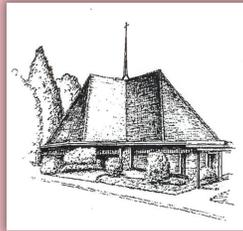


Grace GATHERINGS

Grace Evangelical
Lutheran Church

April 2019
volume XVIII
issue 4

*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."*

Easter 2019

Wednesday Evening Lenten Schedule

April 3 & 10

6:00 pm Soup Supper

7:00 pm Evening Prayer

Palm Sunday Worship

April 14 — 8:30 & 11 am
with Palm Procession

Maundy Thursday Worship

April 18 — 7 pm

Good Friday Worship

April 19 — 7 pm

Easter Vigil

April 20 — 8 pm

Easter Morning

April 21 — 8:30 & 11:00 am

Easter Breakfast — 9:30 am

Sponsored by the Youth of Grace
& Egg Hunt — 10 am

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.

www.grace97330.org



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



Sue Musil

New mailing address:
37224 Pony Rd.
Lebanon, OR 97355
Phone #s remain the same

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:

⇒ *Dear Grace Pray-ers, Thank you all for your prayers and cards. They lift me up and I'm sure have contributed to my healing progress. The doctor says I'm "amazing" in how well I'm doing. Thank you, thank you, Cammie Bella*

Illnesses and Other Concerns:

- ⇒ Prayers for our country and the way we treat one another
- ⇒ Cammie Bella
- ⇒ Pati Peyer, Cathy Mueller's cousin
- ⇒ Gordon Matzke
- ⇒ Kay, Keith, Roy, and Mark Swanson, relatives of Sue Speulda
- ⇒ Saraya Windibiziri, Cathy Mueller's niece
- ⇒ Larry Burt
- ⇒ Clark & Weston Griffith, Pr. Netsie's nephews
- ⇒ Coy Scroggins
- ⇒ For all those impacted by recent flooding in the Midwest
- ⇒ Arnold Jensen, Erin Radniecki's grandpa
- ⇒ Cleo, Jaya Lapham's niece
- ⇒ Jim, Lindsey, and baby Griffith
- ⇒ Mary Ann Matzke

Baptism:

⇒ Rowan Anthony Willey, son of Ariel & David Willey

Death:

- ⇒ Arne Swanson, Sue Speulda's uncle
- ⇒ Jeff Mueller, beloved member of the Grace community and friend
There will be a memorial service for Jeff on Saturday, April 13th at 11am, followed by a reception in Ronnenkamp Hall.

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

What is Happening with Worship?

As I was writing this report, it became clear to me that this is really the most important topic I have to address this month. I had intended it to be just a short and simple report on the process we are involved in. Instead, it has evolved into my thoughts about the integrity and spiritual vitality of this congregation.

Last fall, no, even last year, we began a process of reflecting on our worship services here at Grace Lutheran Church. This was in response to the listening process we were engaged in last year. Over the course of time, we envisioned a process that would come to a vote about future worship here in March. However, at the annual meeting in January, it was voiced often and clearly, by those present, that a congregational vote had the potential to be too divisive.

What at first surprised me soon delighted me. I saw the congregation genuinely concerned for one another. Our unity as a congregation, in the midst of our diversity, is more important to us than the outcome of a decision. The consensus of the annual meeting then was that the council should make that decision after reflection and input by the congregation.

Even as the process was taking shape, we realized that this was a bigger topic than simply deciding between one service or two! Questions about our identity and our Christian formation, our discipleship and our piety were all coming into play and shaping the conversations. One person's aspirations were often juxtaposed over and against another's. At times those were uncomfortable, but for the most part we were able to listen attentively and respectfully and learn much from one another. It became all the more so as we moved from planning the process to discussing the issues.

In February, we held four well-attended discussion groups. These group met to talk about the basics of worship and what considerations were most important to us as a congregation. It was at these groups that I saw the congregation coming together again. At each meeting, there was always an expression of our solidarity made, as people listened to each other.

After the meetings, the council then organized the comments from the meetings, as well as from on-line sources and written communications, into a written record. A task force was commissioned. It consisted of the two pastors plus a one representative each from the Worship & Music committee and from the Christian Education committee. Their assignment: to come up with several proposals for the council to consider for our worship patterns as we move forward from this point.

That task force is meeting as this article is being written, with the hope that by the April council meeting, deliberations will begin. The hope is that just before or after Easter, a decision will be made about worship for the fall, so that it may be communicated to the congregation as a whole. Also, so that preparations for fall worship, however that takes shape, may be made over the summer.

At this point in the process, we do not know what the outcome will yet be. Still, I am hopeful at this point, because most who attended the worship conversations came away from the meetings feeling respected and listened to. My hope is that you will keep your council in prayer. They have a deeply spiritual assignment. What they are asked to do is shape our future together as a congregation.

Worship is central to our purpose here on the corner of Kings and Harrison. It is not all we do, but it is that commonality that brings us to gather in this place. It shapes us as we come together and then it sends us out into our world to follow Jesus as we lovingly encounter our neighbors in the world we share. Peace to you all.

- Pr. Wendell

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



April 11
**2nd Thursday's
 Women's
 Luncheon** at
Bo & Vine
 @ 11:45am

April 23
**4th Tuesday's
 Women's
 Luncheon** at
*New Morning
 Bakery*
 @ 11:45am

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study



Our April schedule for Tuesday Bible study will be varied to say the least, and we will be taking a two week break. Thus, for those who might not be regular attenders, this month is a good month to drop in on a session and bless us with your presence and participation. Here's what we will be doing when.

- April 2nd –** Deaconess Donna King will be a guest presenter, and will be using some material from Brené Brown to spark discussion and thought
- April 9th –** On this Tuesday prior to Palm Sunday, we will be comparing the Palm Sunday procession texts from Matthew, Mark and Luke
- April 16th & 23rd –** A two week break for Holy Week and Easter
- April 30th –** We begin a short unit studying the short book of the prophet Joel

Pastor's Sunday Class

"Time after Time"

Pastor Wendell has a class in Ronnenkamp Hall during the Education Hour, beginning about 9:45. It usually falls on the second Sunday. We are studying the church seasons, mostly as they happen, so we are going with the Title, "Time after Time." In April, we will look at the Holy Week texts, finishing out the year in May with Easter. Each class is designed so that you can just learn about one season or by attending them all you will get an overview of the whole year.

We hope this excursion through the meaning of the church year will help to broaden our understanding of how Christians keep time throughout the year and how we use the different seasons and celebrations to deepen our understanding of the Christian faith and the loving grace of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Adult Bible Study — April 2019

Discipleship and Mission

This study grounds our practice of discipleship and mission in the story of Jesus Christ. We will study the gospel stories and the pastoral letter that Paul wrote to the first Christians in Rome in order to hear God's call to us today. Through this engagement with the word of God, we will learn from one another to be faithful witnesses in our own time and place.

Our Writer

Philip Ruge-Jones is a child of God who is also a husband, father, pastor, speaker, theologian, teacher of the church, writer, and biblical storyteller. He currently serves at Grace Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He invites your questions, comments, and corrections at rugejones@gmail.com.

Lesson 6	April 7	Call and Mission	Matthew 10:1-15
Lesson 7	April 14	Called to Remember	Matthew 26:1-13
Lesson 8	April 21	Called to Proclaim the Resurrection	Matthew 28:1-15
Lesson 9	April 28	Call and Commissioning	Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:6-8

Planning for Holy Week

Palm Sunday: Again this year, we will gather under the entry porticos before each service for the blessing of the palms and process around the sanctuary into worship together. Wear warm clothes and be prepared for rain! We begin the day reading the gospel of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, but quickly switch to the account of his suffering and passion.

Triduum: The Three Days The Three days before Easter are Called The Triduum [pronounced TRIH-dee-oom] which is the Latin term for three days. The three days are a call to three days of prayer in preparation for Easter and the resurrection celebration of Christ.

The first Day is Maundy Thursday, from Jesus' command (Latin: *mandatum*) that we love one another. The **evening service (7:00)** emphasizes service to one another and features foot washing (we have a hand washing option for the timid) and a special service of Holy Communion. The service ends with the stripping of the Altar.

The second Day is Good Friday. It is called Good, because Jesus shows God's love for us through the cross. **(7:00)** features quiet reflection on the crucifixion through the passion narrative in the gospel of St. John.

The Third and final day is Holy Saturday, the day of the Easter Vigil. This **evening service (8:00)** begins an hour later than the rest to take advantage of the dusk. It **begins in the courtyard** with the lighting of a new fire, reading of first testament deliverance stories, a baptismal re-affirmation, re-decorating of the altar and the first resurrection communion of Easter. Members of the Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan have traditionally joined us here for this service in recent years.

Easter Sunday is the crown of the Church Year. This is the day we celebrate Christ risen from the tomb. Our **services will be at their regular times 8:30 and 11:00** with celebrations of Alleluias, and the singing of your favorite Easter Hymns and Songs. **Between worship (9:00 - 10:30) will be a breakfast in Ronnenkamp Hall with an Easter Egg Hunt for the youngsters, following breakfast.**



We're hiring! The Grace Lutheran office is looking for someone to work Tuesday through Friday, noon to 5pm. If you know anyone who is looking for a part-time office job, please send them our way. Qualified applicants should submit a resume, cover letter, and a completed application (available from the office). Interviews will be scheduled after Easter.

Thank you to the volunteers who continue to help make the church office run! Mary Ann Brenan, Sue & Mark Speulda, Meredith Junge, Adele Neukomm, Bob Keith, and Dorothy Miles have all been of great assistance. (If I've missed someone, please forgive me — my brain is already ready for vacation.)

Library News

Thank you to Grace library volunteer Wendy Geist for the most beautiful and creative bulletin board design! Wendy was so quick and efficient about setting it up that it just about brought Jody Parker (Grace's Office Assistant) to tears.

Next time you're at church, stop into the library and take a look. Take a few extra minutes to peruse all the new (and well loved) titles we have on hand. Make Jody even happier by checking out a book or two.



Globaliers — Grace Book Discussion Group

First Thursdays in the Fireside Room @ 7pm

- April 4** Mary Ann Matzke *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, David Grann
- May 2** Carol Kamke *Exit West*, Mohsin Hamid
- June 6** Darlene Leklem *Midnight at the Pera Palace: The Birth of Modern Istanbul*, Charles King
- September 5** Sharon Rosenkoetter *From the Land of Green Ghosts*, Pascal Khoo Thwe

Please contact **Mary Ann Matzke** with any questions at **541-753-3729** or maryann.matzke@gmail.com

Culinary Creativity at Grace Leads to Food and Fun at the 2019 Chili Cook Off

March 10 was our 13th Annual Chili Cook Off - that annual event where the congregation's chili fans gather to enjoy some wonderful culinary concoctions. As is our tradition, five judges deliberated in assessing the sensorial sensations of the entries - awarding "Best Chili" to Shelly Lundahl for her "Pollo Loco" (chicken chorizo) chili. The attendees voted "Most Popular" chili to Frank Davis for his wonderful Thai Chili.

The most popular chili voting raised \$345 for the Church Day Camp to support a project where day campers will put together weekend food bags for students identified by the Corvallis School District as having insecure housing situations.

Thank you for your donations! Thank you to all of the Chili Contestants! Thank you to the Men's Ministry Group for coordinating!

- Dave Lundahl



Martina Vega	04/02
Zach Weber	04/03
Eric Kamke	04/04
Dick Junge	04/06
Teri Briskey	04/07
Dale Weber	04/08
Hal Dick	04/09
Carol Erickson	04/09
Bonnie Jung	04/09
Christina Lundahl	04/10
Hal Brauner	04/11
Betty McCauley	04/11
Jeff Palmgren	04/11
Ellen Gelser	04/12
Millie Babb	04/14
Michael Beachley	04/14
Calla Shaff	04/15
Caitlyn Zwang	04/15
Larry Boersma	04/16
Aaron Davis	04/17
Grayson Foster	04/17
Wendell Hendershott	04/17
Marilyn Walsh	04/18
Terry Renshaw	04/19
Chelsea Smith	04/19
Emery Hildebrandt	04/21
Susan Speulda	04/22
Kyah Weeber	04/23
Kendra Wollert	04/23
Sharon Rosenkoetter	04/24
Eleanor Harrington	04/25
Angie Kingsley	04/27
Linda Samuels	04/27
Kris Warloe	04/28
Doris Volk	04/29
Todd Washington	04/29

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

Grace Personnel

**Pastor Netsie Griffith &
 Pastor Wendell Hendershott**

Bookkeeper - Robin Comforto

Custodian - Sam McKay

Director of Discipling Ministries - Donna King

Director of Music Ministries - Br. Christopher Buckley

Facebook Administrator - Rebekah Hadlock

Financial Secretary: Mary Stephens

Nursery - Paris DeMers

Office Administrator - Carol Terrill

Office Assistant - Jody Parker

Organist/Pianist - Sunghie Kim

Prayer Chain - Cathy Mueller & Bruce Stephens

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 - Dale Weber, 541.757.3043

Healing Prayer Team - Sue Davis, 541.924.2922

Mission Groups - Bob Saathoff, 541.929.3045

Stewardship Committee

Dave Lundahl, 541.757.1358

Campus Ministry at Luther House

Mike Ostrom, Pastor, 541.753.5213

Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers

Norma Moody, 541.754.2555

Camp Lutherwood

Mark your calendars! Join Camp Lutherwood on May 4th and 25th for their spring work days!

Come help us prepare camp for Camp Lutherwood's summer season. There will be service projects for all ages and abilities and a delicious lunch prepared by our camp cook! Please RSVP by contacting our office at (541) 998-6444 or office@lutherwoodoregon.org. We look forward to seeing you there!



Camp Lutherwood is still hiring for the summer season! We are looking for great young adults to join our summer team and provide our guests and campers of all ages with an incredible summer camp experience. We are still in need of male counselors, lifeguards, and a camp nurse. Contact Charlotte at charlotte@lutherwoodoregon.org with questions, and check out our website for applications and more information.

Summer 2019 camp registration for Camp Lutherwood Oregon is open on our website (lutherwoodoregon.org) now! Week long camps are available for youth entering 1st through 12th grade, and adults of all ages are invited to join our Family Camps and Women's Retreat. Join us for an unforgettable 60th summer of ministry filled with adventure, faith exploration, fun and community. We look forward to seeing you around our campfire this summer!

(Don't forget that the Grace Lutheran Foundation is once again offering camperships so that all can enjoy summer fun this year. Look in the entryway for applications or contact Donna King for additional information.)

Luther House

If you do not receive Luther House's newsletter, The Luminary, please check out their Winter/Spring 2019 edition. Take note of their honoring of Pastor Emeritus Jim Norlie at Lutherfest and the feature volunteer in the spotlight, Darlene Leklem. There are also photos from the Mardi Gras Pancake Lunch and other important and delightful information.

Many in attendance at Lutherfest gave monetary gifts in Pr. Jim's name. The Luther House Council has created a special fund and will work with Jim on how those funds will be used to further the ministry of Luther House. If you'd like to make a donation in honor of Campus Pastor Emeritus Jim, visit their website at www.luther-house.org/donate or find the donation form in the Grace entryway.



Grace Center News

Our Grace Center for Adult Services is no static day-in-and-day-out place. The participants challenge the staff regularly to keep them busy and often on the move. There is a tradition that there will be a couple of fun filled outings every month stimulating participants in fresh air even during rainy months. It is fitting for spring planting time now that they are to visit Garland Nursery this month and be inspired by the trays of colorful primroses, petunias, and more. On another trip they will visit the Corvallis-Benton County Library where local woodworkers will have a display of their fine hand-made furniture.

Once a month the Elks Lodge treats the Center participants to a seasonally themed luncheon. For March they were served corn beef and cabbage, for example, and the Elks are good at decorating the table with plenty of Irish green!

For transportation the Center partners with a local non-profit to borrow their 15 passenger bus. We also have a wheel-chair accessible mini-van.

Of course not all of the Center's participants are able to take part in excursions, so staff provides special things for the them, too. If you enjoy volunteering for their parties call the Center at 541-754-8417, or email Corinne at activities@gracecenter.org. Expect a good time.

- Betty McCauley



New Photo Directory

Have you made your appointment? New directory photos will be taken April 25-27, and May 3-4 (if necessary). Bring your family, bring your pet, and most important of all... bring you. The photos will be taken by a local mother/son team who provide professional portraits, church directories, and also an opportunity to purchase pictures to take home for family, friends, Christmas cards, etc.

There will not be any heavy-handed sales techniques used at any point along the way. You are free to purchase pictures, or not. We do request that you participate, as your friends here at Grace would love to see your smiling face in the directory.

Carol, our Office Administrator, has brought in her directory as a sample of what is to come — please feel free to take a look. The directory is on her desk in the office for now. Please also feel free to contact with any questions/concerns at office@grace97330.org or 541-757-1600.

To sign up for an appointment, please visit the following site:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B084AAFA92DABF94-grace> (those are zeros, if you're typing)

If you are not able to make it on those dates, please contact the photographer directly to make an appointment in her studio. Cherie can be reached at theimage@cherierenae.com or 503-967-9119.



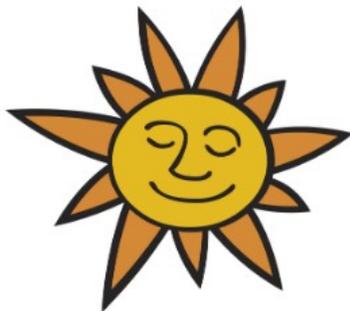
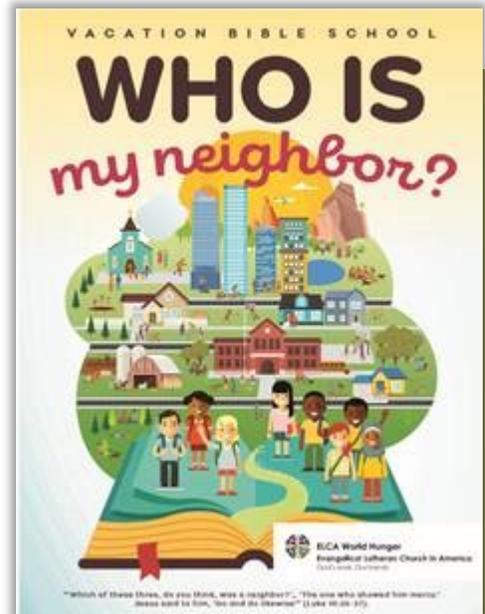
Living Lutheran Magazine

As Lutherans belonging to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America we are connected to 3.5 million members in 9300 congregations throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Every month articles and news in the *Living Lutheran* magazine help educate, inspire and inform us of the ways God works in and through our congregations, members and leaders locally, regionally and globally.

It is a commitment of this congregation to use this magazine as one way of making us aware of our relationship to a church that goes far beyond membership in a local faith community. We are part of something much greater than our congregation and ourselves as individuals. Thus, every year we include the subscription cost in our budget for individual subscriptions for all of our members. If you are a member of Grace Lutheran and not receiving the *Living Lutheran* at your home address, please notify the church office to be added to the subscription list. If, as part of your financial stewardship here at Grace, you would like to specifically support this commitment, you may make a special donation towards the cost of providing this resource by indicating this on your offering envelope or check memo. Be sure to include "Living Lutheran" on your check or envelope.

Summer Day Camp is Coming!

Save the date - Summer Day Camp, August 5-8! 9am-12pm. Help us jumpstart a new summer experience. We will explore "Who Is My Neighbor" through Bible stories, games, and local trips. Grace and partner Good Samaritan Episcopal invite all kids, friends, and grandkids entering grades 1- 6 as campers and older youth as volunteers. We can share God's love in our neighborhood. Look for registration forms and volunteer opportunity information soon.



March Council Minutes

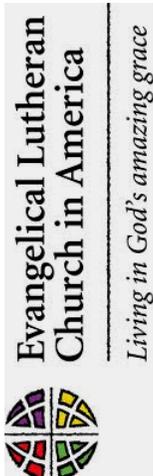
March Council Minutes, along with the minutes from all previous Council and Executive Committee meetings can be found in a binder (and in various filing cabinets) in the church office. Should you want them emailed to you, please just notify us at office@grace97330.org. You are also welcome to attend council meetings, should you want to know what is going on or have something you would like to talk about.

Grace Lutheran Church

Corner of Kings & Harrison
435 NW 21st Street
Corvallis, OR 97330
541.757.1600
www.grace97330.org



Postage



Partners in Faith

Partners in Faith is meeting next on Friday, April 12. Dinner is at 6pm, with a program about Ireland to follow at 7pm. Baked potatoes provided -- just bring a topping to share and/or a green side dish or dessert. All are welcome — no partner needed.



The Spring Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, from 8:30 AM to 3 PM. The Property Committee would appreciate some volunteer help that day to get Grace Church in shape for the summer season. I know many of you volunteered to help in the last years Spring Clean Up and it would be wonderful if you could make time to help us again this year. We will have a noon lunch served at 11:30 AM to all the volunteers. We will enjoy some fellowship time together and you may even get to know other members of Grace Church that you did not know before. There are tasks to be done both inside and outside. Bring your vacuum cleaner with floor attachment to clean under the kneels and pews. Bring your favorite tool to weed and hoe around the shrubs and flower beds. We will spread bark mulch in the afternoon.

*Thanks,
Ron Larson*