

June 2023
volume XXII, issue 6

Grace GATHERINGS



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

435 NW 21st Street

Corvallis, Oregon 97330

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 manifesting with caring
hearts*

*and helping hands the good news of
the Kingdom of God.”*

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.



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



Congratulations Class of 2023

Graduate Recognition
Sunday, June 4, 2023
During worship

Graduate Insert

[https://grace97330.org/wp-content/
uploads/2023/05/Graduate-Insert-2023.pdf](https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Graduate-Insert-2023.pdf)



Grace Personnel

Interim Pastor—Dorothy Nielsen
541-377-1354

prdorthy@grace9330.org

Youth and Family Minister – Kristin Young
406-417-1720

Kristin@grace97330.org

Office Administrator - Andrea Barnhurst
office@grace97330.org

Office Assistant - Jody Parker
jody@grace97330.org

Director of Music Ministries - Bryson Skaar
Bryson@grace97330.org

Percussion - Kelsey Bleck

Bookkeeper - Robin Comforto
bookkeeper@grace97330.org

Financial Secretary: Mike Franklin

Nursery - No Nursery at this time

Prayer Chain - Cathy Mueller & Bruce Stephens
prayers@grace97330.org

Custodian - Outside Contractor

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.

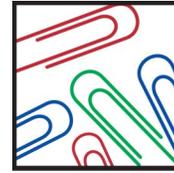
Visit our Grace web page at: www.grace97330.org



Out and About Coffee Hours

Kristin will be available for coffee and catch-up from 11:30 am to 1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Please contact Kristin to set up a location or drop by Luther House to see her.



Office Hours

Church Staff Schedule

Monday (on site:)

11am—4pm: Jody Parker

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday (off site):

9am—4pm: Andrea Barnhurst

Thursday (on site):

9am—4pm: Andrea Barnhurst

If you reach our voice mail, please leave a message. We do check voice mails regularly.

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Giving at a Glance

Support the many ministries of

Contributions as of

May 24, 2023

Contributions for the Month of

May: \$32,649;

May Budget: \$28,300;

First 4 Weeks Giving: \$32,649;

Weekly Budget: \$5,660;

(5 weeks in March);

YTD contributions: \$147,430;

YTD budget: \$137,540



Pastor Dorthy Nielsen
(Pr. Dorthy is on vacation June 7-29)

Contact Information

Cell: 541-377-1354

Email:

prdorthy@grace97330.org

On Site Work Days: *Mon, Thurs, and Sun*

Off Site Work Days: *Tue, Wed, and Sat.*

Day off: *Friday*

Dear People of God at Grace,

While driving home on Route 34 the broad wings of a large bird caught my eye. Raptors rule the sky. On second glance I saw three smaller birds dive bombing the large raptor. It is a wonder that such small birds can attack and deter a raptor from the small birds' nest, young, or the area. It's called "mobbing."

That got me thinking about how to change big things, like government, systems, society. How do you change a system like government or the Church? What can be done to change negative social norms? And why would that need to be done? The reality is that change takes time, and it is important to educate and interact in the process. Listening to the stories of others helps.

June is LGBTQ+ Pride Month. What began as a commemoration of the Stonewall Uprising in June 1969, a flash point of standing against police harassment and violence on gay people, and has moved into a celebration of life, activism, and freedom for the LGBTQ+ community. Pride Parades and events create community, honor the history and work for LGBTQ+ rights.

In the past I have shared with you how gay coworkers in the hotel banquet service industry in San Francisco taught me about God's grace and acceptance. Those relationships changed me; changed my understanding of God and myself. I believe God used my coworkers to call me into God's vision for the realm of love in this world.

Like those small birds mobbing the raptor, our LGBTQ+ siblings have been fighting systems and social norms for their freedoms for much longer than since 1969. So have our siblings of color, immigrants and refugees, and other groups of people. Little by little, the systems change.

And sometimes those systems revert to their previous status quo. We have seen that happening recently, in legislation that seeks to force conformity to a narrowly defined "Christian" norm.

As followers of a brown-skinned Jesus, who loved all he met, we are called to mob the systems that keep people from being who God created them to be, and us. In the Prophets of the Hebrew Bible, God's indictment of God's people is based on how they cared for the vulnerable and marginalized of their communities.

Little by little we can change the systems that exclude and seek to control those who are "other." The reality is we are all humans, created in God's image. Oh, you say we were created to be male or female? That's what it says in Genesis 1, right? In Genesis 2 God creates a human being. Gender doesn't show up until the end of the chapter.

Throughout Scripture God is referred to in more than masculine terms. Yet in John 4, when Jesus and the woman have a conversation at the well at midday, Jesus reminds the woman that God does not reside in any place, that God is spirit (neutral) and to be worshiped in spirit and truth.

So, what does it mean to be an ally? Grace was one of the early Oregon congregations to study and then wear the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) label, reaffirming that relationship in 2017. But wearing the label isn't enough. Allies accept, advocate, educate, grow, learn, recognize, and challenge the status quo.

How is Grace living into being an RIC community? What are the ways we welcome and offer dignity to our siblings in Christ who have experienced exclusion? Have we listened to their stories and been moved to change the world so that all may live in freedom as themselves?

On June 24 in Albany is the Pride Festival. Grace Outreach Committee will have a table there, joining Luther House and others in welcoming, advocating for all, learning how to be allies. Will you go? Pride isn't just for our LGBTQ+ siblings. We need to be there too, to listen, learn and stand in community. I guarantee you will have fun that day, as well. But only if you go, and go with an open, loving heart, remembering that all of God's people are precious to God.

Thanks to the inspiration of others, I am asking the Worship & Music Committee to switch our readings at worship to The Inclusive Bible translation (2009). The language used is not only replacing the gender pronouns, the translators have used new and non-sexist language to express the truth about this persistent God of love.

If you feel like you are being mobbed, if you feel uncomfortable, then sit with that feeling and open up to the unrelenting God of love who calls us into new creation, new life, new relationships.

In wonder and hope in Christ,
Pr Dorthy+



Prayers

This prayer list is a compilation of the individuals on our current prayer list.

If you have a prayer request, please send it to prayers@grace97330.org

If you would like to be added to the prayer chain mailing list, please contact Andrea in the church office.

Prayers:

Millie
Stan M
Hal B
Ruth, Robyn's Mom
Pr Tweed (RBeltran)
Michael, Becky's family friend
Pam (Junge niece)
Kaitlin and her Dad, Friend of Andrea
Donna and Herb H.
Mike, friend of Grace member
Denise, friend of Andrea B.
Kathy V.
Jenny, family of Marna
Mark, Bob K. Cousin
Ali B.
Capella, Jaya's sister
Joy M.
Bret, brother to Andrea
Teens and Families in crisis

Prayers of Comfort

The family of Bud A. on his passing
Jena and family on the loss of unborn baby
The family of Dorothy M. on her passing

Other Concerns:

For an end to gun violence and war; for the People of Ukraine and Russia, Iran, Yemen, and Myanmar; the people of Turkey and Syria affected by the earthquakes, for our houseless and hungry neighbors; those who are fighting wildfires, storm, floods, earthquakes and for relief workers; for our LGBTQIA+ siblings who experience exclusion, hate, and violence daily; ...

We continue to hold our Call Committee in prayer in the Call Process. We trust the Holy Spirit is at work in this process.



Birthday Blessings!

Please let the office know if there is a birthdate listed incorrectly, or if we have omitted someone in error.

Glenn Chaffin	06/01	Iona Trapp	06/14
Sally Winkler	06/04	Wilson Schroeder	06/16
Mary Benson-Willett	06/05	Jeff Lesmeister	06/19
Mikaila Saathoff	06/05	Donna King	06/22
Hannah Shaff	06/07	Pr. Dorthy Nielsen	06/22
Kyle Smith	06/07	Bali	06/24
Cynara Stadsvold	06/07	Denise Cardinali	06/25
Mary Ann Matzke	06/08	Jan Byers	06/26
Robin Comforto	06/09	Bekki Levien	06/29
Tony Smith	06/12	Larry Rosenkoetter	06/29
Frank Davis	06/14	Peter Gelser	06/30
Cecile Palmgren	06/14		



Luther House
Lutheran Campus Ministry at Oregon State University

COME
CELEBRATE

The installation of
Pastor Hallie Parkins to
the ministry of Luther
House!

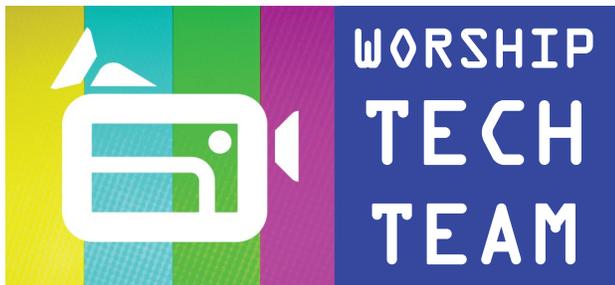
The board for the Lutheran Campus
Ministry at the Oregon State University
and the Oregon Synod invite you to join
us:

JUNE 3RD, 2023

4 PM

at Grace Lutheran Church
435 NW 21st St
Corvallis, OR 97330

Following worship, you are invited to a reception graciously provided by Grace Lutheran. Please RSVP to Lhouse@peak.org by May 15 with dietary preference if you plan to attend the reception.



Caden Buck
Shelly Lundahl
Bruce Stephens
Mary Stephens
Domnique Williams



Sunday Readings for June 2023

June 4, 2023

Holy Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1--2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

June 18, 2023

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

June 11, 2023

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 5:15--6:6
Psalm 50:7-15
Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 25, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

May 2023 Council Minutes

May 2023 Council Minutes, Executive Committee meeting, and other interesting items can be found in a binder on the church office counter. Should you want them emailed to you, please just notify us at office@grace97330.org. You are also welcome to attend council meetings, should you want to know what is going on or have something you would like to talk about.

Council continues to meet via ZOOM. To attend send an email to President Dave Lundahl stating that you would like the link to attend.

May 2023 Meeting Minutes can be found online at:
<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Council-Meeting-Minutes-05-08-23-00000002.pdf>

President:
Dave Lundahl
Vice President:
Meredith Junge
Secretary:
Nancy Hemming
Treasurer:
Hal Brauner
Financial Secretary:
Mike Franklin
Council Members:
Jeff Beck
Charlotte Chrisman
Frank Davis
Angie Gallagher
Mike Franklin
Marshall Hill-Tanquist
Pr. Dorothy Nielsen
Robyn Vega
Carol Warloe
Kendra Wollert



Dorothy Miles Memorial Service

The memorial Service for Dorothy Miles will be held at Grace on Saturday, July 8. Please watch for more information





All-Church POTLUCK

**First Sunday of the Month
Potluck**
June 4, 2023
following Worship

This will also be a reception for our graduates.
Come celebrate these wonderful students!



Summer Day Camp At Grace

Operation Restoration

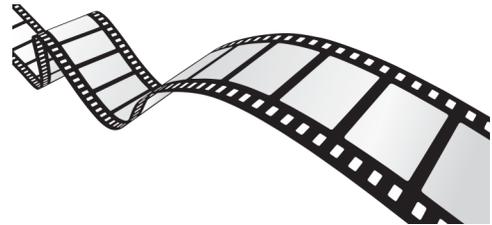
Mending God's World: Day camp at Grace is from July 17-20, 9am-1pm. Registration is available on Grace's website, and paper forms are available in the entryway. Join us as we learn about caring for all of God's creation.



Summer Activities



Hike at Peavy Arboretum: June 11 at 1pm, led by Kendra. More hikes to come this summer!



Movie Night at Grace: Friday, June 23rd at 6:30pm. We're watching "Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark." Pizza and drinks to be provided. In July, we'll have an opportunity to see the newest installment in the series in theaters!



Mark Your Calendars! Float Trips on July 9 and August 13 after worship -- stay tuned for details!



Teams & Committees

Property Committee - Ron Larson, 541.752.0754

Communications Committee

Bob Keith, 541.990.2883

Sunday Hospitality

Meredith Junge

Events Hospitality

Molly Hallgrimson, 541.753.8581

Growing Young Ministry

Kristin Young, 541.757.1600

Altar Guild - Linda Samuels, 541.929.4222

Worship & Music Committee

Michael Beachley, 541.754.5501

Finance Committee - Hal Brauner, 541.753.0023

Personnel Committee - Cathy Mueller

Hospital Visitation Team - Dale Weber, 541.757.3043

Mission Groups - Bob Saathoff, 541.929.3045

Stewardship Committee TBD

Disaster Preparedness Committee

Andrea Barnhurst, 541.757.1600

Safety Committee—TBA

Outreach Committee—Rob Beltran



Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers

of Corvallis

Call 541-757-0980

501 NW 25th Street
Corvallis, Oregon 97330

email us: caregiversvic@gmail.com

Open Monday-Friday 9 - noon

Spring has sprung! In with the new, out with the old? Here's something old that needs to go out...the long-used phone number for Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers (V.I.C.). This beloved, local nonprofit has a new phone number. Please add to your contacts: **541 714 0820** for **V.I.C.**

Since its inception in 1986, Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers of Corvallis has been enthusiastically sustained by Grace Lutheran Church. From this congregation have come scores of kindhearted folks willing to help. V.I.C.'s mission is to assist older and disabled adults so that they may live independently and remain in their own homes for as long as possible and Grace Lutheran's congregations have steadily helped make that happen. In these post-pandemic months, V.I.C. is being contacted more and more frequently by Benton County residents in need; a shortage of volunteers means some of those needs may not be met.

Can you lend a hand as a V.I.C. Volunteer? There is no obligation for weekly or monthly service hours. Norma Moody, your V.I.C. Coordinator, calls volunteers on a case-by-case basis and the Volunteers say "yes" to tasks that fit their schedule. You will be driving Care Receivers to medical appointments, doing their grocery shopping, or possibly just stopping by for a friendly visit. The time investment is small, but the rewards are everlasting. Please call the new V.I.C. Office number, **541 714 0820**, to start your volunteer application.



New Member Recognition Sunday, June 4, 2023

Please Welcome to Grace

Kathy Burton

Rob Beltran

John Baggenstos



Christ in Our Home

April-
June 2023

Copies can be found in the church entry and if you are needing a printed copy, please contact the church office.



On Second and Fourth Tuesdays
at 11:45 am

June 13
At Panera

June 27
At Gathering Together Farm



2022/2023
Complete book list
<https://bit.ly/3yZyHhn>

Global Book Club

Next Book Club Meeting
Tuesday, June 6
at 1pm
Fireside Room

After the Last Border:
Two Families and the
Story of Refuge in
America by Jessica
Goudeau



Quilters and Sewing Group

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 1pm
In the Sewing Room in the Basement

Contact Linda S. for more information



Grace Lutheran Church Foundation

Foundation News Website:
[http://grace97330.org/Foundation/
news/newsletter.html](http://grace97330.org/Foundation/news/newsletter.html)

Jne 2023 Newsletter
[https://grace97330.org/Foundation/
news/2023_06.html](https://grace97330.org/Foundation/news/2023_06.html)



Help needed: Grace at South Corvallis Food Bank

Every Wednesday morning at 9 AM a crew of helpers from Grace Church join other community members for approximately 1.5 hour to unload and stock food deliveries to the South Corvallis Food Bank. Up to now, four members from Grace have participated each week, but starting in April we need to increase to at least five helpers from Grace each week because two of community members who assist almost every week are moving away. Some lifting is required, but we assist each other so that no one injures themselves. Individuals come anywhere from one day to three or four days per month. If you or someone you know who is not a member of Grace would like to join our team, please contact Wayne Kradjan (541-757-9693; Kradjan1072@comcast.net) to learn more and/or to add your name to our email distribution list.

SOUTH CORVALLIS FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

We're always looking for hosts to assist clients during our open hours:

Monday 12:15-3:15 pm Wednesday 12:15-3:15 pm
Thursday 4:15-7:15 pm Saturday 9:15 am - 12:15 pm

Must provide proof of COVID-19 Vaccination. For any questions, please contact:
Cathy Zollinger (541) 619-7832

Items Needed:

- Condiments
- Hearty Soup
- Cereals and Sweet Treats
- Gluten Free Items
- Fresh Produce and Backyard Eggs
- Personal Care Items
- Cleaning Supplies
- Pet Food
- Can Openers

Grace Center for Adult Day Service

Serving residents of Linn, Benton, and Polk County. Grace Center was started in Ronnekamp Hall at Grace.

For more information go to: Gracecenter-corvallis.org

Hospital Visitation

We need your help knowing who is in the hospital

Over the last couple years, rules have changed in hospitals to protect patient rights. Our Hospital visitation volunteers are no longer able to look at a list of patients who are in the hospital. This means, unless we are told, we are unable to know who is in the hospital.

Due to the this change, we ask that you contact Andrea in the church office at office@grace97330.org if:

- You are in the hospital
- A family member is in the hospital
- A church member is in the hospital