

March 2017

Grace GATHERINGS



Grace Lutheran Church
 Celebrating
 75 Years of Ministry
 1942 - 2017

This month we celebrate the
**75th Anniversary of
 Grace Lutheran Evangelical Church**

Highlights include a **banquet** at the Corvallis Country Club on March 11th and **celebratory church services** on Sunday March 12th. **Pr. Martha Meier** will be presiding over the March 26th services. We hope all will be attended and enjoyed by the congregation and past members of Grace who no longer live in the Corvallis area.

*Grace Lutheran Church is a
 "Reconciling in Christ"
 congregation. "Reconciling in
 Christ" congregations welcome
 persons of all sexual orientation
 and gender identities.
 We affirm that we welcome all
 persons regardless of race, gender,
 sexual orientation, age or
 national origin.*

*Our VISION is "to be a
 Christ-centered community who
 welcomes all, grows in faith, and
 reaches out in love."
 Our MISSION is "to follow Christ
 into our community and world mani-
 festing with caring hearts and help-
 ing hands the good news of the
 Kingdom of Christ."*



Lent 2017

Since Easter (April 16, 2017) is a little later this year

Lent will not begin until March 1st

with our Ash Wednesday service

Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm
Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist

Wednesday Lenten Services will begin the following week,
 on March 8th

Wednesday Evening Lenten Schedule

6:00 Soup Supper
 7:00 Evening Prayer
 7:25 Choir rehearsal

Prayers



This prayer list is a compilation of the prayer requests we have received at Grace from Jan 21 to Feb 20. For a more timely update to the prayers, send your email address to prayers@grace97330.org, and ask to be part of the prayer list.

Thanks:

- Prayers of gratitude for Juan Guzmán and his clean bill of health
- For the safe return of all the Grace women who attended the Holden Winter Retreat
- Thank you from the Red Cross for the 21 pints of blood collected here in January
- Thank you from Luther House for the parking lot use during OSU football season and an extra thank you to Pr. Wendell for programming the sign & his encouragement

Illnesses and Other Concerns:

- Susan & Del Goodale — for Susan's ongoing cancer treatment
- Ulo Kiigamagi — for a blood clot in his leg
- John Buckley — for pneumonia & heart related problems
- Jim Hemming — for healing from his eyelid surgery
- Tim & Tracy Leonard — for Tim's cancer and Tracy's health issues
- Abbess Barbara Clare — for her recent knee replacement
- Ryan Harrington's grandmother — for ongoing dementia and loss of her husband
- Vern Johnson — for his health and the loss of his wife
- Greyson Nyamiga — for his family, his studies at OSU, and for his relatives and church in his home country of Tanzania
- Cynara Stadvold — for continued healing after her shoulder replacement surgery

Death:

- Roger Lindquist (2/27)
- Charles Martin — Mary Ann Matzke's father
- Al Spencer — Robyn Vega's father
- Ryan Harrington's grandfather
- Marlene Johnson (2/13)
- Norma McPherson (2/26) — Kelsie McPherson's grandmother

Phone & Address Updates:

- Georgine Thompson is now in room #112 at Conifer House

Lost & Found:

- We are looking for a woman's black coat that inadvertently went home with the wrong person after the Nativity Service in December. We have your coat in the office. Please call us at 541.757.1600 if you can help us make the switch. Thank you!

Notes:

Dear members of Grace Lutheran Church,
 Congratulations on 75 years as a community of faith, service and witness in the Corvallis area. I am sorry I will not be able to attend your celebration. However, you will be in my thoughts and prayers on March 11th.

God bless your continuing years of ministry!

Rev. Barb Linder

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous, and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Learning with Grace



Tuesday
BIBLE STUDY

Hear Matthew on Sunday; Study Matthew on Tuesday!

Because we are in Lectionary Cycle A, you may have noticed that our gospel reading on Sunday morning is usually from Matthew. Preachers have often been challenged by Matthew's account of Jesus' radical teaching in the Sermon on the Mount, and Jesus' strong language in Matthew's version of Jesus' parables. Yet, it is often in the study and wrestling with the most difficult passages of scripture that the greatest insights are gained. Our faith is challenged and often replaced with a deeper faith and broader understanding of our call to discipleship.

If you are seeking a study opportunity to aid in spiritual growth and development, then this is a place for you. If your schedule allows, please join us on **Tuesdays from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.**

Adult Bible Study

God Loves Us

"God is love" (1 John 4:8) is a truism we learn as children. Yet, as we mature, we also learn through experience that love is not a simple thing, that it can be accompanied by heartache, disappointment, guilt, and fear of failure. Jealousy, envy, and rejection shape our perceptions of love as much as altruism, compassion, and empathy. It is no wonder that while we can easily and lightly confess that God is love, our great temptation – like that of Martin Luther some 500 years ago – is to fall into despair before God, whom we regard as the righteous judge before whom no one is able to stand (Psalm 130:3). God's capacity for love competes in our minds and hearts with God's need for justice, and we grow despondent not having the wisdom to tease those realities apart.

To love is to be vulnerable. We know this instinctively. Who has not suffered a broken heart due to the failure of loss of a relationship? Perhaps you have seen the 1970 movie *Love Story*, in which the characters played by Ryan O'Neal and Ali McGraw profess that "love means never having to say you're sorry." As anyone who has ever been in love knows, however, there is no loving relationship that is impervious to hurt, anger, disappointment, and regret. To love is to be vulnerable, and this notion of divine vulnerability is at the heart of God's love for us.

This study will focus on the love of God within the context of the biblical witness to the basic character of God within the context of the biblical witness to the basic character of God in relationship with Israel and the early Christian community. We will explore several of the stories and metaphors used to depict the character of God's divine love, concluding with a more detailed look at the story of Jonah. This prophet's encounter with the fish was but one step along the circuitous route that demonstrated God's lavish love even for the dreaded enemies of Israel, and for those on whom we would most like to see God's wrath displayed.

Our Writer

Rodney R. Hutton is Emeritus Professor of Old Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio, a seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. After serving in parish ministry in Illinois, he taught for thirty years at the seminary and has contributed numerous book and articles to the theological conversation of the church. Professor Hutton continues to teach an occasional course at the seminary, as well as engaging adults in theological study in local congregations.

Lesson 1	March 5	The Source of All Love	1 John 4:7-19
Lesson 2	March 12	God's Overflowing Love	Ephesians 2:1-10
Lesson 3	March 19	God's Love Manifested	John 15:1-17
Lesson 4	March 26	God's Love Restores	Joel 2:12-13, 18-19, 28-32
Lesson 5	April 2	God as Our Shepherd	Psalm 23
Lesson 6	April 9	God's Saving Love in Christ	John 3:1-16
	April 16	Easter Breakfast	
Lesson 8	April 23	God's Reconciling Love	Romans 5:6-11; 8:31-39
Lesson 9	April 30	God's Preserving Love	John 10:1-15
Lesson 10	May 7	God's Sustaining Love	Jonah 1:7-17
Lesson 11	May 14	God's Love Preserved Jonah	Jonah 2
Lesson 12	May 21	God's Love for Nineveh	Jonah 3
Lesson 13	May 28	God's Pervasive Love	Jonah 4

Pastor's Page — What is Truth?

Pastor Netsie Griffith

Contact Information

Cell: 541.223.3455

Email:

netsie@grace97330.org

Pastor Netsie's

Days Off

Thursday & Friday

Pastor Wendell

Hendershott

Contact Information

Cell: 541.223.3503

Email:

wendell@grace

97330.org

Pastor Wendell's

Days Off

Tuesday & Friday



Asked Pilate of Jesus in John 18:38

The question of truth seems an important topic these days. As we find ourselves in a new era of fake news, alternative facts, photo shopping, photo cropping, fact checking and the age old role of propaganda, perhaps it behooves us as people of faith to reflect upon how we might navigate these turbulent waters.

While aware that truth falls into many categories such as historical truth, philosophical truth, universal truth, spiritual truth, factual truth, and experiential/contextual/personal truth just to name a few, I approach this topic as a student of scripture. Thus, while there may be various sources to which people turn in an attempt to ascertain the truth, I'm going to turn to that scripture which makes a correlation between deception, sin and the truth. It comes from the first chapter of First John and has been woven into our order in the Lutheran Church for corporate confession and forgiveness. *"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, [God] who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (1 Jn. 1:8-9) In the gospel of John, Jesus tells those who had believed in him, *"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free."* (1 Jn. 8:31-32) Later in John 14 Jesus refers to himself as *"... the way, and the truth, and the life."* (Jn. 14:6). In John 16 Jesus speaks of the coming of the Spirit of truth which will lead us into all truth. So, truth is something which is in (or not in) us, something which frees us, something which is embodied in Christ, and something into which we are led by the Spirit.

In the gospel of John, truth is the key to freedom, because it's juxtaposed with the bondage of sin. Thus, we have images of sin, deception, condemnation, destruction and death in opposition to images of righteousness, truth, forgiveness, restoration and life. It's pretty clear that Jesus wants us to live in the truth and for the truth to be in us as individuals and as a body of believers.

When we think about where it all starts, two words occur to me that are very important in relation to the truth. They are honesty and courage. The opposite of deception is honesty. If we are honest with ourselves about the sin within us individually, within us as the church, within us as a nation, within us as the world this is the first step to the truth being in us. It then takes courage to name the sin within us individually, within us as the church, within us as a nation, and within us as the world. With God's help we can be both honest and courageous and then take that step of confession which leads to forgiveness, cleansing, and freedom. We are then liberated for life, love, and restoration, all things which we need and which our world needs.

Not only do we need God's help to be honest and courageous, we also need the help of trusted, articulate voices, the surprisingly fresh insights of children and youth, and the wisdom of lives honed by faith through the trials of a long lived life. Thus, in the church, not just in our congregation, but in the church which spans the world, we need to listen. We need to hear the honesty of others. We need to be inspired by the courage of others who name sin which sometimes means speaking truth to power and suffering unpleasant consequences. We need to stand with one another against forces which defy and deny truth. Finally, we need to coat our honesty and courage with a heavy layer of humility which continually brings us back to God for healing and restoration. Thus, we could think of these words as an ever re-circulating fountain of life flowing from honesty to courage to humility to healing to restoration and back to honesty and courage. In this way the Spirit will truly and surely lead us into all truth.

March 1st is the beginning of the season of Lent, a season of confession and renewal. March is also the month in which we are marking and beginning the celebration of our 75th anniversary as a congregation, a time of remembering who we have been, who we are, and who we will yet be as Grace Lutheran Church. Thus, it is a good month to commit and re-commit ourselves to be a community of faith in which the truth is found. May we do so in the name of the One who is the source of truth, Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life, and the Spirit who leads us into all truth. Amen.

With humility and hope for honesty and courage,
Pastor Netsie

hope healing
honesty restoration
courage
humility

Welcome to our New Members at Grace



*Partners
in
Faith*

The next
Partners in Faith
event on Friday,
March 17th,

The evening will
begin with an Irish
themed potluck din-
ner at 6:00 pm in the
Fireside Room.

Bring an Irish or
green dish to share
and your table ser-
vice.

We will be playing
games this month!
Come join the fun!

**Call Sue Musil for
info at
541.745.5511**

On Sunday, February 19th, nine new members were welcomed to Grace through an affirmation of baptism service that took place at both the 8:30 and 11 am worship services. Below are the names of these new members and a little bit about them.

Gabrielle (Gabri) Bilotta is an 8th grader at Linus Pauling Middle School. She moved to Corvallis with her family from Arden Hills, Minnesota last summer. She was born in Edina, Minnesota and baptized six months later at the Episcopal Church of the Nativity. Soon after arriving in Corvallis, Gabri volunteered to help with our summer Day Camp. Currently, she is a participant in our confirmation ministry here at Grace. Her hobbies and interests are science, Girl Scouts and music.

Michelle (Shelly) Bilotta is a certified pharmacy technician (CPhT) and the mother of Gabri, Samantha, and Courtney and wife of Paul. Though Paul began working in Corvallis almost a year ago, the whole family did not make the final move to Corvallis with their dog and bearded dragon lizard until this past summer. Shelly was born in Crookston, Minnesota and baptized and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church in Crookston. She and Paul were married in August of 1997. Shelly's interests include figure skating, reading and walking.

Joel Davis is definitely not a new face to Grace Lutheran Church. He has been attending Grace, since he and Laura were married and both their children, Sarah and Aaron were baptized and raised at Grace Lutheran. Sarah, a freshman at Corvallis High School, was confirmed here at Grace this past October and Aaron is in 8th grade at Linus Pauling Middle School. Joel was baptized and confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church and after attending evening confirmation classes with Sarah and Aaron and his many years participating in the life of Grace decided to "officially" become a member.

Lois Erstad is retired from her work as a speech therapist and social worker and has now made her permanent home in Albany. She was born in Bryant, South Dakota, and baptized and confirmed at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bryant. Lois has three adult children, Jason, Lauren and Kristina. From the time of graduating with several degrees in social work and speech language pathology, she has traveled, lived and worked continuously in places throughout the United States. Lois' interests are birdwatching, animals, books, sports, hiking and rock hunting.

Carol Lynne Freeman is retired from her previous work as a kindergarten assistant and orchardist caring for 500 fruit trees on her's and Don's previous acreage in Canby, Oregon. She and her husband, Don have a son, Brian, daughter, Kellie, granddaughter, Averi and grandson, Luke. Carol was born in Tacoma, WA but while still a young child her family moved to Corvallis, and she was baptized in her family home by the pastor of Zion Lutheran Church. Later, she was confirmed at Zion Lutheran. She and Don have returned to Corvallis after having left 50 years ago. They have renovated and are living in the home in which she was baptized as a young child. Carol loves exercising, going to the beach and spending time with her grandchildren.

Don Freeman is retired from his previous work as an operations manager in the beverage industry. Carlsbad, New Mexico is the town where he was born, but his family moved often during his school years. During his high school years, they moved to Corvallis where he attended CHS for three years and OSU for two years. He and Carol were married in May of 1966. In addition to the children and grandchildren mentioned above, he has two younger brothers and a sister. Don was baptized at West Linn Lutheran Church in West Linn, Oregon where he and Carol were members for many years prior to their membership here. Don enjoys outdoor activities and the time spent with his grandchildren.



**Welcome
Our New
Members**

 Join us on
facebook

Like us on facebook:

Grace Lutheran Church-
ELCA-Corvallis

**There are several
Grace Lutheran
Church facebook
pages. The above
title will get you to
our page.**

(continued)

New Members at Grace Cont.

Women's Luncheon



March 9
2nd Thursday's
Women's
Luncheon at
Kimhoa's
at 11:45am

March 28
4th Tuesday's
Women's
Luncheon at
New Morning
Bakery
at 11:45am

James (Jim) Edward Hemming is retired from his life's work as a wildlife biologist and has made his home in Corvallis with his wife, Nancy. Jim was born and baptized in Arcadia, Wisconsin at the Presbyterian Church in Arcadia. Shortly afterwards his family moved to Minneapolis until he was 14 when they then moved back to Wisconsin to St. Croix Falls where he was confirmed in the Presbyterian church. After graduating from the University of Montana in Missoula, he and his first wife moved to Alaska where he worked in caribou research, and later as an environmental consultant. Jim has a daughter, Pam, married to son-in-law, Jack; they have a 16 year old son, Tom. Jim's son, Paul, is married to Laura, and they have two children, Sierra, age 11, and Blake, age 8. Jim met Nancy in Alaska, and they were married in 1978. Jim enjoys camping, fly fishing, hunting, woodworking, jewelry making, and gardening.

Nancy Bond Hemming was born in Corvallis to Carl E. and Lenora J. Bond. Her father was a professor of fisheries at OSU, and her mother was a personnel secretary for the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. Thus, it is not surprising that she received a B.A. in aquatic biology from OSU and did post-graduate work in botany and fisheries. When she moved to Alaska in the early 70's, she worked as a habitat biologist and later began a solo practice in environmental assessment and planning. In Anchorage, she became an active member of Amazing Grace Lutheran Church. She and Jim also developed and operated an oyster and blue mussel farm in Alaska for approximately ten years. In the 80's, she and Jim purchased land near McMinnville, Oregon and begin splitting their time between Alaska and Oregon. They built a vineyard on their land in Oregon when they finally made a permanent move to the state but sold it in 2014 to move to Corvallis to be closer to Nancy's mother. Nancy's hobbies and interests include weaving, knitting, camping, fly fishing, yoga, playing mah jong, studying French, and traveling.

Linda Noland is retired from her previous occupation as an operating room registered nurse. She was born in Marshalltown, Iowa and was baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wellsburg, Iowa. Linda was raised on a farm in Iowa with four sisters and two brothers. After work and formal education in Iowa and South Dakota, Linda moved to San Diego where she lived and worked for 30 years. Following the death of her first husband, she moved to Oregon, met Tim Noland, and they married in 2008. Linda's interests are traveling, golf and reading.

Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31st

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2017, to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to Grace Lutheran.

Go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Want to know more about Thrivent? Ask Sue Musil — 541-745-5511.

The church **Constitution** has been updated. You can request a copy from the office, or peruse the copy on the office counter in your spare time.

Grace Personnel & March Birthdays



Grace Personnel

*Pastor Netsie Griffith &
Pastor Wendell Hendershott*

Director of Discipling Ministries - Donna King
Director of Music Ministries - Br. Christopher Buckley
Organist - Sunghée Kim
Custodian - Sam McKay
Nursery - Tiana Posler
Office Administrator - Carol Terrill
Office Assistant - Jody Parker
Bookkeeper - Robin Comforto
Prayer Chain - Cathy Mueller & Bruce Stephens
Facebook Administrator - Sue Speulda

If you would like a visitation or to schedule an appointment with a member of the ministerial staff, please call the office at 541.757.1600. You are welcome to leave a message on the answering machine at any hour.

Visit our Grace web page at: www.grace97330.org

Teams & Committees

Property Committee - Ron Larson, 541.752.0754
Communications Committee
 Randy Joss, 541.929.9360
Sunday Hospitality
 Dayle Christensen, 541.752.6233
Reception Hospitality - Position Open
Events Hospitality - Molly Hallgrimson, 541.753.8581
Christian Education Team
 Deaconess Donna King, 541.757.6636
Altar Guild - Linda Samuels, 541.929.4222
Worship & Music Committee
 Michael Beachley, 541.754-5501
Finance Committee - Hal Brauner, 541.753.0023
Personnel Committee - Iona Trapp, 541.207.3886
Hospital Visitation Team - Jim Wernz, 541.929.6794
Healing Prayer Team - Sue Davis, 541.924.2922
Mission Groups - Bob Saathoff, 541.929.3045
Stewardship Committee - Dave Lundahl, 541.757.1358

Pastoral Counseling Center
 Dr. Julie Evans, Ph.D., Clinical Director 541.753.9217

Campus Ministry at Luther House
 Jim Norlie, Pastor, 541.753.5213

Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers
 Norma Moody, 541.754.2555



Stan Miles	3/03
Shelley Chamberlin	3/04
Ron Larson	3/05
Adele Neukomm	3/05
Jaya Lapham	3/07
Michael Kinch	3/09
Shelly Lundahl	3/09
Becky Kiersky	3/10
Kathy Vohland	3/16
Todd Weber	3/19
Doris Peters	3/20
Carol Guard	3/20
Leighton Nichols	3/21
Diane Stadsvold	3/21
Maia Gelser	3/21
Jacqueline Joss	3/22
Carol Kamke	3/24
Phillip King	3/24
Scott Shaff	3/25
Allie Palmgren	3/25
Peggy Custer	3/26
Wanda Parrott	3/27
MaryJane Weber	3/28
Kathy Farnsworth	3/28
Marilyn Lesmeister	3/29



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Women's Winter Retreat

How many of you have seen Darlene Leklum and Marna Renshaw zooming down a long hill on a child's sled? Who has heard Anne Orwick break up an audience with her storytelling in a Scandinavian accent – or Jaya Conser Lapham sharing a poem about her childhood in a fishing family? Have you enthusiastically toasted our new member Lois Erstad? How many have snowshoed under a full moon high in the Cascades? The 12 women who attended the Holden Village Women's Retreat Feb. 10-13 can affirm all those experiences.



The heart of our retreat – “Beautiful Messes” – was a series of text studies of biblical women humiliated by their society and seemingly by God. The scriptural accounts were crossed with stories of contemporary women similarly devastated, but they (both biblical and recent) persevered and made major contributions to their (and our) world. Blessing accompanied these women on their journeys, and blessing for many was the result. Most women present had had similar hard times but are also blessed every day. “Go in pieces. Love and serve the Lord” was the benediction, offered around an array of broken pots and candles. Pastor Kacey Hahn of Renton, WA, led these sessions, joined by Lacey Brown a gifted musician from Seattle, WA.



Washington's poet laureate, Elizabeth Austen, shared poetry around the theme of blessing. The joy of well-chosen words! A few retreaters were inspired to write our own poems.

Laura Norton, a noted calligrapher, shared her art and her experiences with the makers of the St. John's Bible, a hand-written and hand-illustrated Bible of great beauty. A copy of it is used for reading the Gospel at Grace Lutheran Church.

Other optional sessions included “Ephemeral Snow Sculptures,” “Painting as Meditation,” “Japanese Notans,” “Glass Fusion Art,” and a candlelight labyrinth under the full moon. As always at Holden Village there were myriad art opportunities, the glorious bookstore and library, rich conversations, and hiking – in this case cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

Worship included Prayer around the Cross, Holden Vespers in the space where it was first offered, and Now the Feast and Celebration, which included a very meaningful sermon that began “Oh, crap!”

(continued)



Women's Winter Retreat Cont.

As one person observed, "In four days, we never saw dirt." Holden Village, 3,000 feet up in the Cascades, receives an average of 270" of snow per year, which will be surpassed this year. When the Grace women arrived, Holden Village had received 6 feet of snow during the previous 10 days. Paths are not shoveled; they are stomped down with snowshoes. Ice steps are cut into sloping paths. Yaktrax are useful.

The 12 women (among 52 present) returned to Grace with renewed purpose, joyful hearts, and deeper friendships. We appreciate the assistance of the Grace Foundation, which brought into reality this special time.

- Sharon Rosenkoetter



Who's Who @ Grace



Joy Martin

For the past couple of years Grace Lutheran Church member Joy Martin has volunteered in our office on Monday mornings. You may know Joy, she attends the first service on Sundays and when I asked her how long she has been a member of Grace she said, "Forever!" Joy said her husband did work on the new part of Grace's sanctuary back when the services were in the Ronnenkamp Hall.

Back about 7 years ago when Marlene Johnson attended Grace and worked in the office on Wednesdays doing attendance she trained Joy on how to do the attendance. Then Pastor Wendell asked Joy to come in on Mondays to volunteer so we could have someone present between 8:30 and 10:30am. Joy would do such chores as turn on the monitor, collect the clipboards and the usher slips and file them. She also mailed out the weekly bulletins to a few members who aren't able to attend worship services and mailed out the monthly Grace Gatherings. Joy gave out lunches to the homeless if needed and also if necessary made up the sack lunches.

When Marlene and her husband Vernon left to Minnesota Joy took over doing the attendance. Joy said the longer you're there the more you know. Joy said, "I loved my job. I loved getting to know who the people were, getting to know about our church, getting to know the Pastors, and getting to know Barb Bunch." She said that she liked organizing the attendance into 1st and 2nd service and then entering the names into the software program, Church Windows. Because of the update to the software Church Windows, Joys says now that she is 93 it's best that she retires and lets someone else do the job.

Joy is also a teller at Grace and she loves that job too. Twice a week Joy plays bridge on Mondays and Fridays, and she also plays once a month on Wednesdays.

Now that Joy is no longer doing Monday morning office work between 8:30 and 10:30am, we are looking for someone who would like to take over her position. Do you think you might like to do this volunteer job that you would just love? Contact Carol Terrill or Pastor Wendell or Pastor Netsie if you would be interested. We would love to have you!

By Jody Parker

International Women's Day Event
Girl Rising

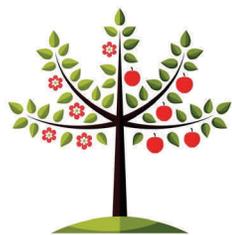
An inspiring documentary film about empowering girls through education
Wednesday, March 8th, 7-9 pm
 First Presbyterian Church, 114 SW 8th St., Corvallis
 Hosted by Friendship with Cambodia
 Co-sponsored by Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center

Interfaith Voices Live

Wednesday, March 15th, 7 pm
 First United Methodist Church, 1165 NW Monroe, Corvallis

Come meet the regular writers of Interfaith Voices who will spend a few minutes each talking about their faith community's perspective on politics and religion and a theological perspective that is unique or foundational to their beliefs.

Young & Old @ Grace



Grace Youth and Luther House students join the global move to plant a “Luthergarten” – and invite you to participate, too!

We think something growing, global, bearing gifts, begun, but never complete is the perfect way to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Sponsors from around the world are planting a “Luthergarten” of 500 trees in Wittenberg, Germany – and another 500 partner trees in their own hometowns – to mark Reformation 500. The garden tells a story that begins more than five centuries ago, then spreads around the world and into the future. Trees a gift of grace. They create space and connection between people, remind us of a life bigger than a focus on ourselves, bring shade, bear fruit, benefit ecosystems, and serve as tangible way to tell the story of the theology of the Reformation. Visit the Luthergarten website at <http://www.luthergarten.de/welcome.html> to learn more and to see the garden beginning.

We want to be part of this important project. Grace high school and middle school youth, and Luther House college students are working together to sponsor a tree in the Luthergarten in Wittenberg and a partner tree in Corvallis.

Please plan to join us at the Easter Breakfast on April 16th – all donations will help us participate in this garden of hope for the future!

Kids, invite your friends – it’s lots of fun!

Sunday School Friendship Sunday

Games • Prizes • Café • Art • 75 Service Projects!

March 5th

9:45 am – 10:45 am

in the basement
at Grace Lutheran Church

Plus: Chili Cookoff at 12:30 pm in Ronnenkamp Hall
to benefit our summer Day Camp!



75 Years of Grace: A Celebration of Memories and Imagination

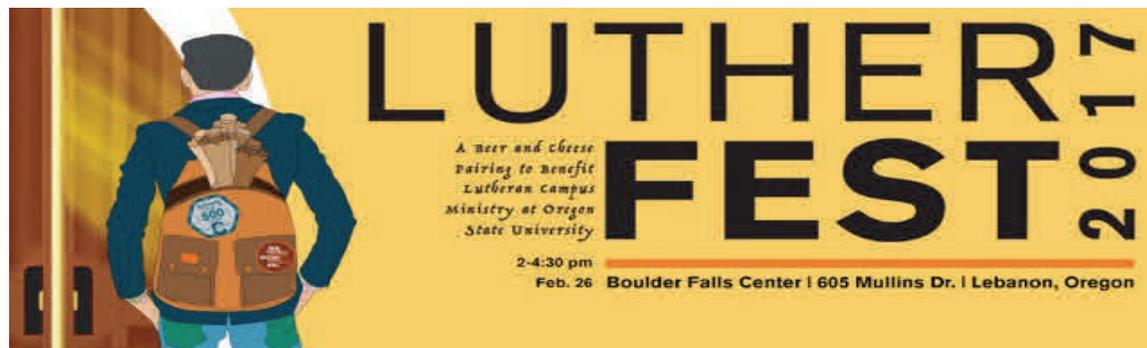
Sunday, March 26

9:45 - 10:45 am

Ronnenkamp Hall

A small group of us have been poring over the archives of Grace. We’ve found some great stories and photos, learned of daring steps forward (and a few troubling steps that have tripped us up,) and along the way have gained a sense of what energizes us as a congregation. Come join us for coffee & treats in Ronnenkamp as we ask ourselves, “What have we learned in 75 years of Grace? How does it prepare us for ventures yet unknown?”

Luther House / Lutherwood / Holden Village



Another successful Lutherfest was held on February 26th at the Boulder Falls Event Center in Lebanon. Grace Lutheran did not win the new and highly coveted LutherFest Traveling Trophy — however, if we increase our attendance at the event next year, we have a chance!



Lutherwood Annual Meeting

The annual Meeting of the Camp Lutherwood Association was held at Faith Lutheran Church in Albany on the afternoon of February 4 this year. Attending on our behalf were Dana Howe, Matt Weeber and Pastor Wendell Hendershott.

View the full list of upcoming Lutherwood projects
and job opportunities on their website!
www.lutherwoodoregon.org



On behalf of Holden Village, I would like to announce that Holden Village is open to guests and volunteer staff after 4 years of mine remediation. This means we need your help! Staffing and volunteer needs can be found on Holden Village's website: www.holdenvillage.org and/or www.holdenvillage.org/volunteer/key-staffing-needs.

Debi Gustafson
Staff Recruiter
recruiting@holdenvillage.org

In other Holden news, Larry and Sharon Rosenkoetter will be working as staff in the Village from September 10-17 of this year. If you're planning a visit, please consider attending at the same time & join the fun!

Grace News

IMPORTANT CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

At the February Church Council meeting the following people were elected to the following offices for this next year:

- **President** – Bob Keith
- **Vice President** – Anne Orwick
- **Secretary** – Shelly Lundahl
- **Treasurer** – Hal Brauner
- **Financial Secretary** – Mary Stephens

Also, Sharon Rosenkoetter, was appointed to fill the one council vacancy which was not filled by election at our January Council meeting, so we have a full 12 member church council for this next year for which we are grateful.

A group of church council members, our pastors, Wendell and Netsie, and Deaconess Donna, shared a retreat experience together. February 24-26, at Camp Ma-gruder on the coast just south of Rockaway Beach. It was an invigorating, productive and inspirational time. While our travel weather was not the greatest, for our full day in camp on Saturday we were blessed with beautiful weather.

International Book Group -- *Globaliers*

Welcome, any and all, to our happy band, as we seek to explore new worlds beyond our country and culture. Books for discussion are voted on by the group each May. New meeting days are the **first Thursday of each month** except December. Time is 7 p.m. until approximately 8:30. Given the list early, we can tackle books ahead of date.

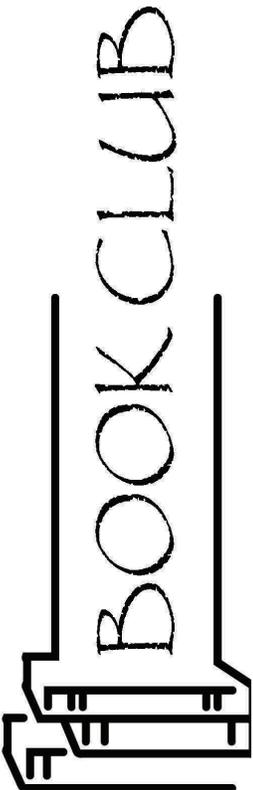
Questions? Please give me a call: Sharon Rosenkoetter 541-752-1846; sharon.rosenkoetter@oregonstate.edu.

March 2 ***Homegoing: A Novel*** by Yaa Gyasi
Led by Carol Kamke

April 6 ***They Would Never Hurt a Fly*** by S. Drakulic
Led by Carol Erickson

May 4 ***The Warmth of Other Suns*** by Isabel Wilkerson
Led by Darlene Leklem

June 1 ***Krakatoa*** by Simon Winchester
Led by Pastor Wendell



Grace Center / Grace News



The 28th annual fundraiser, **Grace Center's Jubilee**, is coming up soon. There is still time to reserve tickets. Like last year it will be a banquet dinner in the pleasant Adair Clubhouse, Saturday April 22nd, 5:00 - 8:30 pm. Festivities begin with delicious appetizers to live music in the garden. Silent auction items may be perused. The goal is to raise \$25,000 — funds needed to support our program. A variety of drink choices from local wineries and breweries will be available. Dinner will be a sit down buffet with an entertaining live auction during dessert. A 50/50 raffle winner will be drawn that evening. Tickets for the Jubilee are \$50 each and can be purchased from board members (Wayne Kradjan and Betty McCauley) or by phone at the Grace Center office, 541-754-8417.

For Thrivent members who are eligible to use Thrivent Choice dollars, Grace Center has been approved as a non-profit to receive members' designated contributions to charitable non-profits. The Thrivent Choice grant program engages members to support Thrivent's mission under state laws. If you have questions in using your Choice dollars or time limits on doing so, call Sue Musil at 541-745-5511. She's been very helpful to members.

- Betty McCauley

BOOK FAIR

Our church is having a Book Fair!

Looking for that perfect Easter gift for your kids or grandkids? Stop by our Book Fair and shop award-winning Bibles, books, and videos for kids. Save up to 50% PLUS free shipping on all titles.

**Stop by the Fireside Room
on Sunday, March 12th, 19th, and 26th*
to get faith-filled books and videos for your kids.**

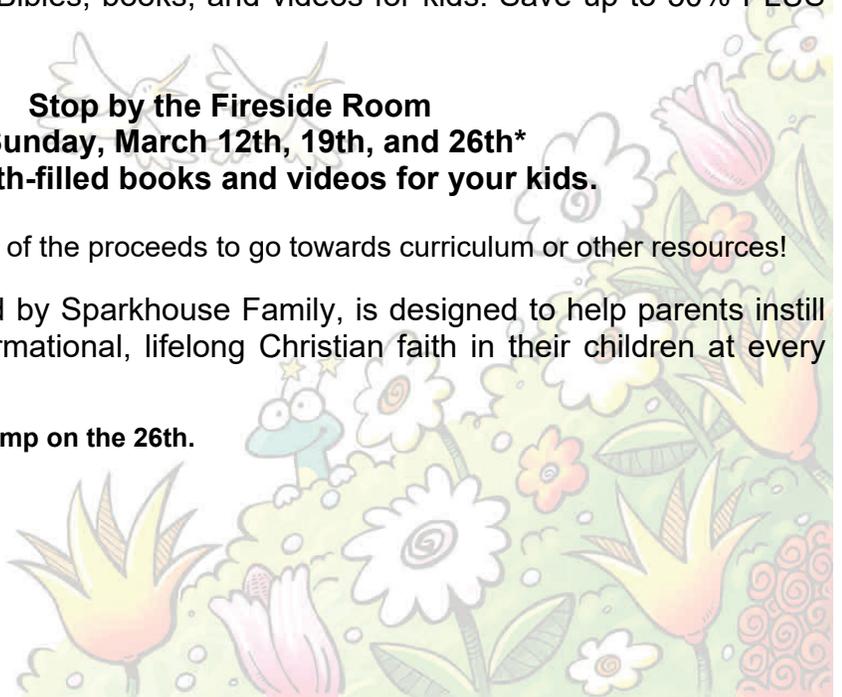
Our church will earn 20% of the proceeds to go towards curriculum or other resources!

Our Book Fair, sponsored by Sparkhouse Family, is designed to help parents instill an open-hearted, transformational, lifelong Christian faith in their children at every age and stage.

*Table might be in Ronnenkamp on the 26th.



www.grace97330.org
Check the calendar
tab for updates



Council Meeting Minutes

Congregational Council Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2017
6:55—9:10 pm

Attendance:

Pr. Netsie Griffith
Rebekah Hadlock
Pr. Wendell Hendershott
Dick Junge
Donna King
Ardis Koester
Jaya Lapham
Shelly Lundahl
Sue Musil
Lew Nelson
Anne Orwick
Jim Wernz

Absent:

Hal Brauner

Church Council Reports
are always available
in the church office
for you to read.

Devotions were led by Bob Keith reading 1 Cor. 12:1-11 on the variety of spiritual gifts.

Rebekah Hadlock was welcomed as a new Council member and Hal Brauner and Lew Nelson as re-elected returning members.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent Agenda including the Council Minutes of the January 9, 2017, the Executive Committee Minutes of January 30, 2017, the Stewardship Committee Report of January 11, 2017, and the Property Committee Report of January 26, 2017 was accepted. Moved, seconded, and passed. (MSP)

Item removed from the Consent Agenda:

Grace Foundation asked the Council to approve new three-year terms on the GLCF Board for Carolyn Warloe and Bill Strohlein, and new one-year *ex officio* terms for Pr. Wendell Hendershott and Jeff Beck. The terms were approved, MSP, 1 abstention.

New Business:

Election of Council officers: Bob Keith, President; Anne Orwick, Vice President; and Shelly Lundahl, Secretary. In absentia, Hal Brauner, Treasurer, and Mary Stephens, Financial Secretary were elected by acclamation. Sharon Rosenkoetter offered to fill the vacant Council position for one year, subject to re-election at the next Annual Meeting. Her offer was accepted, MSP.

Ratification of new members included the following persons: Michelle (Shelly) and Gabrielle (Gabri) Bilotta, Joel Davis, Lois Erstad, Don and Carol Freeman, Nancy and Jim Hemming, and Linda Noland. They were accepted and will be received on February 19, 2017. MSP

Council sign-ups for devotions and Committee liaisons were completed.

A thank you was extended to all the ministries and persons responsible for the Annual Report, especially Hal Dick. A thank you was also extended to Shelly Lundahl for arranging for the lunch before the Annual Meeting.

A discussion of safe conversation activities within the congregation followed. Publicity for the new Welcome Statement was discussed. Possible locations and methods include the website, Facebook, printed and framed statement for the picture wall below the Reconciling In Christ statement, video screen in the entryway, Grace Gatherings, use in TV commercials near holidays, vinyl press-ons for the high areas of the Fireside Room. Some publicity may only use the banner statements.

Carol Terrill and Jody Parker requested funds to attend the Lutheran Staff Association Conference in Lake Coeur d'Alene, ID. A total of \$983.00 will be granted from the Thrivent Choice Funds. MSP.

75th Anniversary plans were discussed. In addition to the dinner on March 11, the Sunday worship on March 12 will feature young families visioning the next 75 years, and worship on March 26 will include Martha Maier, former associate pastor.

Continuing Business:

Council meeting with Rev. Susan Kintner has been tentatively rescheduled for March 13, 2017.

Council Retreat February 24-26 at Camp Magruder plans were discussed and

Church Council Con't



President:

Bob Keith

Vice President:

Anne Howard-Orwick

Secretary:

Shelly Lundahl

Treasurer:

Hal Brauner

Financial Secretary:

Mary Stephens

Council Members:

Pr. Netsie Griffith

Pr. Wendell Hendershott

Rebekah Hadlock

Dick Junge

Ardis Koester

Jaya Lapham

Sue Musil

Lew Nelson

Sharon Rosenkoetter

Jim Wernz

sign-up sheets passed around.

Council members received copies of the revised Constitution for their notebooks.

Officers/Staff Reports:

Pr. Netsie highlighted from her written report the Women's Retreat at Holden Village that will be attended by 12 women from Grace. She also reported on plans for the Reformation @ 500 celebration next fall.

Pr. Wendell called attention to plans for Lent in his report. He also noted the Chili Cook-off March 5 and described the use of the on-going year ahead calendar.

Donna King, Discipling Minister, highlighted the up-coming activities and educational opportunities. The High Schoolers, Middle Schoolers and Luther House students are planning to jointly sponsor a tree in the Luthergarten in Germany and one in Corvallis as part of the global project for Reformation 500. Proceeds from the Easter Breakfast will be used for this effort.

Hal Brauner, Treasurer was attending the City Council meeting, but from the Treasurer's report it was noted January contributions were below budget partly as a result of January 1 being a Sunday and January 8 only one service due to the snow and ice storm.

Closing Prayer was led by Pr. Netsie Griffith.

Adjournment,

Ardis W. Koester, Retiring Secretary
with editing by Shelly Lundahl, Incoming Secretary

As promised in the Sunday bulletin, here's the list of those providing transportation:

Thanks to our wonderful, dedicated Grace on the Move Drivers, who provide and/or coordinate rides to worship and Bible Study for those in need of transportation: Ron & Kay Larson, Marna Renshaw, Wayne & Carolyn Kradjan, Darlene & Jim Leklem, Anne & Tom Orwick, Debbie Kuehn, Judy Winkler, Norma Moody, Kathy Vohland *(if you provide this service and your name is not here, please let the church office know, 541-757-1600)*

As promised in the Sunday bulletin, here's the list of our Sunday Musicians:

All are grateful to the many members dedicated to bringing the gift of music to our Sunday worship services. Our Director of Music Ministries, Christopher Buckley, lends expertise and dedication to provide us with joyful music. Sunghee Kim, accompanies the choir and plays organ for our early worship service. We are also grateful for the many volunteers who provide special music from time to time. In addition we want to recognize those who provide music Sunday in and Sunday out:

- **Chancel Choir:** Sue Davis, Carol Erickson, Netsie Griffith, Ardis Koester, Jaya Lapham, Norma Moody, Anne Orwick, Sue Speulda, Ellen Swanson Topness, Donna Wernz, Sandie Williams, Glenn Chaffin, Mason Cooper, Steven Evans-Renteria, Wendell Hendershott, Jerry Koester, Marshall Hill-Tanquist, Noel Vineyard, Jim Wernz
- **Grace Alive!:** Michael Beachley, Wendell Hendershott, Tom Kiersky, Dave Lundahl, Angie Kingsley

Coming Soon




Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Living in God's amazing grace

11th Annual Chili Cook-Off & Potluck
March 5th @ 12:30 pm
Ronnenkamp Hall



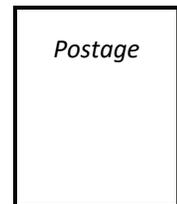
Grace Lutheran Church

Join us for our 11th annual Chili Cook-Off. Bring entries of a chili and/or a complimentary side-dish to share by 12:30 p.m. You are encouraged to bring a muffin tin to taste all the entries and to help judge the People's Choice Award.

A donation will be received to promote youth ministries.

Grace Lutheran Church

Corner of Kings & Harrison
435 NW 21st Street
Corvallis, Oregon 97330
541.757.1600
office@grace97330.org



Don't forget to set your clocks forward before you go to bed on Saturday, March 11th. Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 12th!

Save the Date

- **March 5th** — Friendship Sunday & Chili Cook-Off
- **March 26th** — Martha Meier, Guest Preacher
- **April 8th** — Church-wide Spring Cleaning Work Party/Lunch
- **April 16th** — Easter Sunday
- **July 10-14** — Summer Day Camp
- **August 11-13** — Family Camp @ Lutherwood

Grace Gatherings deadline for the April issue is March 20th
Send articles/photos to office@grace97330.org