

February 2020
volume XVIII
issue 2

Grace GATHERINGS

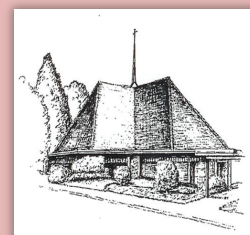
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



*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.

Lent 2020

Easter is on April 12th
Lent will begin February 26th
with our Ash Wednesday worship service

Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, February 25 at 7:00 pm
Imposition of Ashes and Eucharist

Wednesday Lenten Services will begin the following week
on March 4th

Midweek Evening Lenten Schedule

We are reconsidering the Midweek Lenten Schedule, due to the new Director of Music Ministries and new pastors' schedules; so stay tuned for more developing Information.

*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.*

Prayers

This prayer list is a compilation of the requests we have received at Grace from December to January 20. For a more timely update to the prayers, send your email address to prayers@grace97330.org, and ask to be part of the prayer list.

Prayers

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

Pray for those who are infirm and/or secluded.

Illnesses and Other Concerns:

- ⇒ Clark Griffith, Pr. Netsie Griffith's Nephew
- ⇒ Ray William, Gordon and Mary Ann Matzke's Friend
- ⇒ Bob Schoning
- ⇒ Deacon Bonnie Beadles-Bohling
- ⇒ Jesse Birchell, Rachel Harrington's niece Amanda's husband
- ⇒ Deb Thompson, Kathy Mueller's Sister in law
- ⇒ Shelley Chamberlin

Deaths

- ⇒ Jeanne Robinson, Former Member of Grace
- ⇒ Dan, Sandie Williams' daughter in law's father
- ⇒ The brother of Jesse Birchell, Rachel Harrington's niece Amanda's brother in law
- ⇒ Paul Maier, Martha Maier's brother
- ⇒ Hal Lindsley
- ⇒ Pati Peyer, Cathy Mueller's Cousin

Grace Personnel

**Pastor Netsie Griffith &
Pastor Wendell Hendershott**

Bookkeeper - Robin Comforto

Custodian - Sam McKay

Director of Discipling Ministries - Donna King

Director of Music Ministries - Seeking

Facebook Administrator - Rebekah Hadlock

Financial Secretary - Mary Stephens

Nursery - Mackenzie & Rachel Burnett,

Christina Lundahl, Katie Olsen & Melissa Smith

Office Administrator - Andrea Barnhurst

Office Assistant - Jody Parker

Organist/Pianist - Sunghee 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 Strohlein,
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

Corvallis Men's Cold Weather Shelter

Did you know that it takes approximately 3500 volunteer hours to run the Corvallis Men's Shelter? This is where you all come in. In 2020, our week at the shelter is February 23-29, instead of in January. The shelter is doing things a bit differently in that it is open to all community members to sign up. However, this week has been blocked out for Grace.

The shelter has a new volunteer coordinator this year. His name is Mike Jager and he can be reached at corvmensshelter@gmail.com or by phone 541-621-9059 with any questions.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- team leader 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
- check-in (1) 5:30 pm– 8:00 pm
- bag checkers (1) 5:30 pm– 8:00 pm
- evening food servers (2) 6:00 pm– 8:30 pm
- staff backup (1) 8:00 pm – 11:00 pm
- overnight (1) 11:00 pm - 7:00 am

Note that our week does include Ash Wednesday, however, I am sure that our congregation can also cover that evening.

To see what slots are available, access SignUp Genius at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054badaa2ba4f58-corvallis>.

Once you determine what slot you will volunteer for, email me at susan.speulda@gmail.com or call me at 541-760-1544.

Measure

A measure of society is its attitude toward vulnerability.

Do we measure up?

When I see people huddled, sleeping bags,
Not the comfy bed in a warm room.

Do we measure up?

When we have such a fear of saying
I'm struggling. Inside I'm crumbling.
Where a frank conversation is seen as revelation.

A measure of society is its approach to vulnerability.

When we walk on by,

Do we measure up?

~Author Unknown~

I believe that Grace Lutheran Church measures up.

Sue Speulda, Homeless Shelter Coordinator

Pastor Netsie Griffith

Contact Information

Cell: 541.223.3455

Email:

netsie@grace97330.org

Pastor Netsie's

Days Off

Thursday & Friday

Pastor Wendell Hendershott

Contact Information

Cell: 541.223.3503

Email:

wendell@grace97330.org

Pastor Wendell's

Days Off

Mon., Tues, & Friday

This Month in Grace Gallery

The photography exhibit now in the gallery in Ronnenkamp Hall, "One Western Bluebird Family," was provided by Mary Stephens. The photos displayed were chosen from more than 2,000 photos she took over eleven days (21 hours) of observation. The images were printed courtesy of Larry & Sharon Rosenkoetter.



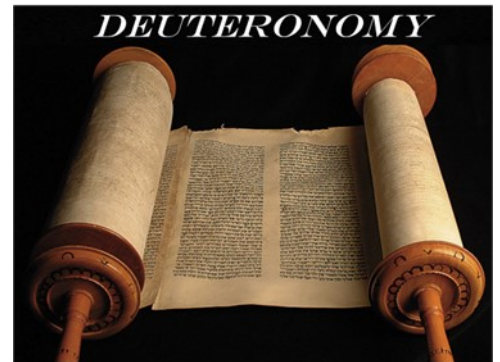
February 13
**2nd Thursday's Women's
Luncheon at
Ronin Café and Ramen
@ 11:45am**

February 25
**4th Tuesday's Women's
Luncheon at
New Morning Bakery
@ 11:45am**

Tuesday Bible Study

"Nations may be born in moments of splendor, insight and glorious endeavor only to perish in a wasteland of disillusionment and self-deception." -Ronald E. Clements, commentary on Deuteronomy, *The New Interpreter's Bible*, V. II, p. 376

The writers of Deuteronomy (the Deuteronomists) worked to continually remind the people of Israel that their success and blessing as a people was not because of any intrinsic goodness or worthiness on their part but because of God's mercy, love, greatness and forgiveness. Through the exhortations of Moses, they were reminded that they faced both external threats as well as internal threats from those who fueled division and dissension within the community of faith. Yet, the greatest threat to their existence was that every man, woman and child would forget the greatness of God's achievements in the life of their community. Because of an awareness and knowledge of the past saving acts of God, they could look to God for salvation in the present and in the future. The Word of God had to be learned over and over again.



We are finding that these lessons from Deuteronomy have meaning for our own time in which we are living. If you find yourself discouraged and challenged by daily news reports or struggling with where it is that we find God's presence in our world and our lives, join us every Tuesday from 1-2:30 pm in the Fire-side Room. We would welcome your presence and voice in our midst.

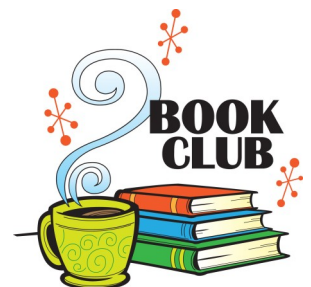
Globaliers — Grace Book Discussion Group

Please join the Grace Globaliers in the church library for interesting discussions about books with international and cross-cultural themes. The upcoming books are:

Thursday, Feb. 6, 12 noon - Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue reviewed by Darlene Leklem

The novel tells of an immigrant from Cameroon who becomes the chauffeur for a Lehman Brothers executive not long before the 2008 financial crisis.

Thursday, March 5, 12 noon - The Newcomers: Finding Refuge, Friendship, and Hope in an American Classroom by Helen Thorpe reviewed by Marilyn Works. This book follows high school-age refugees through their first year. It is particularly insightful regarding how these kids are dealing with their old country's ideas of adulthood versus this country's ideas, and trying to figure out life in general.



January Council Minutes

January 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.

*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

Director of Music

As of this writing, we have had four candidates inquire about our open position for a Director of Music Ministries. We have sent them all Job descriptions and applications. Two have filed applications and two have not. Of those *not* filing, one was seeking immediate employment and the other needed a full-time position with benefits.

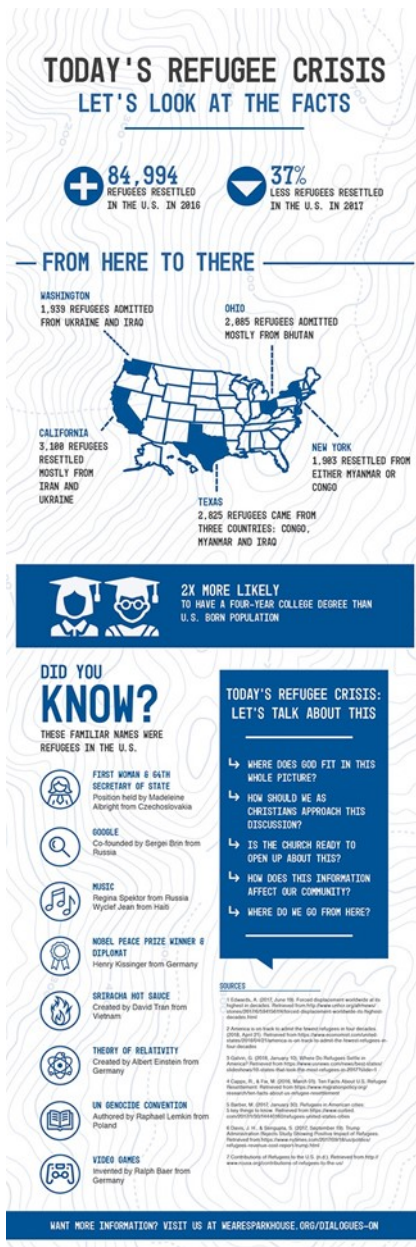
At present, we have two candidates actively seeking the position. Both have completed a first interview and both have directed our musicians in a piece of her or his own choosing. They have each taken an assessment tool and we have spoken with the tool's consultant on the meaning of the resulting data. Upon the consultant's recommendations, we are calling them both back for additional conversation about the position.

We believe the process is heading toward a conclusion in the not too distant future. A wise man once explained that, "The windmills of the church do indeed grind exceedingly slowly, yet at the same time, they grind exceedingly fine." Our hope is that the time and effort in this process will bring us to that very fine conclusion.

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, March 15th 12:30-2:20pm
Annual Grace Lutheran Church Chile Cookoff
In Ronnencamp Hall





Dialogues on the Refugee Crisis Begins February 16 (New Date!) 10:45 am in Ronnenkamp Hall

Our world is too polarized – but we *can* learn to engage one another's differences in ways that open us to new possibilities. In this "Dialogues Project" we will do just that. We will engage in real dialogue facilitated by Grace's elders *and* younger. We will practice relational skills that help form the connections that create space for new insight. We will expand our imagination with videos and well-researched information about the refugee crisis around the world. And we will ponder scripture and our call to work together as the body of Christ given for the life of the world. You are invited to join the conversation...and to be God's good gifts to the world!



Grace Library

Come to the Grace Library to get a book to curl up with on cold Winter Days!

Thank You

Hi,

I'm grateful that you have allowed me to park in your lot most Mondays of the last six months. In gratitude I'd like to make this donation, I know you will put this money to good use. — Dale



Birthday Blessings!

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

Patrick Custer	02/03	Donna Wernz	02/09	Debbie Zeller	02/21
David Tribes	02/04	Emily Vega	02/11	Toney Logan	02/23
Bob Zwang	02/04	Jon Beilby	02/12	Jerrold Koester	02/24
Keri Briskey	02/07	Sue Musil	02/13	Katie Olsen	02/24
Tobias Hostick	02/07	Linda Roberts	02/14	Brianna Donner	02/25
Ron Olson	02/07	Bonnie Zwang	02/19	Gloria Werth	02/25
Jennie Roberts	02/07	Eileen Beck	02/20	Joy Martin	02/27
Bobbie Kelly	02/09	Brenda Beck	02/21	Brandy Greeley	02/28
Ardis Koester	02/09	Kerry Boysen	02/21	Sarah McKenney	02/28
Hans Neukomm Jr.	02/09			Noel Vineyard	02/28

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 forbearers, but also make connections with more recent history and current events.

February 2:	NOTE DATE CHANGE! Isaac and Rebekah, Gn 24-28
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 28-33, 35-36
May 17:	Joseph Goes to Egypt, Gn 37, Mt 2. 7-23.

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 mid-December 2019 we have received a total of \$344,600 and the mortgage balance is currently \$37,790! There is approximately \$20,000 in outstanding pledges and match monies still to be received. We have less than \$9,000 of additional pledges to reach our goal! Donations are still being sought. Let's get the mortgage completely paid off in 2020!

Grace Lutheran Art Auction Event

March 14, 2020

5:30pm - Food and Wine Pairing

7:00pm - Art Auction

Tickets: \$30 each (Limited to 130). Tickets are now available online or in the church office.

Food

Cheese & Wine Pairing Table

Chocolate & Wine Pairing Table

Meat, Seafood & Wine Pairing Table

Wine provided by Lumos Cellars

For more information, see the link below

https://grace97330.org/art_auction_2020/



If you have a piece of art you would consider donating, please call Mary Ann Brennan at 541.230.1696

Interfaith Pot Luck

Sunday, February 16, 2020 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1205 NW Walnut Blvd, Corvallis, OR 97330

Vegetarian potluck to accommodate dietary preferences.

Bring labels to indicate gluten-free, dairy-free etc. as appropriate.

Let us create and strengthen friendships among our faith communities.

Let us be the peace and love we wish to see in the world.

Luther House Campus Ministry

Tuesday:

Luther House Cafe- Grab and Go fresh beignets and coffee and a puppy to make you smile. 9:30-11:30 a.m. or until we run out of beignets.

Evening prayer- 7:00p.m.

Building Bridges

Schedule varies. Please see our Facebook page or call Luther House at 541-753-5213 for more info.



Lutherfest 2020 ticket sales are in full swing!

Sunday, February 23, 2020



Long time Luther House supporters and craft beer and artisan cheese aficionados are weighing in. Don't miss out on the fun and the chance to support ministry to college age young adults at Oregon State University. Buy your ticket today online <http://www.luther-house.org/programs/lutherfest/> or call 541-753-5213.

Ticket sales end Friday, February 14, 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. Sunghee Kim accompanies the choir and plays piano and 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.

Grace Center News

Move-a-Thon

Whenever there is musical entertainment in Grace Center some of the participants want to dance, and the staff is quite happy to dance with them. It is sweet to see them moving to the music. Part of the joy is social, the sheer pleasure of doing it together. The Move-a-Thon invites you to try out new kinds of dancing. Give it a try! I always love folk dancing, but maybe Bollywood would be your kind, or Salsa, or Hula? Your pleasure or your support of dance for Grace Center participants will be appreciated very much.

Grace Center's 2020 MOVE-A-THON!



Sunday, February 9th
Corvallis Elks Lodge: 1400 9th St
1:00pm to 5:00pm
\$20 at the door

What's key to living and aging well? Moving your body and socializing! **Join us for a community Move-a-Thon that features dance instruction in Hula, Folk, Salsa, and Bollywood!** You don't need to know how to dance – we'll learn together!! This is a fundraiser for:



Camp Lutherwood



Creek Restoration Work Day

Save the date for special winter work day on Saturday, February 8 beginning at 9am to help with a creek restoration project. All ages are welcome and lunch will be provided. Bring warm clothes, rain gear and boots or waders. Everyone will be working in the creek. RSVP to office@lutherwoodoregon.org or 541-998-6444 by February 6th.

Camp Lutherwood is Hiring!

Camp Lutherwood is now accepting applications for Food Service Staff for beginning early March 1, 2020 to cook for Outdoor School programs. Positions include Head Cook, Assistant Cook, Kitchen Assistant and Dishwashers AND all positions on our 2020 summer staff. This includes nurses, lifeguards, food service staff and more! Summer staff applicants must be 18 before June 13, 2020. Check out our website at www.lutherwoodoregon.org/employment for more information, job descriptions and to apply. For questions, contact Charlotte at 541-998-6444 or charlotte@lutherwoodoregon.org

Summer Registration Now Open

It's time to register for Summer 2020! Program descriptions and schedules are available on our website. Please contact the office (541) 998-6444 or office@lutherwoodoregon.org with any questions. Be sure to update us with any new contact information and check out our website and social media so you can stay up to date on all that is happening at camp.

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:

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

Join in on an Afternoon with our new, Oregon Synod Bishop

February 15 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church, Albany Oregon

930 SW Queen Ave, Albany, OR 97321



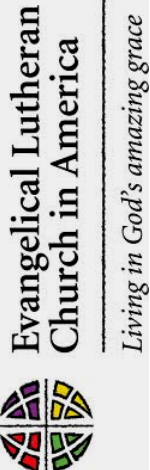
Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar will be joining us on this Saturday afternoon and sharing exercises in spirituality and prayer. We look forward to the opportunity to get to grow in faith, to learn some different forms of prayer and to get to know our newly installed Bishop of the Oregon Synod. We hope that you can join us on that day!

Grace Lutheran Church

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



Postage



Thrivent Choice Dollars Designation Due

Since 2010, millions of dollars have 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.

Now is the time to direct your dollars! 2019 Choice Dollars expire on March 31, 2020.

Want to know more about Thrivent?

Ask Sue Musil — 541-745-5511.



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).