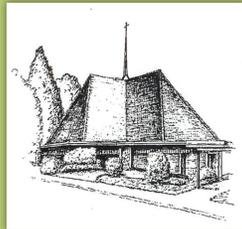


# Grace GATHERINGS

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."*

## Advent Worship Schedule

**Sunday, December 1 @ 9:30 am**—Advent Worship Service

**Wednesday, December 4 @ 6 pm**—Advent Soup Supper and 7pm Holden Evening Prayer Service

**Sunday, December 8 @ 9:30 am**—Advent Worship Service

**Wednesday, December 11 @ 6 pm**—Advent Soup Supper and 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service

**Sunday, December 15 @ 9:30 am**—Nativity

**Wednesday, December 18 @ 6 pm**—Advent Soup Supper and 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service

**Sunday, December 22 @ 9:30 am**—Advent Worship Service

**Tuesday, December 24 @ 5 pm**—Manger Service

**Tuesday, December 24 @ 10 pm**—Celtic Christmas Service

**Sunday, December 29 @ 9:30 am**—Christmas 1 Worship Service



**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.***

## Prayers

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

## Prayers

*Please pray for those not included on this list, by request or accidental omission.*

*Pray for those who are infirm and/or secluded.*

### Illnesses and Other Concerns:

- ⇒ Laury "Butch" and Sara Frazer, Andrea Barnhurst's friends
- ⇒ Nicole Mandley, Andrea Barnhurst's friend
- ⇒ Clark Griffith, Pastor Netsie's Nephew
- ⇒ Marna Renshaw
- ⇒ Karen Strand

### Deaths:

- ⇒ Marcia Parks, cousin of Dan Hallgrimson

## Grace Gatherings

The baby Shower Invitation for Ali Briskey included in the printed copies of the December 2019 issue of Grace Gatherings can be also found on our website at:

<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2019-December-Baby-Shower-Invite.pdf>

## 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, AF

**Facebook Administrator** - Rebekah Hadlock

**Financial Secretary:** Mary Stephens

**Nursery** - Mackenzie & Rachel Burnett,

Christina Lundahl, Katie Olsen & Melissa Smith

**Office Administrator** - Andrea Barnhurst (eff. 6/4)

**Office Assistant** - Jody Parker

**Organist/Pianist** - Sunghee 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)

### 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

## Frauds and Scams

We live in a world where technology is everywhere. It seems like everybody has either a cell phone, email address, or social media account. With this growth in technology, we find that people who are wanting to take advantage of others through spamming or fraudulent endeavors are no longer going door to door. As the holiday season starts and people become more in the giving mood, we at Grace feel that it is important for all members to be aware this season. During the holiday season, we are more aware of needs in our communities and start to get confused as to what is a true need and what may be a scam.

Some things to be aware of as you go into the holiday season and as spams and frauds are sounding more legitimate.

- A warrant, bail to get out of jail, and outstanding bills cannot be resolved by sending gift cards or prepaid debit cards.
- Never wire money to somebody, even if the email came from a relative or friend, before verifying that they are truly the one in need. These emails may include phrases like "I left my cell phone at home", "I had to make an emergency trip", or "my phone is dead". Always contact them directly before wiring them money.
- Always verify the email address is right. Many emails say they may come from a person/business, but in reality, the email address is not the one the person or business uses. Unfortunately, some scammers now have the capability of duplicating legitimate email addresses, so this is not necessarily a fool proof test.
- Be aware of Social Media friend requests or messages from people who are supposed to be already on your friends list. Social Media profiles are being cloned to try to gain access to your private information and be friending a person who should already be on your friends list, you are now allowing hackers to see information that you do not have public. Always check your friends list to see if these people are on your friends list, and if they are report the cloned account.
- Social Security, Medicare, and the IRS will NEVER call you looking for payment or informing you of changes. These organizations will ALWAYS send you a letter in the mail.
- Also, be very aware of links being sent to you by email. Links could be to change passwords, get receipts or update contact information. These emails may look real or the website to which it takes you may look real, but they are scams that have been done very well. A good rule of thumb in regard to these... first always look at the email address. If you are asked to change passwords or update contact information and you did not request this, go to the website directly not through the link and see if you need to do this. Last, if ever you are in doubt... call the company directly and not by the phone number on the email or given to you on the phone.

We here at Grace would like to specifically bring attention to some emails that have been sent out to church members saying they were sent by Pastor Wendell. These emails have included asking you to purchase gift cards or to contact him back. A couple things we have noticed in these emails is that the email address is typically not Pastor Wendell's email address. We have also noticed that his closing in his emails is not his typical closing and there is usually some form of strange punctuation, lack of punctuation or capitalization.

Grace would also like to encourage its members, to go and check in on family or friends who may not have social media and to talk with them about these phone calls and emails. It is becoming very common, that people who unfortunately fall into these scam frauds are usually the elderly or people who do not have access to social media.

If you ever question an email that was sent by a staff member at Grace, please contact the church via phone or email to notify and verify this information.

### **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*

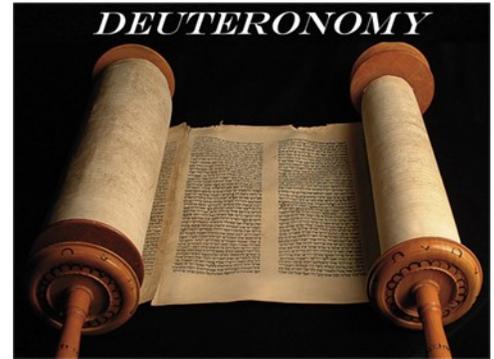
*Pastor Wendell's  
Days Off  
Mon., Tues, & Friday*



## Tuesday Bible Study December Schedule

*Shema*, the Hebrew word translated as 'hear' is used to refer to Deuteronomy 6:4-8:

*<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. <sup>5</sup>You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. <sup>6</sup>Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. <sup>7</sup>Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. <sup>8</sup>Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead,*



You are invited to join us on Tuesday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm, as we seek to hear and talk to one another about what words of love and life have shaped and continue to shape us as God's people. We continue to do this through the lens and study of the book of Deuteronomy.

**In December we will meet the first three Tuesdays (Dec. 3, 10 and 17) and take the last two Tuesdays off (Dec. 24 and 31). We will then resume in January on January 7.**

December 12  
**2nd Thursday's  
Women's  
Luncheon**  
Queen's Chopsick  
@ 11:45am

December 24  
**4th Tuesday's  
Women's  
Luncheon** at  
New Morning  
Bakery  
@ 11:45am

## Globaliers — Grace Book Discussion Group

### 2019-2020 Global Book Group Schedule

**December 5, 12:00 noon**

Ardis Koester — "Astoria: Astor and Jefferson's Lost Pacific Empire" by Peter Stark

"Gateway to the Moon" by Mary Morris

In 1492, two history-altering events occurred: the Jews and Muslims of Spain were expelled, and Columbus set sail for the New World. Many Spanish Jews chose not to flee and instead became Christian in name only, maintaining their religious traditions in secret. Over the centuries, descendants traveled across North America, finally settling in the hills of New Mexico. Now, some five hundred years later, a young astronomer finds himself trying to understand the mystery that surrounds him.

## Grace Library

**A quick preview of happenings in the Grace Library in the afternoon of Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup>!!** Local author Karen Barnett, who writes faith based historical romances, will be here for the meeting of the local Pacific Northwest Association of Church Libraries and anyone interested is invited to join in. Karen's wonderful Vintage National Parks series is available in the library to check out before the meeting. (There will be snacks!!)



## November Council Minutes

November 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](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  
Sandie Williams  
Kendra Wollert

## Ida Fund

Thank you to all those who contribute to the Ida Fund. Ida Irgens-Moller had a heart for people who were in need. To honor her giving spirit, the congregation has named a fund in her honor to help with little financial emergencies. We supply gasoline to people who find themselves low. We may purchase a pup tent, a bicycle tire, a prescription, the fee for an ID card, or any other small need. Most of our assistance is less than \$50.00. If you would like to help with this modest ministry, you may make a check payable to Grace Lutheran Church and put "Ida Fund" in the memo line. All the money goes directly to help those in need. It is a fine way to contribute something extra at the end of the year.

## Grace Gallery

Handmade Christmas cards by Cy Stadvold

Each year, Cy creates a Christmas card to send to friends and family. Each year is unique. Starting with a central theme, usually drawn from nature, Cy hand paints the background of each card individually. Many who have received Cy's cards report that they have them framed and display them in their homes year round. We hope you enjoy this collection of cards. Christmas cards are currently displayed in Ronnenkamp Hall.



Cy and his wife, Cynara have been members of Grace Lutheran Church since moving to Corvallis in 1962. They have been married over 60 years; have 4 children and 7 grandchildren.

## Advent Wednesdays 2019

Advent arrives later than usual this year. The first Sunday in Advent is on December first, and our first Wednesday Advent service is on December 4th. All of this will likely make it feel like a brief holiday season.

As in recent years, a soup supper will precede each worship service at 6:00 pm. There is a sign up in the entryway if you would like to make soup or make other contributions to our evening meal one Wednesday.

Due to many requests, we will use *Holden Evening Prayer* for our Wednesday worship. The pairing of the music and the poetry of this service lend themselves well to the December quiet of the Advent holidays. These prayers are sung, for the most part, and with many of us now familiar with the music, we sing it quite well. If it is new to you, the confident singing of those around you will help you learn it fairly quickly.

It uses a pattern evolved though the prayer practices of the early church. It is a delightful matching of the ancient texts of the Vespers service (evening prayer) with gentle music conceived in a winter setting deep in the wilderness of Washington's Cascade Mountains. It was composed for Holden Village, a Lutheran Retreat Center, in the mountains northwest of Lake Chelan, in the winter of 1985-86.

### **Advent Schedule: Wednesday Nights (December 4, 11, 18)**

6:00 Soup Supper

7:00 Holden Evening Prayer

## Thanksgiving and Pie

Thank you to all who participated in our Thanksgiving Activities. We are especially appreciative of all of you who provided food and other items for the Thanksgiving Baskets so that people with limited income might have a festive Thanksgiving.

A highlight for many was the Pass the Pie Fellowship on the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving. The pies were delicious and we thank Marna Renshaw for her leadership in this festive feast.

## **Sunday Brunch in honor of Br. Christopher Buckley December 22, Ronnenkamp Hall, 10:45 a.m.**

Be sure and join us following worship on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, as we celebrate and give thanks for Br. Christopher Buckley and the gifts he has shared with us these past four years as our Director of Music Ministries. Our Grace Worker Bee Team will be preparing what is sure to be a delicious brunch, so just bring your gratitude and appetite to the gathering.

If you choose, as part of your expression of thanks, you may contribute to a Money Tree we will have set up for that day. Should holiday plans take you out of town that day and you would still like to make a contribution, you may send it to the church office prior to the 22<sup>nd</sup>, but be sure to label it "Buckley Money Tree," so your intentions are met.

Br. Christopher's last two worship services with us will be our evening Christmas Eve services. We hope you will be able to be with us for one of those as well as all the Sundays in December. We look forward to these last opportunities to be musically inspired and led by Br. Christopher as, together, we respond to God's gospel proclamation through our music.



## Birthday Blessings!

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

Norma Moody	12/01	Nancy Strohlein	12/08	Sara Gelser	12/20
Hal Lindsley	12/02	Gabri Bilotta	12/09	Karen Nunery	12/22
Joan Sandeno	12/02	Jamie Pettingill	12/09	Pat Olson	12/23
Briita Orwick	12/05	Mary Lou Rodriguez	12/11	Jessica Saathoff	12/26
Beverly Domholt	12/06	David Bella	12/14	Cathy Mueller	12/27
Jude Geist	12/06	Denice Rickard	12/17	Lars Orwick	12/27
Meredith Junge	12/07	Samuel Gelser	12/19	Anna Wayt	12/28
Jared Vance	12/07	Kathryn Honey	12/19	James Wernz	12/28

## Pastor Wendell's Second Sunday Class *Genesis Migrants*

Each month Pastor Wendell leads a discussion group. This year, we are looking at the major characters of the book of Genesis. If you recall your Sunday school lessons, you may remember that many of these folks were migrants. With this knowledge, we hope to not only look at the biblical migrations of our faith forebearers, but also make connections with more recent history and current events.

December 8:	Abraham and Sarah Gn 12—15, 17-21.7; 22-23
January 12:	Ishmael and his mother, Hagar, Gn 16; 21.8-21
February 9:	Isaac and Rebekah, Gn 24.1—27—28
March 15:	<i>Tentative date</i> , The Tragic stories of Lot's Daughters, Dinah, and Judah's Daughter-in-law, Tamar Gn 34 & 38.
April 19:	Jacob with Rachel and Leah Gn 29-33, 35-36
May 17:	Joseph Goes to Egypt, Gn 37, Mt 2. 7-23.

## Christmas Poinsettias

It's time to decorate Grace for Christmas!!

If you would like to contribute to the Altar Guild Flower Fund, look for forms included with the Sunday bulletins or on the office counter.

To share a poinsettia (or other holiday plant) with the Grace Sanctuary display, please bring it to the church office after December 15.

For your information to be included in the holiday bulletins, please have forms to the office by noon on Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!



## GIVING IT FORWARD UPDATE

In 2015 the Stewardship Committee began working on a plan to pay off the church mortgage, which at that time was about \$384,000. In December of that year, the Giving It Forward initiative was launched and by the end of 2016 over \$100,000 was raised. The Grace Lutheran Foundation agreed to match up to \$130,000 and a generous anonymous donor added a challenge match of \$30,000. As of November 2019 we have received a total of \$322,695 and the mortgage balance is currently under \$40,000! There is approximately \$23,000 in outstanding pledges and match monies still to be received. We are within \$15,000 of additional pledges to reaching our goal! Donations are still being sought. Let's get the mortgage completely paid off in 2020!

## SAVE THE DATE:

### MARCH 14, 2020 - ART AUCTION

As a way to raise the final amount needed to pay off the mortgage, the Stewardship Committee is planning to hold a gala event on March 14, 2020. The estate of Joyce Signer has generously donated some beautiful works of art which will be auctioned off along with other works of art. If you have a piece of art you would consider donating, please call Mary Ann Brenan at 541.230.1696



## One of many ways to participate in Worship at Grace

A central part of our worship at Grace each Sunday is our celebration of Holy Communion. We rejoice in the opportunity to be spiritually fed, as we receive the bread and wine, the body and blood of the One who gave and continues to give his life for us, Jesus the Christ. For those who distribute bread and wine, it is an additional gift to be called upon to serve in this great mystery of our faith. While many of our council members serve in worship in this way, you don't have to be on church council to be a communion server. Youth, young adults, older adults, college students, retirees, people of all backgrounds are capable of being part of our cadre of volunteers who serve communion. If you would like to consider participating in worship in this way, please speak with Linda Samuels or one of our pastors. We would be glad to add you to this list.

## Children's Christmas Gifts



As you go about your Christmas shopping, please remember the Lutheran church in Woodburn, House of Zion. They deeply appreciate whatever gifts we can send. Christmas tags with suggestions for gifts will be placed in the narthex & fireside room. Used clothing and toys are always welcome, too. Please leave in the big box in the fireside room by Dec. 8th.

## Luther House Campus Ministry

**Dinner Church** - Monday 5:30 pm—7:00 pm

**Luther House Cafe** - Tuesday 10:00 am—Noon

**Building Bridges** - Wednesday 6:00 pm—7:30 pm



### SAVE THE DATE!

Lutherfest 2020 is set for **Sunday, February 23, 2020**, 1:30-4:30 pm @ the Boulder Falls Conference Center in Lebanon. Lutherfest is a craft beer and artisan cheese pairing event. Proceeds from ticket sales support Luther House Campus Ministry, your ELCA college ministry at Oregon State University. Mark your calendars and plan to join the fun on February 23rd!

## Taize Prayer Service

7pm on the First Sunday of the Month at the **Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan;**  
**Corner of 35th and Harrison in Corvallis**  
**541-602-6895**

### Upcoming Dates:

December 1, 2019	January 5, 2020	February 2, 2020
March 1, 2020	April 5, 2020	May 3, 2020
		June 7, 2020

### As promised in the Sunday bulletin, here is the list of those providing transportation:

Thanks to our wonderful, dedicated Grace on the Move Drivers, who provide and/or coordinate rides to worship and Bible Study for those in need of transportation: Ron & Kay Larson, Marna Renshaw, Wayne & Carolyn Kradjan, Darlene & Jim Leklem, Debbie Kuehn, Norma Moody, Juan Guzman, Jerry Koester. *(if you provide this service and your name is not here, please let the church office know, 541.757.1600)*

### As promised in the Sunday bulletin, here is the list of our Sunday Musicians:

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

· **Singers!:** Glenn Chaffin, Sue Davis, Carol Erickson, Netsie Griffith, Marshall Hill-Tanquist, Tom Kiersky, Ardis Koester, Jaya Lapham, Darlene Leklem, Norma Moody, Erin Radniecki, Sue Speulda, Donna Wernz, Jim Wernz, Sandie Williams,

· **Instrumentalists!:** Michael Beachley, Wendell Hendershott, Angie Kingsley, Dave Lundahl, *These folks may sing too.*

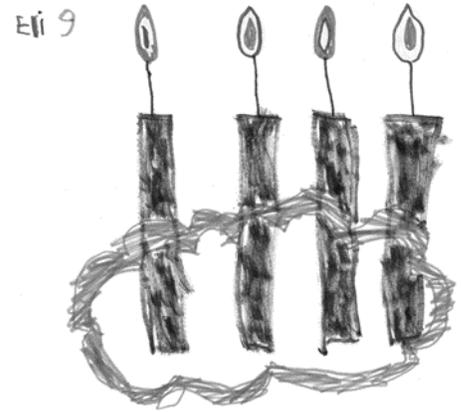
If any of these names are incorrect, please let the office know at [office@grace97330.org](mailto:office@grace97330.org).

## 'In Light & Darkness'

This year's Advent Devotion Booklet brings us a creative exploration of light and darkness, with much to ponder about the entrance of God into the world at Christmas. There are devotions to read, illustrations to color, and thought-provoking questions to work through if you're inspired. Pick up your copy and dive a little deeper into Advent!

## Advent Greens MakerSpace

**10:45 am, Dec 1, in Ronnenkamp Hall**  
**Come Make an Advent Wreath, Swag, or Mug Bouquet!**  
Come join our annual intergenerational Advent Celebration! Make an advent wreath to take home, a swag for your door, or a mug bouquet to keep or give. Kids can make a great paper chain to decorate with, too. Greens are free. There is a small charge (to cover costs) if you need candles, wreath frames, mugs, or decorations (or bring supplies from home if you like). It's always lots of fun. ALL ages are invited and welcome. So fun!



## You're Invited to the Annual Young People's Nativity Service!

**9:30 am, Dec. 15**

Don't miss this wonderful tradition – and invite those you know to get involved, too! Kids of our congregation, grandchildren, and community kids are all invited to participate. Please talk with Donna King or Melissa Smith, Nativity Coordinators, if you have questions.

### Rehearsal Times for Nativity Service Participants

Song Practices — Sunday, Dec 1, during Sunday School  
— Sunday, Dec 8, during Sunday School

Speaking Parts — Sunday, Dec 1, 11:45 am  
— Sunday, Dec 8, during Sunday School  
— Saturday, Dec 14, 8:30 – 9:30 am AND

Dress Rehearsal for All Participants — Saturday, Dec 14, 9:30 – 11:30 am



## Camp Lutherwood



### Camp Volunteers Needed

Camp Lutherwood is always in need of willing and able volunteers to help us stay on top of site projects. Do you have experience in plumbing, carpentry, gardening, construction, or are just interested in coming out to camp to lend a helping hand? Contact our Site Manager, Tom Brewer at [tom@lutherwoodoregon.org](mailto:tom@lutherwoodoregon.org) or 541-998-6444 for upcoming opportunities to volunteer on our site. No experience or long term commitments necessary.

### #GivingTuesday 2019

#GivingTuesday is coming up on Tuesday, December 3! Our goal this year is \$1,500 to build a new play structure for our youngest campers. Visit [lutherwoodoregon.org](http://lutherwoodoregon.org) or our Social Media on December 3rd to help us with this special project.

### Summer 2020

It's almost time to register for Summer 2020! The complete schedule can be found on our website at [lutherwoodoregon.org](http://lutherwoodoregon.org). Be sure to register before January 15th to take advantage of 2019 prices. Give the gift of camp this Christmas with a gift certificate for a week at Camp Lutherwood! Contact the office at 541-998-6444 to purchase one for a special camper in your life!

## Grace Center News

Wouldn't it be nice (and festive) to have one of our holiday shopping days done early? Grace Center's annual bazaar will be held Thursday and Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 4pm. This is the place to buy some truly unique items and have them in time to be wrapped and ready to give. The Center is focused on cold-weather items like scarves as well as soup mixes or cookie mixes in a jar. (Tasty and easy to use.) Stocking stuffers like pot holders and spa gifts or pillows and much more. Colorful and lovingly made gifts inspire with the holiday season. Items are made by our participants or home-crafted and donated for the sale.

All proceeds from the sale go to the Participant Advisory Council (PAC) budget. This is a group of participants who provide input to the Center directors about program activities. They decide how money raised will be used. The annual beach trip is a good example. From jewelry to embroidery there are holiday gifts you will enjoy giving at the Grace Center bazaar.

**HOLIDAY BAZAAR**  
DECEMBER 5TH & 6TH; 10AM-4PM

 **GRACE CENTER**  
*For Adult Day Services*

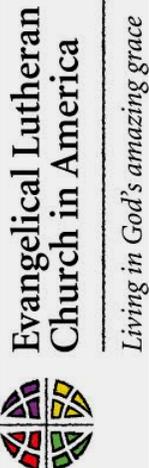
980 NW SPRUCE AVE, CORVALLIS; 541-754-8417  
WWW.GRACECENTER-CORVALLIS.ORG

## Grace Lutheran Church

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



Postage



### Director of Music Ministries

October 26, 2019

Grace Lutheran Church, in Corvallis, Oregon, seeks a musically qualified person to direct choirs, vocalists, and instrumentalists; coach audio-visual operators; and help plan and coordinate worship services during weekly and special church events. For an application and more information, contact the church office at:

[office@grace97330.org](mailto:office@grace97330.org)

541-757-1600

Grace Lutheran Church  
Kings and Harrison Blvds.  
435 NW 21<sup>st</sup> St.  
Corvallis, OR 97330

## Adult Bible Study—December 2019 to February 2020

### Honoring God

This study explores how worship in its many forms honors God. When we gather for worship or set ourselves individually to pray, we enter into a relationship with God and with God's people. By exploring some of the first people who heard the word of God, the Hebrew people, we can see that caring for the law and the commandments by housing them in the ark of covenant was the beginning of a long history of honoring God. The stories of David and his people bringing the ark to Jerusalem and then Solomon housing God's name in the temple reveal careful ritual practices. Looking at the dedication of the temple and God's specific requirements about its design and proportion and the presence of the ark as God's throne, we comprehend that nothing is arbitrary; nothing haphazard.

The New Testament biblical passages fill out the picture of what it means to honor God by reminding us of Mary's visit to Elizabeth and the role of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' conception and birth. Finally, we consider Jesus' own teachings on worship as prayer and care for those in need. Worship, then, becomes not only public gatherings centered in word and sacraments but private listening to and address to God through prayer.

We will see how worship is shaped by faith and how worship nurtures faith. Faith is formed by worship, and the ways we worship determine to a great extent what we believe about God, ourselves, and our relationships with our neighbors. The aim of giving honor to God is to increase our love for God and for our neighbors.

### Our Writer

Melinda Quivik has served as a seminary professor of worship and preaching, as president of the North American Academy of Liturgy, and as a pastor in Montana, Michigan, and Minnesota. Her Augsburg Fortress books include *Remembering God's Promises: A Funeral Handbook* (2018), *Leading Worship Matters* (2013), and *Serving the Word* (2009).