



Grace GATHERINGS

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Whoever you are, Whatever your past, However you live, Whomever you love – You are welcome here.



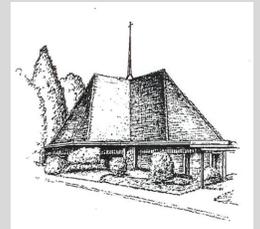
We believe that God loves us without regard for our race or culture, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, relationship status, physical or mental health, life circumstance or socio-economic situation. Therefore, we extend that same grace-filled love to you.

The work of welcome is hard; the way of love is always a work in process. But we're committed to the biblical call of reconciliation and to change what we need to, both personally and as a community, so that we – all of us together – become a living sign of God's extravagant grace.

In Christ's name, all are welcome here. We are honored by your presence and by your participation in helping us make this vision of welcome a reality for all people.

*Our MISSION is
"to follow Christ into our
community and world
manifesting with caring
hearts and helping hands
the good news of the
Kingdom of God."*

*Our VISION is
"to be a Christ-centered
Community who
welcomes all, grows in
faith, and reaches out
In love."*



Congregational Meeting



Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual meeting of Grace Lutheran Church is set for

Sunday, January 28, 2018 at 1:00 pm

Business at Hand: We are to elect new Congregation Council and Synod Assembly members. Also we will consider and adopt a budget for 2018. At the time of this notification, we are looking at the possibility of reduction of church staff hours and salaries for at least part of the year in order to have a balanced budget.

A sandwich lunch precedes the meeting in Ronnenkamp Hall



This prayer list is a compilation of the prayer requests we have received at Grace from Nov 21 to Dec 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.



Prayers

Please pray for those not included on this list, by request or accidental omission. Pray for those who are infirm and/or secluded.

Thanks:

- Thank you from Bev Raze for all you have been doing to help — for the food, words of encouragement, and prayer
- Thanks from Luther House for the use of our parking lot during the 2017 football season — they raised \$1,925 for the support of Luther House.

Illnesses and Other Concerns:

- The McBurney Family
- John King, Donna King's husband, as he continues to recover from surgery
- Bev Raze, for continued healing and improved health
- Helen Hildebrandt, for health and healing
- Walt Thies, for recovery from surgery
- Hal Brauner, for good health and healing from recent medical procedures, and for his brother Ray, who is also not feeling well
- Lee Hendershott, Pr. Wendell's father, for health and peace
- Jack McIntyre, friend of the Raze's, for peace and comfort as he goes through hospice care
- Sandie and Ted Williams, for comfort, health, and peace
- Wang Xiyue, a friend of Jaya Lapham, currently imprisoned in Iran
- Robert Grow, friend of Jaya Lapham, for peace and comfort during cancer treatment
- Kathy Vohland, for her recent cancer diagnosis
- John Whiteis' mother Juanita, for healing after a heart attack
- Michele Peters, friend of Molly Hallgrimson, for treatment of cervical cancer
- Ulo Kiigemagi, for health and healing
- Anna Upenieks, for health and healing
- Carol Freeman, for health and peace

Death:

- Janet Dunfee
- Terrie Welty, former member of Grace
- Ruth Hibbard, grandmother to Anne Schroeder
- Pete Horn, relative of Marilyn and Art Bervin
- Wayne Bond, cousin of Nancy Hemming
- Janey Griffith Callahan Chin, Pr. Netsie's aunt

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.

Pastor's Page

Ring out the Old. Ring in the New.

So the New Year's admonition goes. In terms of advice it's not a bad concept. There's always 'old stuff' we need to cast off or leave behind. Likewise, a new number of the year is not the only 'new' we will likely be asked to embrace or have an opportunity to grasp as the future evolves. In fact it is often customary to commit to a new resolve. The problem with New Year's resolutions as they have usually been practiced is that we look to our own determination and ability to carry them out. Some people do this pretty successfully. Others fail miserably. Still others start out well but lose steam and fall short of an initial goal.

Trusting solely in our own abilities may quickly lead to discouragement. Or, if we are fortunate to succeed because of our unique gifts, we risk placing a false level of trust in ourselves which likely will precipitate a fall. As St. Paul reminds us, "So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall." (1 Corinthians 10:12) Thus, the bad news is that we are a people vulnerable to mistakes, failure and shortcomings. The good news, however, is that we also have great potential, capacity and promise to bring goodness, life and light into our lives and into our world.

For us, as Christians, this good news is based on a new covenant in which God continually makes **us** new. This newness comes about because God continually forgives and redeems our mistakes, failures and shortcomings. God continues to work through us and in spite of us. God continues to push us out of our comfort zones, so that we discover new abilities, skills and possibilities to which we were previously blinded. And, it doesn't just happen once a year, but it happens all year through.

Lest we forget, this 'new covenant' into which we are invited calls us to:

*live among God's faithful people,
hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and
strive for justice and peace in all the earth (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 236)*

As we begin a new year and ponder both the challenges of 2018 and our hopes for a better world for all, this new covenant is not something easily achieved. We enter into it and carry it out only with God's help and guidance. Regardless of earthly powers, principalities, and institutions this is the covenant in which "we live, move and have our being." (Acts 17:28) Thus, may our most fervent resolve be to say, "I ask God to help and guide me."

Grateful anew for the possibility and promise of being made new,

—Pr. Netsie

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@grace97330.org

Pastor Wendell's

Days Off

Tuesday & Friday





Jan 11th
2nd Thursday's
Women's
Luncheon at
Round Table
Clubhouse
@ 11:45am

Nov 23rd
4th Tuesday's
Women's
Luncheon at
New Morning
Bakery

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Once again, you are invited to join us on Tuesday afternoons for an engaging time exploring God's Word as it comes to us through scripture, through faith journeys, and through new insights gleaned through our corporate study, discussion and thinking.

In 2018 we resume our weekly gatherings on Tuesday, January 9th from 1-2:30 pm in the Fireside Room. For now, we are concluding our diligent and enlightening trek through the gospel of Matthew. Yet, we are also planning for our next unit of study after our completion of this first gospel opening the New Testament.

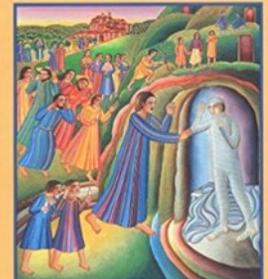
Study of the gospels always presents one with aspects of some of the more challenging of Jesus' parables. Thus, we will be delving into a study of parables of judgment with the help of Robert Farrar Capon, and his book by that title. Judgment has been a concept that has traditionally been approached with fear, trembling and foreboding. Yet Capon helps us to see the promise and good news of judgment.

We will be ordering books around the middle of January. If you would like to join us for this new unit and like a book ordered, please leave your name and phone # in the church office indicating such.



Tuesday
BIBLE STUDY

THE PARABLES
OF
JUDGMENT



Robert Farrar Capon

Pastor Wendell's Class

By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism

Pastor Wendell class on Luther's Small Catechism continues on January 14. The class book, *By Heart*, reviews the five chief parts of the catechism, written just in time for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, is encouraging each congregation to take a new look at the Small Catechism on this Anniversary of the Reformation. This is an excellent opportunity to delve into this handbook of our faith. The five chief parts are The Ten Commandments, The Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Holy Baptism with Confession, and Holy Communion. Each month we will look at a different part until we cover the whole catechism.

Our class usually meets the second Sunday of each month in Ronnenkamp Hall. Because there are a number of offerings for adults this autumn, the Sunday of the class may vary from month to month, but we hope to have plenty of notice to let you know when these will be,

If you would Like the Book: You may order the book *By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small catechism* by calling or texting Pastor Wendell at: 541-223-3503.

Sunday Adult Bible Study with Frank & Sue

January 7	A Sincere Faith	Daniel 1.8-21
January 14	A Bold Faith	Daniel 3.19-23,26-28
January 21	A Prayer for an Obedient Faith	Daniel 9.4-8,15-19
January 28	A Strong Faith	Daniel 10.10-19



Year-End Finances

At the end of every year people in the congregation are asking how we did financially. Each year is a little different.

Since we had a very large gift at the end of 2016, we have been in the black for all of 2017. That is an amazing accomplishment, because that means that the rest of the members of the congregation were also regular givers as well. So thank you for your faithfulness. You are an amazing and generous congregation. You have been faithful in many ways, not only through monetary contributions, but also in the giving of your time and abilities and in your stewardship and care of the earth.

One of the realities facing us is that we don't think we will see that same large gift again this December. There are some other possibilities however:

One is that we may need to make some budget cuts for 2018. If that were to happen it would probably mean cutting the time and salaries of our pastors and possibly other staff. Be assured that changes in staffing would necessitate the wisdom and discernment of the whole congregation before that would take place.

Another possibility is that there may be a generous gift or two that someone is contemplating. With potential changes in tax laws, it might be advantageous to take those in 2017 rather than wait until 2018. Large donations come our way from time to time, but we don't count on them. We rejoice when that happens, but it is not always forthcoming.

A third possibility is that we pay off our mortgage. With matching funds from the Foundation and another generous donor, we are less than \$40,000 from that prospect. Last month we had reported that we were even closer, but that was an error. Still, it is possible to pay off our mortgage freeing our large mortgage payment for other ministry. It is nearly within our reach. By now, you should have received a letter from the Stewardship Committee about how that might come to fruition.

We never know until the end of the year just what the books will show. What we do know is that God has been faithful to this congregation for over 75 years. God has given us the resources to be resilient. We expect that whatever happens, God's faithfulness will ensure that there will be a congregation on this corner of Kings and Harrison which will follow Christ into the world around us to touch the lives of others with the good news of the gospel.

Columbarium Conversation

This congregation has talked about a columbarium on our property since 1990. A columbarium is a set of niches where cremated remains of a number of individuals may repose. The little wall in the garden space at the west entrance was erected with that in mind. It seems there was a lack of consensus about how to proceed after that and interest had been waning.

Yet that interest never completely died out and we have seen something of a resurgence of interest in the topic lately. With that in mind we are proposing a conversation between people interested in a columbarium, here on Grace property. It will be held Saturday, January 6 at 11:00 in the Fireside Room.

“Winter Blues”?

The professionals at Hope and Wholeness Counseling (formerly known as Pastoral Counseling Center) can help you and yours with individual therapy and couples counseling to address winter’s depression, anxiety, stress, and substance abuse. We are skilled at integrating your faith and spirituality with the counseling – should you wish. PCC can bill all insurance plans, and we offer an adjusted fee schedule if you are uninsured or money is tight this time of year. Call 541-753-9217 to schedule an appointment. Our offices are conveniently located in Albany, Corvallis, and Lebanon.



WELCOME to our Nativity Cast Star and his Family

In November we welcomed to Grace one of our youngest members, **Lincoln White**, through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. It then took less than a month for him to assume a significant role in our worshipping community by playing the baby Jesus in our December 17th Nativity Worship.

On the day that Lincoln was baptized, November 19th, we also received as members by transfer from Trinity Lutheran Church, Gresham, **Lincoln’s mother, Ashley, his older sister Lillian (Lilly), and his older brother, Oliver (Ollie)**. On the day that Lincoln starred as baby Jesus his siblings Lilly and Ollie also starred as ‘baa—ing and singing’ sheep. During that same worship Ollie and Lilly were also publically welcomed to our table of Holy Communion. We are grateful that Ashley, a teacher by profession, is also serving as a team teacher for our Pre-School Sunday School class this year. Ashley also looks forward to participating in our visitation ministry as well as providing meals for those in need of such support. Though the Whites have been worshipping with us for over a year, we are thrilled that husband and father, Robert White, was employed locally after finishing graduate school which allowed the family to remain in Corvallis and begin to feel more rooted.



Welcome to Grace Lutheran, Whites! “We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.” (ELW, p. 236)



Happy Birthday!

- 01/01 George Custer
- 01/01 Tessa Gourley
- 01/02 Sylvia Aulerich
- 01/02 Linda Burt
- 01/02 Margaret Samuels
- 01/02 Julie Erickson
- 01/03 David Lundahl
- 01/05 Jenny Olsen
- 01/11 Bill Strohle
- 01/11 Inge Daeschel
- 01/12 Scott Berdahl
- 01/14 Julie Koenig
- 01/15 Dorothy Miles
- 01/16 Georgine Thompson Sanders
- 01/20 Daniel Strand
- 01/21 Kathleen Kuehlwein
- 01/21 Midori Stock
- 01/21 Sarah Wayt
- 01/22 Tom Cardinali
- 01/25 Aaron Reher
- 01/25 Kelly Kiersky
- 01/25 Eli Weber
- 01/26 Lew Nelson
- 01/26 Aaron Kiersky
- 01/26 Cameron Osborn
- 01/28 Shane Mueller
- 01/29 Carl Grosz
- 01/31 Mark Speulda
- 01/31 Michael Hadlock

Grace Personnel

**Pastor Netsie Griffith &
Pastor Wendell Hendershott**

Director of Discipling Ministries - Donna King
Director of Music Ministries - Br. Christopher Buckley
Organist/Pianist - Sunghee Kim
Custodian - Sam McKay
Nursery - Nate Olsen
Office Administrator - Carol Terrill
Office Assistant - Jody Parker
Bookkeeper - Robin Comforto
Prayer Chain - Cathy Mueller & Bruce Stephens
Facebook Administrator - Rebekah Hadlock

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

Mary Ann Brenan, 541.230.1696

Sunday Hospitality

Dayle Christensen, 541.602.2818

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 - Nancy Strohle, 541.926.5747

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

Hope & Wholeness Counseling

Dr. Julie Evans, Ph.D., Clinical Director 541.753.9217

Campus Ministry at Luther House

Mike Ostrom, Pastor, 541.753.5213

Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers

Norma Moody, 541.754.2555

Globaliers — Monthly Book Club

2018
First Thursday of Each Month
Fireside Room @ 7pm

This looks to be a promising year for **Grace's Global Book Club**. **All are welcome** for one, several, or all of the discussion sessions. Participants are encouraged to read the book before the discussion, but those who are interested in the title may come and listen in as well.

1-4-18 **Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis**, J.D. Vance
Led by Ardis Koester

Hillbilly Elegy is a personal account by a self-proclaimed "hillbilly" who has been very successful in the world of finance after graduating from an Ivy League law school. His economic trajectory is uncommon for one of his lower working class/Appalachian roots. The author shares his interpretation, which also gives clues as to the popularity of Donald Trump in the Appalachian region.

2-1 **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**, Maya Angelou
Led by Pastor Wendell

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings (great title!) is the first of six volumes of the autobiography of Maya Angelou, the highly gifted singer, dancer, poet, world traveler, and spokesperson for Southern Blacks and disenfranchised people everywhere. In her childhood in rural Arkansas, Ms. Angelou experienced extreme poverty, racial discrimination, and sexual abuse, but she also knew a firm-but-loving grandmother and a strong Christian community. From this restricted base, she launched into a wider world than most of us will ever know.

3-1 **The Sympathizer: A Novel**, Viet Thanh Nguyen
Led by Carol Erickson

4-5 **Turn Right at Machu Pichu**, Mark Adams
Led by Carol Warloe

5-3 **Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity**, Katherine Boo
Led by Juan Guzman

6-7 **The Girl Who Wrote in Silk**, Kelli Estes
Led by Darlene Leklem

9-6 **From the Land of Green Ghosts: A Burmese Odyssey**, Pascal Khoo Thwe

10-4 **When Heaven and Earth Changed Places**, Le Ly Hayslip with Jay Wurts

Grace Gallery

On display until January 15 are watercolors by longtime artist (and Grace member) Marjorie Kinch. They are lovely scenes from nature and from rural villages. Thanks also to husband, Michael, for helping to put up the pictures. The rest of our schedule is as follows:

◆ December 2-January 15	Marjorie Kinch
◆ January 16- March 1	Cy Stadvold
◆ March 2-April 15	Linda Burt
◆ April 16-June 1	Rev. Joel Nickel
◆ June 2-August 1	Kathryn Honey
◆ August 2—September 15	Jim Wernz
◆ September 16—October 31	Mary Stephens

We will be planning a woodworkers' display. Calling all woodworkers to produce small items for sharing. Anyone else who wishes to have a showing in the Grace Gallery, please share your interest with one of the pastors.

Luther House News

Lutherfest 2018

Mark your calendars! Lutherfest will be on Sunday, February 25, 2018 from 2:00-4:30pm at the Boulder Falls Center in Lebanon, Oregon; the doors will open at 1:30pm. This year we are excited to feature cheeses from at least three creameries who have not participated in Lutherfest before. We will again have a photo section for you and your friends to capture the moment in a biergarten-style setting.

Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of December and can be purchased online from the Luther House web site. For the second year, the Lutherfest Traveling Trophy will be presented to the congregation with the most guests in attendance. Consider buying a table of 8 for \$350 to enjoy the afternoon with seven of your friends! Consider buying a \$50 individual ticket as a Christmas gift for that hard-to-shop-for person in your life.

Rite of Installation

On Sunday, January 21st at 3:00 pm, Pastor Mike Ostrom will be officially installed as pastor at Luther House. The service will be held at Grace Lutheran and will feature the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer liturgy, gifts of students, and worship leadership by Oregon Synod staff. A special offering will be collected to support the ministry of Luther House. Join us for worship and a reception afterwards.

Camp Lutherwood News



Merry Christmas to you and your family! We hope your holiday season is filled with God's gifts of hope, peace, joy and the greatest gift of all- His son! We appreciate your support and prayers this year, and hope the memories you made at Lutherwood were some of the best from your 2017! See you in the new year!

Grace Center



Storybook Land trip — December 2017



Happy New Year from Grace Center!
Thank you for your support.

— Betty McCauley

Men's Cold Weather Shelter

Grace's week hosting the Corvallis Men's Cold Weather Shelter is upon us, and we still have a few spots to fill. Please either consult the sign-up sheets in the Fireside Room, or contact Sue Speulda for information on how you can help Grace help our homeless community. Sue can be reached at 541-929-4244 or susan.speulda@gmail.com.

Sherrie Day, Volunteer Recruiter for the Shelter, has passed on the following information:

So it has come to our attention that there are a couple of projects that would really provide help to the men at the Shelter. Wondered if you have any interest in helping with them? Just putting it out there in the interest of finding new solutions.

1. Personal laundry - Harry, the Shelter manager, has been doing some for the men but it has quickly become overwhelming along with all the regular laundry needs. There was some discussion about developing a partnership with South Side Suds. The need is for a way to transport the laundry to the location and feed the money into the machines then transport the clean laundry back to the Shelter. The men would have to show up to do their own laundry. The volunteer would only transport the laundry to and from the Shelter and pay the machines with money provided. We hope to write a grant to the Public Health Department for funds for this project. I see this being a set day or two each week so every one would know when to plan for it. Again the details can be worked out with the input of the volunteers.

2. Transportation to court dates - So I am learning that some of the men miss their court dates due to transportation needs. The hope is to develop a group of volunteers who would see they arrive at the correct court on the correct date at the correct time. This would be coordinated with the case worker and the men would be expected to be responsible for being ready to leave on time. This is just in the talking stage as we are looking for volunteers to help define this project.

This is the type of support that can truly make a difference in their lives. I think this community can provide these services with the sufficient direction and connections. Hopefully we are starting that process here. If you know any one interested in this type of service, please forward this email. If we see some interest, a meeting will be announced for more discussion.

My deep gratitude for all you are doing already for the Men and the Shelter. You are actually changing lives in your own unique individual way.



Partners in Faith

Saturday, January 13, 2018

Fireside Room

Potluck starts at 6 pm — bring a dish to share and your own place setting(s).

At 7 pm, join us for a White Elephant Exchange. Bring a gift to trade — be creative! For more information, please contact Sue Musil at 541-745-5511.

Church Council Minutes — December 11, 2017

Attendance: Bob Keith, Ardis Koester, Shelly Lundahl, Hal Brauner, Shelley Chamberlin, Dick Junge, Jaya Lapham, Sue Musil, Lew Nelson, James Wernz, Sharon Rosenkoetter, Pr. Netsie Griffith, Pr. Wendell Hendershott, Donna King. **Absent:** Rebekah Hadlock. Meeting was called to order at 6:50pm with President, Bob Keith presiding.

Devotions were led by Dick Junge on James 5:7-10. The passage message encouraged patience for the coming of the Lord.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent Agenda was accepted which included: Executive Council Minutes of December 4, 2017, and reports from Worship & Music (12/4/17), Stewardship and Property Committees. There was no report from the Personnel, Communications Committees or the Grace Foundation. Moved, seconded, and passed. (*MSP). Worship & Music Committee report (11/6/17) was removed for a correction- no worship service is planned for Christmas morning.

Officers/Staff Reports:

Pr. Wendell: From his written report, Pr. Wendell highlighted:

Bookkeeper Robin Comforto is recovered from pneumonia, but waiting results from other medical tests

Giving It Forward initiative needs almost \$40,000 in new pledges to completely retire the church mortgage, a correction from the \$20,000 listed in his report.

A group interested in creating a columbarium at Grace will meet Jan. 6 to discuss the possibility.

Pr. Netsie: Highlights from her written report:

Five young people received communion instruction and be publicly welcomed to the Lord's Supper: Wilson Schroeder, Jonas & Corbin Strohle, Lilly & Oliver White.

Council potluck will be Friday 12/15 at the pastors' home.

Lutherfest Tickets are on sale for the Beer & Cheese pairing event, Feb. 25th.

Pastors Wendell & Netsie will attend the annual Byberg Preaching Workshop, Jan 15-17 in Canon Beach.

Donna King, Discipling Ministry: Donna highlighted

Coordinating the instruction and welcome to communion was a major feat of timing and one set of children are involved in Grace through their grandparents.

Intergenerational projects were the Advent Greens Celebration, Dec. 3, was intergenerational event around making something and the Advent Devotional booklet.

Treasurer Report by Hal Brauner: November ended with a positive balance for the first time in many years. Both income and expenditures were lower than budgeted. The end of year balance could be about \$10,000 more than previous expectation. If pledges to the GIF fund come in December, Hal will propose an alternate budget that includes paying only the mortgage interest from the General Fund, currently ~\$400 monthly. Only with the new pledges and payments, can this proposal be presented. Stewardship team re-estimated General fund receipts as \$3000 higher than last estimate. Hal will bring a recommended budget to the January 2018 council meeting.

Continuing Business:

Council study of Christine Pohl book, Living into Community will continue at the council retreat. Netsie will continue to receive and compile council member notes from previous sessions.

Ardis is heading up nomination process for new Council members. Jim W. and Ardis K. are going off council. Jaya L., Sharon R., Sue M., and Shelley C. are willing to stand for election. Either 2 or 4 additional candidates are sought.

In lieu of 2018 Oregon Synod Assembly, Grace will host one of four Regional Gatherings Saturday, April 28. Our region includes congregations from Salem southward and west of the Cascades. We will be responsible for hospitality in cooperation with a regional planning team. The Oregon Synod Bishop and Synod Vice President will attend all regional gatherings.

Jaya composed letters of affirmation to the Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center and Casa Latinos Unidos of Benton County to be sent on behalf of the council.

New Business:

Council ratified an email decision that Thanksgiving Eve service offering be donated to Stone Soup and Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center. *MSP

Members interested in creating a columbarium at Grace are meeting Jan. 6 to discuss congregational interest, locations, costs, funding. Three possible locations are identified.

A member inquired about security measures for personnel, property, and worshipers and offered to assist in improving systems. Options including usher training and creating broad disaster response plans were discussed. Dick Junge will contact the member to discuss developing a plan.

The Council Retreat will be Feb. 23-25 at Camp Magruder. Nominees for council positions should be informed early in the process.

Congregational Meeting, Jan.28. A sandwich lunch will be provided. *MSP. Thrivent Choice funds will cover lunch costs.

Reminder/Assignment of Devotion & treats. January – Jim Wernz, Act 19: 1-7

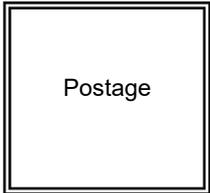
Closing Prayer was led by Pr. Netsie Griffith. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Submitted by Shelly Lundahl, Secretary

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

Grace Lutheran Church

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Corvallis, OR 97330
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www.grace97330.org



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

Living in God's amazing grace

everyone is
welcome



Let it
Snow

Lent 2018

Easter, April 1, 2018, is a full two weeks earlier this year than last year. (No fooling!)

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14, which coincides with Valentines Day.

Ash Wednesday Worship, 7:00 p.m.

Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist

Wednesday Lenten Services will begin the following week on February 21.

Live more, complain less.
More smiles, less stress.
Less hate, more blessed.