

# Grace GATHERINGS

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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."

## Lent 2019

Easter is on April 21<sup>st</sup>  
Lent will begin March 6<sup>th</sup>  
with our Ash Wednesday worship service

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

Wednesday Lenten Services will begin the following week  
on March 13<sup>th</sup>

### **Wednesday Evening Lenten Schedule**

6:00 Soup Supper  
7:00 Evening Prayer  
7:30 Choir rehearsal

*We will celebrate the Eucharist on Ash Wednesday,  
but not on the other Wednesdays in Lent,  
and of course we will celebrate it each Sunday in Lent as well.*

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.*



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](mailto:prayers@grace97330.org), and ask to be part of the prayer list.



**Bev & Frank Raze**  
1605 Oak St. SE  
Apt. F-105  
Albany, OR 97322

**Robyn Vega**  
[robyn.m.vega@soapcrekent.com](mailto:robyn.m.vega@soapcrekent.com)

## 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 Friends in Christ,  
Netsie and I would like to thank you for the many kind words, the sincere greetings and faithful prayers which have served to uphold us during the first part of this year. Your thoughtfulness has given us much support and consolation in this difficult time of death and loss in our family. Thank you for your support and consideration not only for us, but also for our extended family. You have blessed us; may you in turn be blessed.

Wendell Hendershott

### Illnesses and Other Concerns:

- ◆ Pr. Jim Norlie & Steve Bender
- ◆ Carol & Don Freeman
- ◆ Juan Guzman
- ◆ Ross & Peggy Hinshaw, relations of Jim & Donna Wernz
- ◆ Helen Hildebrandt
- ◆ AJ Buckley
- ◆ Martha & Dave Anderson
- ◆ Ron Larson

### Birth:

- ◆ Baby Girl Leklem, Jim & Darlene's granddaughter

**Death:** *Please pray for the families and friends of those who have passed*

- ◆ Stuart Tanquist, Marshall Hill-Tanquist's cousin
- ◆ Arlen "Dusty" Samard, Kimberly Samard's father
- ◆ Lenora Bond, Nancy Hemming's mother

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.

**Don't Forget to Spring Forward**

*Remember to set your clocks ahead 1 hour  
on Saturday night, March 9th*

## Pastor's Page

### Expressing Diversity “with one voice”

“. . . the letter to the Romans contains the exhortation to ‘live in harmony with one another . . . that together you may with one voice glorify . . . God.’ (Romans 15:5-6) . . . to sing ‘with one voice’ does not imply uniformity of expression. The ‘one voice’ of the Church represents an amazingly diverse fabric, many songs of many cultures in many styles, woven together by the one Spirit. . . . The breadth [of music in our hymnal] is a witness to the Church’s unity in diversity and an encouragement to communities to cultivate a variety of expressions when they gather, rather than dividing themselves by style of worship or music.”

--From the Introduction of the song book, *With One Voice*, p. 4

What I hope will began to emerge from our past discussions and reflection about worship is a new way, not only of thinking about worship, but of thinking about God and thinking about ourselves and our church in relation to God.

What might it look like for us to cultivate a variety of expressions rather than dividing ourselves by style of worship, music, the time of the service we attend or so many other things (you fill in the blank \_\_\_\_\_)? It’s true we like different things. Some people like organ music. Other people don’t like organ music. Some people like drums. Other people don’t like drums. Some people like it when the pastors are in albs. Other people prefer the pastors not wear albs. (Worship, by the way can happen with or without all these things. None make the list of what it is that is truly essential for worship.)

If someone likes something we don’t particularly like, one might say, “How do you like that music?!” with a judgmental, disapproving tone of voice. Or, one might say, “How do you like that music?” with a sincere curiosity that is interested in genuinely understanding another person and where they are coming from. Truly caring for one another requires a mutuality of expressed concern. If you care about me enough to find out why I like what I like, and I care enough about you to find out why you like what you like, it might not change what it is that you and I like, but it might very well change our ability to accept and respect one another’s likes. It says I can be who I am and you can be who you are, and I realize it is important for you to find a little bit of what is meaningful for you in the space we share just as it is for me to find a little bit of what is meaningful for me. And, the Holy Spirit will do the rest. The Spirit will weave us together creating and strengthening the bonds between us.

Our unity does not reside in what we like or don’t like in regard to worship. Our unity is found in the equal love of God that loves you, loves me, loves us, loves our diversity, blesses our diversity and is most highly praised when our diversity shines for the world to see like a colored glass mosaic made up of many different pieces of a multitude of colors creating a lovely, artistic whole.

We are blessed with talented staff, musicians, volunteers and worshipers that already bring great diversity to our worship. Do we celebrate this diversity? Can we embrace this diversity? Whatever decisions are made in the future, whether we have one, two or three worship services, I pray we might, with the help of God, answer these questions with a resounding “Yes!” May we then continue to live in to ever greater expressions of diversity in praise of our multifaceted, ever expanding triune God.

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@grace  
97330.org

Pastor Wendell's  
Days Off  
Tuesday & Friday





March  
**2nd Thursday's  
 Women's  
 Luncheon** at  
*Vinwood Taphouse*  
**@ 11:45am**

February 26  
**4th Tuesday's  
 Women's  
 Luncheon** at  
*New Morning  
 Bakery*  
**@ 11:45am**

## Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study



One of the things we sometimes discover during Bible study is that some of the challenges of living out our faith are timeless. Sometimes ancient Christian struggles mirror our own. Last month, one of the passages we studied was Hebrews 10:23-25: <sup>23</sup>*Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.* <sup>24</sup>*And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds,* <sup>25</sup>*not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, . . .”*

People, ancient and modern, fell/fall into patterns of neglecting church. We discussed the many reasons this happens today. Thus, the challenge is always before us to reach out in love to those who no longer find reasons to “meet together.” May we always strive to “provoke one another to love and good deeds.”

**We would love to have you meet with us on Tuesdays from 1-2:30 pm in the Fire-side Room, as we gather around the Word which gives us life.** If, however, you are not able to meet with us, we pray you will find others ways to “meet together” with others who encourage you to hold fast to the confession of your hope.

## Pastor's Sunday Class

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, generally as they happen, so we are going with the Title, “Time after Time.” In March we move to the second Sunday, March 10. Since it is Lent we will be looking at the Lenten season and how the practices of Lent may be carried with us throughout the year. In April we will look at the Holy Week texts, finishing out the year in May with Easter.

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—March 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](mailto:rugejones@gmail.com).

Lesson 1	March 3	Called to Humility and Hospitality	Luke 14:7-14
Lesson 2	March 10	A Costly Call	Mark 1:16-20; Luke 14:25-33
Lesson 3	March 17	Lost and Found	Luke 15:11-24
Lesson 4	March 24	Calling to Salvation	Luke 19:1-10
Lesson 5	March 31	Called to Discipleship	Matthew 4:12-22

## 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.**



Our Office Administrator, Carol, will not be leaving us completely, but working during the mornings of Tuesday—Friday. Jody, our Office Assistant, will be continuing with her Monday shift. We will have volunteers in the office Tuesday-Thursday afternoons, until we find another part-time Assistant to cover those times. The office will be closed on Fridays, to allow office staff to focus on projects without much interruption.

Considering the changes and transitions with our office staff, we will now be observing the following as **new office hours**.

Monday – 11am – 4pm  
Tuesday through Thursday – 9am – 4pm  
Friday – Office Closed

## The Heat is On

The annual Chili Cook-Off is on March 10, 2019. This is a congregational contest to see who will have the most talent with this favored concoction. There are many prizes awarded each year and we are ruminating over some possible new categories. While a contribution is not required, any funds raised from this event will be used to support our youth ministries.

**If you would like to compete:** Just whip up a crock-pot full of your best chili and have it in Ronnenkamp Hall by 12:30 on the Day of the Cook-Off.

**If you would like to eat:** Bring your appetite and something that would accompany a hearty bowl of chili. Perhaps it will be something savory like corn bread or chips or something sweet like brownies or Rice Krispy treats. We also recommend you bring a cup cake/muffin tin so you may try more than one type of chili in each of the different compartments.



## Globaliers — Book Discussion Group

### First Thursdays in the Fireside Room @ 7pm

- March 7**      Linda Noland *The Best We Could Do* (graphic novel): An Illustrated Memoir\*  
\*This meeting will be held at Noon, instead of the regular time
- 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](mailto:maryann.matzke@gmail.com)

## Grace Gallery

Beginning on February 20, we are now featuring oil paintings and watercolors by the late RoseMary Stephens, mother of Bruce Stephens. RoseMary was a self-taught artist. She first used her artistic talents making chalk-board drawings and mural-sized pictures for the preschool where she worked. She took some painting classes and took up oil and water color painting in the 80s and 90s during which time most of these pictures were done. If she saw an image she really liked, she would try to recreate it. Some of the paintings in this collection are her rendition of famous paintings by other artists. The largest painting was created from a photograph Bruce took of Mt. Jefferson, to which she added her own artistic flair. View some of her lovely artwork in Ronnenkamp Hall.

On deck for April and early May is "Paragons of Nature," photographs of animals from God's creation.



Stanley Miles	03/03
Shelley Chamberlin	03/04
Ron Larson	03/05
Adele Neukomm	03/05
Jaya Lapham	03/07
Michael Gallagher	03/07
Michael Kinch	03/09
Shelly Lundahl	03/09
Lillian White	03/09
Becky Kiersky	03/10
Zane Wilson	03/12
Kathy Vohland	03/16
Todd Weber	03/19
Carol Guard	03/20
Doris Peters	03/20
Maia Gelser	03/21
Leighton Nichols	03/21
Diane Stadvold	03/21
Carol Kamke	03/24
Phillip King	03/24
Allie Palmgren	03/25
Scott Shaff	03/25
Nathan Williams	03/25
Peggy Custer	03/26
Wanda Parrott	03/27
Kathy Farnsworth	03/28
MaryJane Weber	03/28
Alexander Zeller	03/28
Marilyn Lesmeister	03/29

## Birthday Blessings!

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

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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](http://www.grace97330.org)

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### 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

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**Campus Ministry at Luther House**

Mike Ostrom, Pastor, 541.753.5213

**Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers**

Norma Moody, 541.754.2555

# Camp Lutherwood

60 Years of Life Together – Camp Lutherwood

Camp Lutherwood, located 45 minutes southwest of Corvallis in the foothills of the Coast Range, will celebrate 60 years this summer and the opportunities it has since provided youth in Oregon and SW Washington to discover a caring and affirming relationship with God, others, self and the natural world.



Grace Lutheran continues to contribute to this valuable resource which has allowed some of these same youth to grow up to be camp counselors themselves or to even send their own children to camp. Being an association member church, we take part in the annual meetings. Donna King and Wendy Geist attended the most recent one held Jan. 26 in Albany.

At the meeting a vote was taken to begin a 3-year capital campaign that will provide a future for the camp which will support staff and guests of all ages. The first phase will be to raise \$2.2 million to build a two-story retreat center, upper cabin bath house and a pavilion. The second and third phases will focus on a second retreat building and main lodge renovations. The retreat centers will offer guests hotel-style rooms, each with their own bathrooms.

Lutherwood is not only a summer camp, but also remains open year-round to rent for retreats, weddings and day-use. The site has been chosen to host several weeks of Outdoor School programs this spring and fall and the camp is currently working with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on fish habitat restoration for its streams and with the Oregon Department of Forestry to ensure that its forested area (61 out of 71 total acres) remain healthy and may also serve as educational.

Due to low staffing problems which crept up last summer and plagued many regional camps, Lutherwood made the difficult decision to put an indefinite pause on its traveling summer day camp program. Shortages make it difficult to maintain staffing levels at the on-site camp. This will impact Grace's summer day camp program and in response Shelly Lundahl is putting together an idea team to see what can be planned.

This year, as it dives into "60 Years of Life Together" Lutherwood is extremely thankful for all of the support it has received from individuals and congregations. As Christ and the disciples lived life together, God brings us together to help our communities.

Early registration is encouraged for its summer programs for elementary-age through high school youth, including camps for women, families and adults with disabilities. Visit [lutherwoodoregon.org](http://lutherwoodoregon.org) for more information or even to see about being employed as a camp counselor.

Other ways to get involved include helping to prepare camp for the summer by volunteering at one of two work days scheduled for May 4 and May 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or purchasing a ticket to Lutherwood's Harvest Fest in September. For information about camperships to help with a portion of the cost of youth summer camp registration, contact Grace's Christian Education Committee by emailing Donna King at [donnak@grace97330.org](mailto:donnak@grace97330.org).

## Grace Center News

**Corrine Butzin** was driving medical transfer buses for Dial-a-Bus when she became aware of the care her passengers received at Grace Center. At the same time the staff recognized her abilities and she was hired as our Activities Coordinator. It's been a good match. Corrine has a degree from OSU in Integrated Science which is supplemented by a wide range of knowledge she calls her "hobbies". They open her to a many ideas in fulfilling her responsibilities, which is to schedule activities for the participants. I admire the concerns she has for our people. Corrine told me that she tries to involve the community in Grace Center's program. In selecting what the participants will do she considers who will be doing it. Are they men or women, and what are their ages, abilities, and interests?



Corrine grew up on a farm and even now raises chickens for their eggs. She brought some of them to the Center, and the participants enjoyed chickens so much that Corrine let them choose ones they would like to have. They are of a small colorful breed that lay colored eggs. Corrine arranged to have a cage for them in the garden where our members can see them and gather eggs.

Corrine's many hobbies inspire a wide variety of things to do every day. She knows how to can vegetables and fruits that grow in the garden. She listed for me salsa, sauerkraut, pickled beans, low sugar fruit spread. (I liked them — bought in the gift shop.) For four years Grace Center has won Blue Ribbons at the Benton County Fair. Special in the garden is wandering to pick and eat cherry tomatoes or blueberries fresh from the vines.

Other hobbies Corrine uses involve sewing, crocheting, and knitting – all the textile crafts. She has also taught them the lost art of paper marbling. Her own rock club and science classes assure a variety of activities. In any month Grace Center schedules about two outings. Corrine's experience driving a medical transport makes her a natural on those days, of course.

- Betty McCauley

## St. Patrick's Prayer

As I arise today,  
may the strength of God pilot me,  
the power of God uphold me,  
the wisdom of God guide me.

May the eye of God look before me,  
the ear of God hear me,  
the word of God speak for me.

May the hand of God protect me,  
the way of God lie before me,  
the shield of God defend me,  
the host of God save me.

May Christ shield me today.

Christ with me,  
Christ before me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ in me,  
Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,

Christ on my right,  
Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down,  
Christ when I sit,  
Christ when I stand,  
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,  
Christ in every eye that sees me,  
Christ in every ear that hears me.

Amen.



## February Council Minutes

February Council Minutes, along with the minutes from the Annual Meeting, 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](mailto: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.

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



**President:**  
Bob Keith  
**Vice President:**  
Rebekah Hadlock  
**Secretary:**  
Shelley Chamberlin  
**Treasurer:**  
Hal Brauner  
**Financial Secretary:**  
Mary Stephens  
**Council Members:**  
Pr. Netsie Griffith  
Nancy Hemming  
Pr. Wendell Hendershott  
Jaya Lapham  
Jim Leklem  
Dave Lundahl  
Sue Musil  
Lew Nelson  
Kathy Vohland  
Kendra Wollert

## IRA Charitable Rollover — A Giving Opportunity

The Individual Retirement Account Rollover helps you make direct gifts to your congregation and other ministries of the ELCA, such as Grace Lutheran Church Foundation and save on taxes. Made permanent December 18, 2015, the IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals who are 70½ or older to direct gifts from their traditional IRA to eligible charitable organizations. There is a cap of \$100,000 for charitable distributions from individual IRAs each year. Individuals may exclude the amount distributed directly to an eligible charity from their gross income, but cannot take a charitable contribution deduction for the contribution. These gifts can count toward a donor's required minimum distribution (RMD). Gifts must be postmarked by December 31 to satisfy your RMD for a calendar year. If your custodian is making an electronic transfer, the gift must be received on or before December 31.

### HOW TO MAKE THE GIFT

- 1) Contact your plan administrator in writing, perhaps over the phone, and request a direct transfer from your IRA to your congregation or an ELCA ministry of your choice. Only 501 C-3 qualified charitable organizations may benefit.
- 2) Contact the ministry to let them know that it has been transferred and they should look for the transfer of funds.

Grace Lutheran Church tax identification number 93-6009000

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHARITABLE GIFTING PLEASE CONTACT:

Beth Adams, Charitable Gift Planner for the ELCA  
Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana  
Cell: 360.953.4401 [beth.adams@elca.org](mailto:beth.adams@elca.org)

## Retiring the Church Mortgage

### Our Congregation is Close to Retiring the Church Mortgage

On March 21, 2017 our congregation marked its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A year before, we launched the Giving It Forward Initiative (GIF) to retire the church mortgage debt. As a result of GIF, in 2018 we reduced the use of General Funds from \$32,000 annually to only a few thousand dollars in interest. Further, we accelerated paying down our principal to the point that we are close to achieving the GIF goal.

Thank you to the 51 households that have given or have pledged giving through 2020. Thank you to the Grace Foundation and a Private Donor who are still matching funds when received. We are a blessed congregation through your stewardship.

Currently, regular monthly payments are \$2,289 to the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA with just 28 months to go. In 2019, we have GIF pledged funds and respective matching sources to continue paying down the mortgage principal. However, in 2020, we will find ourselves short as pledges complete.

**For this reason, we ask you to prayerfully consider joining in to achieve our goal. We need just \$19,757 in additional giving! This includes \$1,859 that will be fully matched from the Foundation and a Private donor.**

To give to GIF, you can place a check or cash into the church offering plate or within an envelope designated "GIF." You can contact Mary Stephens ([mary@stephens.org](mailto:mary@stephens.org), 541-754-9841) of your intentions to pledge and set up a schedule of giving. You might even consider using an IRA Charitable Rollover (see below) to contribute directly to the GIF and save on taxes. Made permanent December 18, 2015, the IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals who are 70 ½ or older to direct gifts from their traditional IRA to eligible charitable organizations.

Blessings,

Your Stewardship Team

Dave Lundahl, Mary Stephens, Mary Ann Brenan, Lew Nelson, Carol Warloe and Pastor Wendell

## New Photo Directory

**Save the date(s)! 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. **More information will be coming soon.**

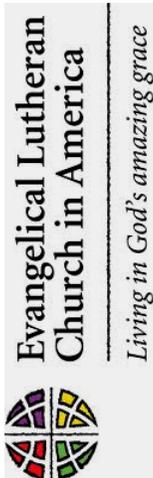
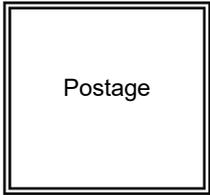
There will not be any heavy-handed sales techniques used at any point along the way. You are free to purchase pictures, or not. We do request that you participate, as your friends here at Grace would love to see your smiling face in the directory.

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](mailto:office@grace97330.org) or 541-757-1600.



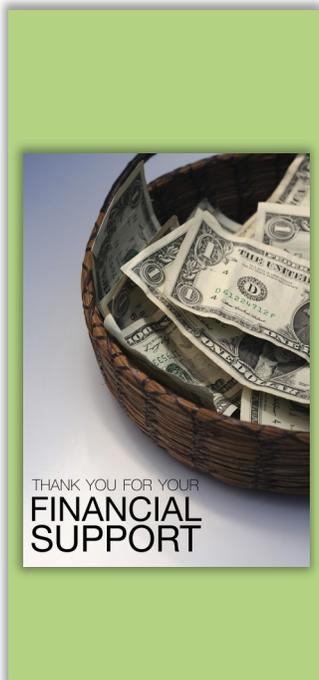
# Grace Lutheran Church

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



## Partners in Faith

Partners in Faith is meeting on Friday the 8th. Dinner is at 6pm, with a program to follow at 7pm. Baked potatoes provided -- just bring a topping to share and/or a green side dish or dessert. Program will most likely be about Ireland. All of this depends on how the OSU Women's Basketball team does next week...



Since 2010, over \$370 million has been distributed to thousands of churches, schools, and other nonprofits just like Grace through Thrivent Choice®. Through this program, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent donates millions of charitable outreach dollars each year.

All 2017 Choice Dollars® have been made available for members to direct. Now is the time to direct your dollars! 2018 Choice Dollars expire on March 31, 2019.

Want to know more about Thrivent? Ask Sue Musil, or contact the church office.

