?

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday, November 1

- 9:30 a.m. – Sidewalk Sunday School, Grace Lutheran Parking Lot
- 7:00 p.m. – Confirmation 2 Go, Grace Lutheran Porch

Sunday, November 15

- 10:00-10:30 a.m. – Family Sunday School on Zoom
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. – High School Youth Group, Grace Lutheran Porch

Sunday, November 29

6:00-7:00 p.m. – Advent Drive-Thru, Grace Lutheran Parking Lot

DECEMBER PREVIEW

Sunday, December 6

- 9:30 a.m. – Sidewalk Sunday School, Grace Lutheran Parking Lot
- 7:00 p.m. – Confirmation 2 Go, Grace Lutheran Porch

Sunday, December 20

- 10:00-10:30 a.m. – Family Sunday School on Zoom
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. – High School Youth Group, Grace Lutheran Porch

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve Drive-in Services



Family Sunday School

Family Sunday School continues in its new format. November's topic is "The Lord is My Shepherd." Sidewalk Sunday School will be on Sunday, November 1st following the drive-in worship (approximately 9:30 a.m.). Since we are not hosting in-person classes, Sunday school content will be posted on our Faith Formation website (<http://www.glcfaithformation.org/sunday-school.html>) with the password Grace2020). The Sunday School materials include both the *Whirl* and *Spark* Bibles. The third Sunday of each month we will host a Zoom family check-in.

High School Youth Group

We continue the socially-distanced and masked Youth Group on the third Sunday each month. Our time together will include a check-in and discussion of the *ELCA Faith Lens*. Plan to gather on Grace's front porch, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will include dinner. Please make sure to dress for the weather and bring a camp chair so we don't have to sit on the cold ground.



Holy Communion

We welcome to the Lord's Table our newest communicants. On October 31, the class will finish their Holy Communion instruction by partaking in the Lord's Supper. The service will be recorded and will be on the Grace Lutheran YouTube channel and the Facebook Page as part of the November 1st All Saints' Worship Service. To find the church's YouTube

Channel, please go to the www.glcfaithformation.org website and find the link on the home page. We will have pictures in the December Grace Notes.

Confirmation Classes, Confirmation to Go

We end our 2020 confirmation lessons on the theme of generosity. The November service project is dedicated to the Jared Box Project. The goal of the Jared Box Project is to lift the spirits of children in the hospital. Boxes filled with the "gift of play" are given to young patients in emergency rooms, hospital rooms, surgical centers, and clinics. Again, the hope is this material can be completed independently with minimal computer usage. Our next drop and go time is Sunday, November 1st from 7:00–7:30 p.m. Please return your completed packet and Seafarer's bag from October. **Cindy and Peter will be in the fire-lane near the front porch for monthly instructions.** Our final 2020 *Confirmation to Go* will be on December 6th.



Advent Drive-thru

If the Car-nival sounded like fun, mark your calendar for another socially-distanced event: **AdventFest To Go. Sunday, November 29 from 6-7 p.m.** We are planning nativity stations, crafts and advent resources for your home.

Reformation Sunday and Affirmation of Baptism

What a service! We hope the confirmands will remember with fondness their Affirmation of Baptism service during this pandemic. Thank you to all our confirmation students for putting in some extra work and for everyone who made this day all the more special. On Sunday, October 25th we gathered at Medlar Field at Lubrano Park with about 120 Grace members to bless these youth and welcome them into the fullness of the community of Grace Lutheran. Pictures of the confirmands will be in the December issue of Grace Notes.



Congratulations to:

*Carter Fozard
Adam Hallacher
Spencer Hardy
Samuel Janik
Abigail Kellogg-Long
CJ Kellogg-Long
Lauren Kellogg-Long
Sydney O'Donnell
Allison Peters
Andrew Pickering
Bella Poehner
Logan Proctor
Sara Proctor
Nina Sparrow
Jillian Stoltzfus
Matthew Weyandt*

CAR-nival Thank You

Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped to make our Car-nival a success. We were thrilled that Grace families took the time out of their day on October 18th to provide a little fun for young Grace Members and Preschool students. In some cases, it was difficult to tell who was having more fun, the participants in their car or the volunteers! In case you missed it, the Car-nival was a socially-distant event where carnival games were played from the passenger side window of their car.



College Student Care Packages

As a project of our High School Youth Group, we send care packages to our Grace youth that are away at college. Especially during this pandemic time, receiving something special is especially welcomed. Please contact Cindy and Peter using the Faithformation@glcpa.org to update the address of your college student; even if they are living at home!



DID YOU KNOW...

... that Confirmation families have been busy with service projects?

August – LWR School Kits

September – Make your own service project

October – Seafarer's International Christmas-at-Sea

November – Jared Box Project



Dates to Remember!

Week of November 1 - 13

Toys for Tots online monetary donations accepted

Wednesday, November 4

Butter Braid Pastries available for pick-up

Wed. & Thurs., November 11 & 12 – Spirit Days,

“Wear your favorite hat”

Thursday, November 12

12:15 p.m. – GLPK Curriculum Meeting

Mon. & Tues. November 23 & 24

Thanksgiving Chapel

Wed.- Sun., November 25-29

No School, Thanksgiving Vacation

Monday, November 30

School Resumes

- E-mail: glpk@glcpa.org
- Phone: 814-238-8110
- Web: www.glcpa.org



SO MANY BLESSINGS

CHRISTIAN FOCUS BOX FOR NOVEMBER!

“WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD.”

“GOD FILLS MY LIFE WITH GOOD THINGS.” PSALM 103:5

DISCOVERY SCIENCE – BUILDINGS STRUCTURES – ENCLOSURES

AFTERNOON ENRICHMENT – A COUNTDOWN TO THANKSGIVING

BUTTER BRAID PASTRIES PICK-UP

For those of you who purchased Butter Braids Pastries this year, pick up will be at the preschool main entrance on **Wednesday, November 4th**

between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. Please call the school office at

238-8110 when you arrive and we will bring your order out to you.

Proceeds will go to support our school's general fund, which provides tuition assistance and helps support un-budgeted needs. Please contact Dawn (dvandenheuvel@glcpa.org or 238-8110) with questions.

Thank you for your support!!



TOYS FOR TOTS

Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten has traditionally been a collection site for Toys for Tots, but due to the limited number of people allowed in the building, we are encouraging everyone **to make monetary donations** for Centre County children by going to our local Toys For Tots website (<https://lemont-pa.toysfortots.org>). **If you prefer to purchase a new, unwrapped toy**, there are **drop off sites listed on the website**. The list of collection points will be updated at this site. The campaign dates have been moved up to accommodate the Penn Stater Hotel. Toy collections officially began on October 15th, and will continue with all collections at the Penn Stater for this year's sorting which begins on **Friday, November 13th**.



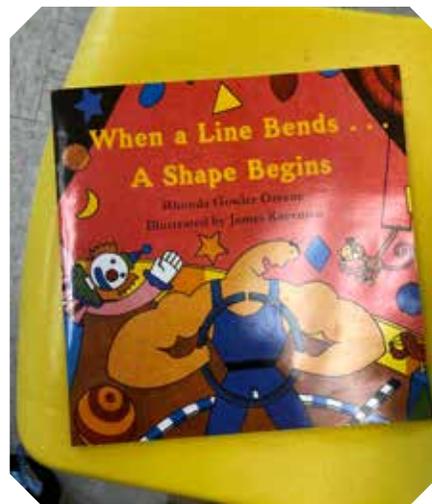
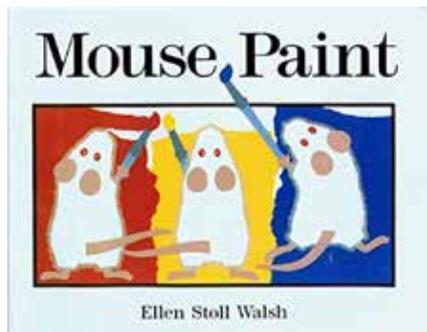
Christmas Wreaths

Due to the current health situation, we will not be offering our annual wreath fund-raiser this year. In addition, Kuhn's Tree Farm is unable to provide wreaths for the next four years. If you know of anyone that would be interested in providing wreaths as a fund-raiser next year, please contact Dawn at dvandenheuvel@glcpa.org or 238-8110.

GLPK Art Class

This year we are offering “Art on a Cart” for our older five-day classes. On Thursdays, Miss Suzanne wheels her art cart to Mrs. Wylie’s class first and then later to Miss Anne’s class. Miss Suzanne always greets her students with “Good morning Artists!” She warms up their fingers and hands with a poem and then goes over her plans for her art class. Usually, she starts by reading a storybook.

On one September Thursday, Mrs. Wylie’s class read *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Stoll Walsh and then they experimented with the color mixing of blue, yellow and red baking soda and vinegar. There was an exciting “explosion” of colors.



Miss Suzanne read *When a Line Bends... A Shape Begins* by Rhonda Gowler Greene to Miss Anne’s class. As each child finishes a direction, they show Miss Suzanne that they are ready for the next step by putting both of their thumbs up. Here the students are drawing lines into shapes to make a face with a white crayon.



November Worship Sponsors



Bulletin Covers

- November 1** - Helen and Dick Brenneman dedicated to the Glory of God
- November 8** - Graham & Laurel Sanders dedicated in honor of their daughter Michelle
- November 15** - Barbara Bingaman dedicated in memory of her husband Paul and son Andrew
- November 22** - Greg & Kathy Weimer dedicated in honor of their grandchildren
- November 29** - Greg & Kathy Weimer dedicated to the Glory of God

Radio Sponsors

- November 1** - The Nieweg Family dedicated in memory of Jack Nieweg
- November 8** - Earl & Lorraine Lutz dedicated to the Glory of God
- November 15** - Ann & Richard Burke dedicated in honor of the church staff
- November 22** - John & Brenda Palmgren dedicated in honor of their daughter Kristin's birthday
- November 29** - Bob and Lois Voigt dedicated in honor of their children & grandchildren

We sincerely thank all of our generous sponsors!

October Pastoral Acts

New Births and Baptisms

- The birth of Cora Grace Hartzler born Oct. 24 to Erin & Jon Hartzler.

Deaths - Funerals/Memorials

- Funeral of Donna Siebenrock, mother of Grace member Marjorie Haller, October 2, 2020
- Philip Keeney died October 19
- Phil Lucas died October 21

Prayer List for November

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| All Military & Nat'l Guard and all serving in war-torn countries | The Cutter family upon the death of Francis Poole Cutter, | Jane Gamble, sister-in-law of Holly Stoltzfus | Tom Lucas | Ken Shultz |
| Theresa Alves, friend of Brenda Kim | Les Cutter's grandmother | Vicki Garvin | Paul Mackes | Nan Sichler |
| Deb Baysinger's cousin | William Davies | The family of Michael Grego upon his death | Carol Major, friend of Brenda Palmgren | Moerschbacher, friend of Margy |
| Sylvia Belanger, mother of Joe Belanger | Marie Dallery mother of Sharon Shurgalla | Mary Ann Hanelly and family, friends of Betsy Will | Dennis McClure | Strong Deysher |
| Debbie Bolthouse | Damaris Dougherty, daughter of Bob Hampton | Shawn Hintosh | Danielle McHenry | William D. Snape Sr., brother of Phyllis Favorite |
| Mary & Phil Bucher | Eti Dvir, mother-in-law of Rachel Wolkenhauer | Dick Houtz | Kim Marsh | Emily & Charlotte Spearly |
| Dennis & Anna Carol Buffington upon the death of their daughter, Melanie Buffington | Patrick Dugan, grandson of Paul & Kathryn Mackes | Bob Igoe | Bob Miller, father of Julie Miller | Jack Sylves and family and grandparents |
| Sandy Cassady | Barbara & John Elliott, relatives of Laurel Sanders | The family of Philip Keeney upon his death | Julie Miller | Tom and Marj Eakin |
| Linda Cataldo, step-mother of Deb Stewart | Steve Ellis | Cindy Keith | Amy Nevling | Tom & Claudette, friends of Helen and Dick Brenneman |
| Denise Centini | The family of Helen Evans, upon her death | Kate Kempf, daughter of Pete & Angie Kempf & granddaughter of Merle & Kathy McCalips | Dottie Niklos, mother of Bob Igoe | Karen Tupman, cousin of Phyllis Favorite |
| Nancy Chapa | Craig Evanego | Paul & Sandy Larson | Allison Peretin, friend of Elaine Ebeling | Brenda & Ken Walsh |
| Scott Cocolin | Patti Fisher | Paul Lloyd, son of Pat Lloyd | Zach Pfeil, brother of Megan Widener | Greg Weimer |
| Carol Confer | | Wanetta Lohr | Margie Prothro, sister of Ed Jenkins | Ash Woskob |
| Cathy Cutter | | Shirley Lucas and family upon Phil's death | Sophia Reutzel | Janet Zerbe |
| | | | Dottie Roberts | |
| | | | Margaret Schrock, mother of Kathy Weimer | |
| | | | Nancy Schuchert, mother of Joe Schuchert | |



November Birthdays



1 Brady Bendik	9 William McCombie	15 T. J. Nelson	25 Samantha Marie Smeal
1 Camryn Bendik	9 Ryan O'Donnell	16 Ruth Kistler	26 Lenore Horner
1 Nichelle Nicosia	9 Katelyn Jeanmenne	16 Marion Deppen	26 Sandra Yohe
1 Evan Stearns	9 Kerry Richards	16 Lily Glenna	26 Chris Turley
1 Julia Simcoe	10 Craig Evanego	17 Allen Fiscus	26 Alex Daniel Shisler
2 David Heatwole	10 Cristin Long	17 Miles Harlor	26 Anna Long
2 Linda Schul	10 Adalyn Davidson	18 Claire Johnson	26 Isabel Roof
3 Madelyn Ulmer	11 John Kalbach Jr	18 Barbara Bingaman	27 Emily Schultz
4 Evelyn Dungan	11 Paul Wagner	18 Gregory DeMetrick	27 Harry Burd
4 Abigail Fozard	11 Don Leon	19 Delores Curtis	27 Barbara Vogler
4 Brenna Nicosia	11 Amy Nevling	19 Martha Showalter	27 Patrick Donghia
4 Georgia Warren	11 Hugo Chastain	20 Max Jeanmenne	27 Olen Archer Edgar
4 Ryan Morrison	12 Andy Vanden Heuvel	21 Andrew Stearns	28 Megan Egan
4 Ryan Andrew Morrison	12 Leah Leidy	21 Liam Hickman	28 Lori Bendik
5 Frank Blazina	12 Leland Glenna	21 Savanah Chapman	28 Kevin Bender
6 Michelle Pletcher	12 Christa Watschke	22 Ryan Haris	28 Terry Garvin
6 Anne Whitney	13 Laura Young	22 Tori Moyer	28 Adrianna Vasey
7 Chrissy Castles	13 Katie Ellis	22 Kym Jackson	29 Elliott Ta
7 Pamela Asencio	13 Marc Lintal	22 Laurel Sanders	29 Cindy Capperella
7 Trey Nicosia	13 Heidi Lambert	22 Nathan Showalter	30 Isaac Edgar
7 Ricky Larson	13 Matthew Kisenwether	23 Andrew John Pickering	30 Judy Bausch
7 Hiroshi Ohmoto	13 Richard Baysinger	23 Victor Lombardi	30 H. Joseph Geise
7 Nora Stager	14 Trent Dinant	23 Brody Pieniazek	30 Juliet Arnold
8 Alexander Foor	14 Mitchell Walker	24 Ryan Evanego	30 Grace Burris
8 Kayleigh Lombardi	14 Jack Sosnoskie	25 Lynn Rogers	30 Kyla Heebner
8 Alessandra Jeanmenne	14 Katy Stager	25 Isabella Cocolin	
8 Merle McCalips	15 Christopher Mahon	25 Deborah Baysinger	



Green Tip for November

The recent stretch of cooler nights/mornings are a reminder of the coming season change. While many of us may not like to think about it, winter is approaching. While there are many things that you can do to winterize your home (e.g. insulation, caulking, new windows/doors, etc.), also remember non-construction and no-cost sensible lifestyle changes too. Save energy and money by setting your thermostat down but wearing heavier clothes or extra layers. Keep blankets and throws in the rooms where you sit so you can snuggle up in them for extra warmth. Open the drapes on southern facing windows during the day to gain the solar benefit and keep drapes and blinds closed when the sun goes down to keep warmth inside your house.

As a reminder from last month, if you haven't yet done so, schedule service for your heating system to make sure it is working effectively and efficiently. At a minimum, replace filters if you have forced air heat.

Grace Notes

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

205 South Garner Street

State College, PA 16801

(814) 238-2478

www.glcpa.org

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Drive-In Worship in our parking lot. Broadcast on a low level FM signal

10:30 a.m. Worship on the Radio
Broadcast on WRSC 1390 AM and 93.3 FM and available on "smart devices"

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



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