

May 2020  
volume XIX  
issue 5

# Grace GATHERINGS

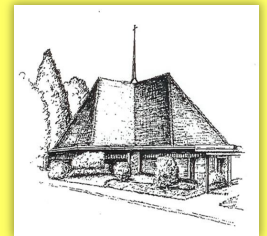
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

***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.



## *Thank You*

On Thursday, April 16, 2020 Grace Lutheran Church hosted a blood drive for the American Red Cross. With blood drives being canceled throughout the United States. We are proud to announcement that this blood drive was a great success. This blood drive had a goal of collecting 18 units, we were able to collect 21 units! Each unit of blood has the capacity of saving 3 lives. So thanks to all the help from Grace and our community, we were the potential to help save around 63 lives.

**The next blood drive at Grace will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020.**

## Prayers

*This prayer list is a compilation of the requests we have received at Grace throughout the month of April. 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

- ⇒ Nanci Williams Kelly, Bobby Kelly's daughter
- ⇒ Elaine Going and her family, Iona Trapp's sister
- ⇒ Lance Ficek, member of Bob Keith's family
- ⇒ Kristen Ostrom, Pastor Mike Ostrom's wife
- ⇒ Emily and Ammon Lujan, Andrea Barnhurst's sister-in-law and brother-in-law
- ⇒ Andrew Moore, Andrea Barnhurst's friend Sara's friend
- ⇒ Lanaya Henry, Cathy Mueller's niece
- ⇒ Laury "Butch" and Sara Frazer, Andrea Barnhurst's friends
- ⇒ Paula Matthews, Friend of Grace
- ⇒ Harry Griffin, Pr. Wendell Hendershott's colleagues grandson

### Death:

- ⇒ Ken Going, Iona Trapp's brother-in-law
- ⇒ Katrina Rhoades
- ⇒ Jean Heins, Andrea Barnhurst's husband's grandma
- ⇒ Aurel Micurescu, Gloria Chaves daughter-in-law's father

## Thank You

Thank you Jody Parker for your 10 years of service at Grace.

## Grace Personnel

**Pastor Netsie Griffith &  
Pastor Wendell Hendershott**

**Bookkeeper** - Robin Comforto

**Custodian** - Sam McKay

**Director of Discipling Ministries** - Donna King

**Director of Music Ministries** - Hayden Talley

**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

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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 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

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**Campus Ministry at Luther House**

Mike Ostrom, Pastor, 541.753.5213

**Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers**

Norma Moody, 541.754.2555



Please **PRAY** for those  
affected by **COVID-19**

# Pandemic Easter Litany

*Prepared by Rev. Melissa Reed for the April 12, Oregon Synod Easter Worship.*

This year  
we couldn't kneel down  
and wash one another's feet  
but parents kneel by the tub and wash their babies  
before bed and pray for another day  
and we wash our own hands lovingly, thoroughly  
for our neighbors and strangers we will never meet.  
**Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

This year  
we couldn't break bread with friends  
and pass the cup of blessing  
but grocery store clerks stock the shelves  
and healthcare workers suit up,  
giving their bodies  
so that we may eat and live.  
**Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

This year  
we couldn't walk the stations of the cross together  
through our sanctuary or neighborhood  
but a father waits in line for food,  
carrying the cross,  
and a teacher works endless hours from home,  
carrying the cross,  
and a sanitation worker still wakes before the sun,  
to carry away our trash,  
carrying the cross.  
**Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

This year  
we couldn't share the emptiness of the stripped altar,  
waiting and praying in the silence,  
but the whole world now holds vigil moment to moment  
as bodies are taken from respirators and  
wait to be buried without ritual –  
not buried alone,  
but with Jesus,  
like seeds in the ground.  
**Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

This year  
we couldn't share God's big stories  
in the way we are used to – not from a page and pulpit –  
and stay up all night to light the holy fire,  
but as the holy breath brooded over the chaos,  
we discover our shared breath in a way we can no longer deny  
and as the dry bones came together,  
we are learning to come together in the way you made us

and as our ancestors were liberated from Egypt,  
so our Earth gasps deeply in her liberation from our oppression  
and our cities are lit, once again, by the holy fire of the stars.

**Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

This year  
we couldn't fill our sanctuaries with lilies  
and lift our voices together -- not in the way we are used to --  
but this Easter morning we wake and walk with Mary in fear and trembling  
to the edges of the tomb  
and find a crack –  
the promise of the tulips' opening,  
the strangers' smile on the street,  
the announcement of a babe born --  
"we are being made new," she cries --  
the breath of life in our lungs that MUST proclaim with each  
in and out:

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Your Love always finds a way, O God. Alleluia!**

## **Pastor Netsie Griffith**

### *Contact Information*

Cell: 541.223.3455

Email:

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

*Pastor Netsie's*

*Days Off*

*Thursday & Friday*

## **Pastor Wendell Hendershott**

### *Contact Information*

Cell: 541.223.3503

Email:

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

*Pastor Wendell's*

*Days Off*

*Mon., Tues, & Friday*





## Tuesday Bible Study

### Connecting via Email

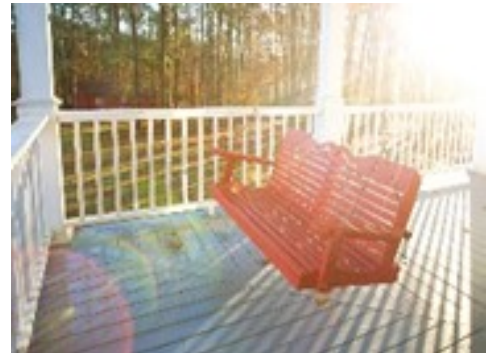
*“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, . . .’” – John 11:25*

Dear past, present and future Tuesday Bible study participants,

One of my favorite Marty Haugen hymns is “Tree of Life” (ELW 334). In the first verse while death is acknowledged the subsequent power of life which springs from death is proclaimed, “Though you die in all of hist’ry, / Still you rise with ev’ry morn.” Here in the Pacific Northwest, it’s difficult to walk through a forest without coming across a nurse log or nurse stump. A mighty tree has fallen and yet, in its death, it gives life. As we continue to struggle with threats of death posed by Covid-19 or other things in this world, may we be bold in our Easter proclamation of life. Where do you find the promise of life in our world and in scripture, God’s living Word?

Towards the end of April, one of our Tuesday Bible study members and faithful Grace Library volunteers, Jody Parker, began a weekly sharing of her insights from books on scriptural themes she is reading during this time of home seclusion. With the intention of inspiring your own reflection and pondering of scripture, I am forwarding these to you. If you are not receiving these email messages and wish to, please send a request to me at [netsie@grace97330.org](mailto:netsie@grace97330.org), and I will be glad to add you to the list.

May God continue to raise us every morn with hope and promise.  
In Easter faith,



## Giving at a Glance

### Support the many ministries of Grace Lutheran

#### Contributions as of March 31, 2020

Contributions for the Month of March: \$ 26,487;  
March budget: \$ 28,200;  
Last 2 Weeks of Giving: \$ 4,824;  
Weekly Budget: \$ 5,640;  
YTD contributions: \$ 87,483;  
YTD budget: \$ 85,200

#### Contributions as of April 21, 2020

Contributions for the Month of April: \$ 19,862;  
April budget: \$ 30,500;  
Last 3+ Weeks of Giving: \$ 19,862;  
Weekly Budget: \$ 7,625;  
YTD contributions: \$ 107,595;  
YTD budget: \$ 108,345

## The Flowers are blooming at Grace

Spring is in full swing at Grace with flowers of every color blooming around the building. From yellow to white to every variation of red, the flowers bring life and joy to a building to which we cannot wait to return. Hard working volunteers have been working around Grace to bring blooms to everyone when we are able to gather once again. Landscape maintenance takes a team of volunteers to mow the lawn, weed & cultivate the flowers & shrubbery, and prune the shrubbery.

Special thanks goes out to all of our volunteers who make this possible. The Property Committee recruits all these volunteers. Spring Clean Up was cancelled, so there is an extra workload on our volunteers this year. Our volunteers include Stan Miles, our Master Gardener of the Rose Garden who has been giving special effort to keep them beautiful all season. Lawn mowers include Stan Miles, Tom Kiersky, Wayne Kradjan, and Jim Leklem. Those who weed & cultivate specific areas include Ron Larson, Jude Geist & family, Frank & Sue Davis, Stan Miles, Carol Kamke, Jim & Darlene Leklem, Ann Schroeder & family, Bill & Nancy Strohle, Jaya Lapham, Bob Keith, Carol Erickson, Joel Davis, Mark Gourley, Pastor Netsie, and Pastor Wendell. The Courtyard is decorated and maintained by Becky and Tom Kiersky, and Marna Renshaw.



## If you go to the hospital . . .

It used to be that our pastors and the members of our Hospital Visitation Team could go to the hospital and see if any of our members had been hospitalized. In these days of Covid-19, however, we are unable to go into the hospital lobby. Neither can we receive information over the phone. So, if you become aware that any of our members or family of our members have been hospitalized, the pastors would greatly appreciate you sharing this with them. Also, please know that we will respect any and all requests for confidentiality.

# Grace Gatherings

While the church is closed, printed copies of Grace Gatherings are available by request. Please contact the church office to request a printed copy of Grace Gatherings to be mailed to your home.

## The Garden which serves the Southside Food Bank needs volunteers and 4" or 6-pack pots

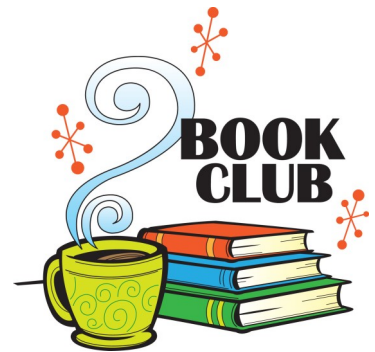
The *Produce for the People* community garden grows two to three thousand pounds of lovely produce for the Southside Food Bank each year. Much of the labor is provided by school groups, which have of course been cancelled this year. If you can help volunteer in the garden, contact Sue Domingues at 541.231.3859. Current work parties are Monday 9am-noon and Thursday 9am-noon. She could also use donations of 4" pots or 6 pack pots for plant starts, you can make arrangements with Sue to drop these off or just bring them to the food bank and we'll pass them on to her.

## Thanks to our May Southside Food Bank Volunteers!

Scheduled to assist at the Food Bank during May are Marshall Hill-Tanquist, Jim Parr Philipson, Linda Samuels, Wayne Kradjan, Frank and Sue Davis. A special thanks to Wayne Kradjan for his coordination of Grace Lutheran's participation in this outreach. During this time, there is a need for fewer volunteers than in the past. Nevertheless, if you would like to help in the future, feel free to contact Wayne to be added to his list of volunteers. If you need his contact information, you may get it through the office at [office@grace97330.org](mailto:office@grace97330.org) or 541-757-1600.

## Globaliers — Grace Book Discussion Group

The Grace Globaliers book group is in the process of selecting books to read for 2020-21 starting in September. This will be our 12th year of meeting! We read books about international and cross-cultural issues and meet once a month September to June. Depending on guidelines, we hope to begin meeting again in the fall. If you want to be part the book group, please contact Mary Ann Matzke at [maryann.matzke@gmail.com](mailto:maryann.matzke@gmail.com).



## 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.

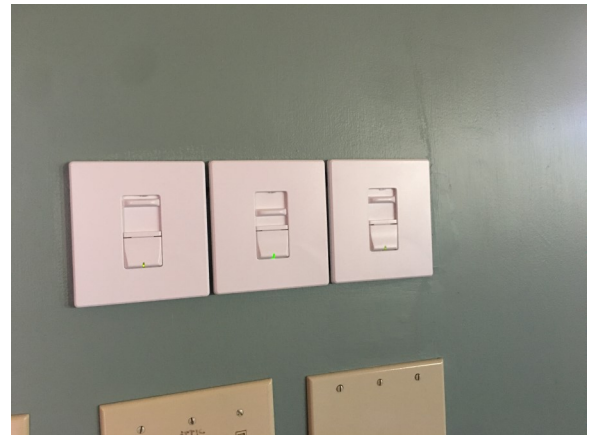
When we are able to return and gather for Sunday Worship and Christian Education, we will start where we left off:

***The Tragic stories of Lot's Daughters, Dinah, and Judah's—Genesis 38***



## What is new in Ronnenkamp Hall?

What is new in Ronnenkamp Hall can not be found on the ground, or even at eye level. You will need to look up high to see what is different, and even then it might not be fully apparent. It has been a long time in the works, but during the last week of March and into April the lights in Ronnenkamp Hall have been changed out to LEDs. Ron Larson has been working at scheduling MW Electric in replacing the lights. The light covers were taken down and cleaned and replaced as the lights were being replaced. The Grace Foundation also made this work possible. The power savings will be roughly 58% and the lights now have dimmers. These lights will give Grace a brighter fellowship area for many years to come.



## Free Cloth Face Masks Available Sewers needed

From Elizabeth Wyatt & the CorvallisSewingBrigade:

We can help get cloth masks or face shields to anyone free of charge. Folks can go to [bentoncounty.recovers.org](https://bentoncounty.recovers.org) and click on "I have a need" for the fastest turn around time and easy tracking for us (these requests come right to us). If you would like to volunteer to sew cloth face masks, the need is still very much alive! Info on how to volunteer can be found at [CorvallisSewingBrigade.org](https://CorvallisSewingBrigade.org)



**Women's Luncheons  
are canceled  
until future notice**

## April Council Minutes

April 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.

March Meeting Minutes can be found online at:

<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Council-Meeting-Minutes-3-16-20.pdf>

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



**President:**  
Bob Keith  
**Vice President:**  
Rebekah Hadlock  
**Secretary:**  
Nancy Hemming  
**Treasurer:**  
Hal Brauner  
**Financial Secretary:**  
Mary Stephens  
**Council Members:**  
Shelley Chamberlin  
Pr. Netsie Griffith  
Pr. Wendell Hendershott  
Meredith Junge  
Jaya Lapham  
Jim Leklem  
Dave Lundahl  
Anne Schroeder  
Sandie Williams  
Kendra Wollert

For the past two Church Council meetings of March and April, church council has taken on a new challenge of meeting through Zoom due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Zoom is a relatively new technology (2011) that allows teleconferencing, telecommuting and distance education, whereby those participating in a “conference call” can use their laptop or iPhone and dial into a meeting by invitation of an email....and be able to see each other and talk to one another.



Due to the pandemic, the popularity of Zoom has increased dramatically. On one day in March 2020, the Zoom app was downloaded 343,000 times with about 18% of those downloads originating in the United States.

With Zoom being something new to us, the most challenging aspect to church council members has been getting everyone hooked up with video and audio working at the same time. Dave Lundahl has been instrumental in solving many of our technology issues. Thanks also to Dave’s account with Zoom through his business that allows us to go beyond the time limit. Use of the platform is free for video conferences of up to 100 participants, with a 40-minute time limit. For longer or larger conferences with more features, paid subscriptions are available, costing \$15–20 per month.

Though Zoom has not been our most desired way to meet and discuss church agenda items “face-to-face”, it has been suitable and a very valuable tool in solving and discussing many issues facing the church during this pandemic. It’s something too that we will all look back on as a learning experience and be thankful for it being available. We hope that we are back to our regular meetings in the Fireside room soon!

Bob Keith



## Sunday Adult Bible Study – March, April and May 2020

Look for these bible studies online at [www.grace97330.org](http://www.grace97330.org)

### Justice and the Prophets

By and large, North Americans are dedicated to the proposition that church and state are best kept separate. Many of us agree that the freedom to worship as one pleases is a positive feature of democracy. Unfortunately, the separation of church and state has often led to a split between the values of Christian (and non-Christian) faiths and public policy. For example, political arguments about issues such as food assistance for the poor, justice in the legal system, and immigration rarely reflect the biblical insistence that God's people care for widows, orphans, and aliens. Laws that give economic advantages to the wealthy are forwarded without a hint that the Bible roundly condemns usury, shady business practices, and unjust economic gain.

Ancient Israel's prophets would have had a difficult time comprehending the separation of state and faith. The prophets had much to say about people and political leaders who, on the one hand, declared their fidelity to Yahweh but, on the other hand, violated God's clear will. This fourteen-week study is about the intersection between God's firm intentions and the behavior of God's people.

Most of the following sessions focus on the oracles of Biblical prophets. The prophets are not presented in order of their historical appearance. Instead, the sessions, which follow the Uniform Series lectionary, are organized around variations on the theme of God's justice. Consequently, the study materials include a thumbnail introduction to each prophet's historical context in order to better comprehend the particular warnings or promises forwarded to the prophet's audiences. Nevertheless, and because the prophets conveyed the word of the Lord, their oracles continue to address and challenge contemporary believers.

This series considers the many ways God insisted that ancient people exercise God's justice through their own behavior and policies. That divine insistence persists. God yet calls for justice and compassion. This study encourages us to discern how we might obey that summons.

### Our Writer

Walter (Chip) Bouzard has fancy-sounding degrees in biblical studies. He is married to Romana Bouzard, whom most – including his mother – agree could have done better.

Find our Sunday Worship  
services on facebook at:

[www.facebook.com/Grace  
Lutheran Church-ELCA-Corvallis](https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranChurch-ELCA-Corvallis)

Or on our Website at:

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





## Birthday Blessings!

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

Bill Byers	05/01
Megan Vega	05/01
Derek Gourley	05/02
Karen Smith	05/02
Reed Vega	05/02
Christopher Kamke	05/04
Jana Seeliger	05/04
Jean Grosz	05/05
Bill Briskey	05/06
Serena Orwick	05/06
Christopher Buckley	05/07
Todd Greeley	05/07
Susan Hale	05/07
Johanna Lundahl	05/07
Chad Washington	05/07
Ashley White	05/07
Benjamin Boysen	05/08
Leah Byers	05/09
MaryAnn Hall	05/09
Ronly Grindahl	05/10
Lucas Junge	05/10
Sarah Brauner	05/11

Tracy Collier	05/11
Joni Beilby	05/12
Jeff Beck	05/14
Cooper Castellano	05/15
Casey Smith	05/16
Melissa Smith	05/16
Ted Zhang	05/18
Marika Stock	05/20
Donna Hansen	05/21
Marie Belle Vega	05/21
Karen Strand	05/23
Jacob Donner	05/24
Marjorie Boster	05/25
Ida Stemple	05/25
Lincoln White	05/26
Kiah Gourley	05/27
Eila Howe	05/27
Wendy Nichols	05/27
Sarah Stephens	05/27
Brooke Donner	05/30
Julia Donner	05/30
Debbie Kuehn	05/31



## Covid-19 scams and fraud

While we live and work through this world we are living in with the Covid-19 pandemic, it probably doesn't surprise us that fear and anxiety are extremely high. With no medicine to treat, or vaccine to prevent, many of us fear going out into our world or being in contact with others who may be carrying the Covid-19 virus. From ads for "miracle drugs to treat Covid-19" and "Get Covid-19 health insurance" to "Get free Covid-19 testing kits", scammers are seeking out individuals who may be looking for additional protection with the Covid-19 virus. For many, we understand that these ads are scams and are looking at getting money or personal information. But for some, who live in fear or with anxiety about Covid-19, these ads may feel like relief from their stress and anxiety and not even realize these are scams. Where some may be able to research these offers, others who do not have access to social media or the internet, may not understand or be able to research these offers... and these are the people who are the most vulnerable to these scams.

Some topics of scammers are including

- Medicare and Insurance
- Cures and treatments for Covid-19
- Vaccines for Covid-19
- Testing Kits
- Government Relief payments

Some important things to remember about identifying if it is a scam or real.

- The Government will not make calls to inform you about payments, insurance, or other information. The IRS, Social Security, and Medicare will always send written letters or documents to tell you what is happening.
- Government relief payments are being mailed out or direct deposited into your account. There is no pick up location or need to give out personal information to somebody on the phone. If you do not have direct deposit, these checks will be mailed to you.
- There is no cure, vaccine, or treatment for Covid-19 at this time. The FDA is working hard to eliminate and stop businesses who are trying to sell products that claim to be a cure or prevention.
- There is no special insurance or supply kits that are being sent out for Covid-19. Do not give any caller your personal information to get additional insurance or testing kits.
- No business will ask for gift cards in payment of a service.

In these times of social distancing, while you are talking to family or reaching out to people in our community who may not have family or may live on their own, touch bases on these scams and make sure that as many people in our community know and will not be a victim. Also, if ever you are questioning a phone call from an agency asking for personal information, always let them know that you will call them back, and look up the actual number and call them back. Never call them back on any special "direct" phone number they may give you from a cold call.





## Luther House Campus Ministry

**At this time, Luther House Campus Ministries is closed and all activities are suspended.**

Follow Luther House on facebook for devotions and Luther House updates.

Luther House can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/lutherhouseosu/>



## 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:**

**May 3, 2020—Canceled**

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, Hayden Talley, lends expertise and dedication to provide us with joyful music. 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!:** 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).

## Camp Lutherwood



**THANK YOU!** We have noticed the amazing work that you have been doing and the ministry you have been providing to your congregations during this challenging time. We appreciate your creativity, especially during Holy Week and Easter, to meet the needs of many.

**A brief update on Camp Lutherwood Oregon in the midst of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation:** Camp Lutherwood Oregon is closed to all guests until May 31st. We are following the guidelines of the local health authorities and government mandates and will continue to reevaluate this date in the coming weeks. Summer activities are canceled as of April 29, 2020 but hope to do something in the future.

**Prayers for you and your community in the days ahead.**

### Join us for Campfire!

All are invited to join us for campfire on Friday, May 1st at 7pm PST on Zoom. This is the third campfire that we are hosting with songs, stories, skits and a message. Email [office@lutherwoodoregon.org](mailto:office@lutherwoodoregon.org) for a Zoom link & password to join the fun.

### May 2 Work Day- CANCELLED

Due to the coronavirus, we have made the decision to cancel our May 2nd Work Day.

### Camp Lutherwood is Hiring!

We are still accepting applications for 2020-2021 Interns as well as the Guest Services Coordinator/Registrar. Complete job descriptions can be found on our website at [lutherwoodoregon.org/employment](http://lutherwoodoregon.org/employment). Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to [jobs@lutherwoodoregon.org](mailto:jobs@lutherwoodoregon.org).

## Grace Center News

Even though Grace Center's doors are required to be closed these days, by order of the Department of Human Services (DHS), our staff have developed many ways to reach our participants and caregivers in their homes. That may require the help of Technology, but the Center's loving people bring the human touch with them. Twice a week our nurse makes calls to them, and in an ongoing log keeps their progress notes. Phone calls with individual participants provide counseling services and Grace Center's caregiver support groups meet twice a month through a program called Zoom.

Per DHS's request, we have some staff working with participants who need errands run, medications and hygiene care. Small groups of staff also complete individual tasks spread out at the center, or they develop new activities for the program. They could even make videos for the exciting new YouTube channel! If this sounds like a busy Center, they all meet every Tuesday to connect with one another on Zoom.

The truly new activity going already includes the public as well. There are already over 100 subscribers to Grace Center's YouTube channel so Tera writes, which means we were able to customize our channel link. At this writing there are over 20 videos posted, and more come every week. They cover a range of subjects such as exercises, arts and crafts, or music. Interesting samples include "Sing-a-Long with Jeff Lesmeister", "Hand-weight Exercises", "Flower Arranging", and "A Cooking Class with Chef D".

For access to these programs you can search for "Grace Center for Adult Day Services" in YouTube. Or Tera has given us links to all of Grace Center's social media platforms:

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/c/GraceCenterforAdultDayServices](http://www.youtube.com/c/GraceCenterforAdultDayServices)  
Website: [www.gracecenter-covallis.org](http://www.gracecenter-covallis.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GraceCenterforAdultDayServices/](http://www.facebook.com/GraceCenterforAdultDayServices/)  
Instagram: [www.instagram.com/grace\\_center\\_covallis/](http://www.instagram.com/grace_center_covallis/)

## Preparing for Pentecost

### Sunday, May 3 Fourth Sunday of Easter

#### **Introduction**

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.

#### **Readings and Psalm**

##### **Acts 2:42-47**

*The believers’ common life*

##### **Psalm 23**

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)*

##### **1 Peter 2:19-25**

*Follow the shepherd, even in suffering*

##### **John 10:1-10**

*Christ the shepherd*

#### **Prayer of the Day**

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**



### Sunday, May 10 Fifth Sunday of Easter,

#### **Introduction**

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today’s gospel includes Jesus’ promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father’s house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus’ mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

#### **Readings and Psalm**

##### **Acts 7:55-60**

*The martyrdom of Stephen*

##### **Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**

*Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

##### **1 Peter 2:2-10**

*God’s people chosen to proclaim God’s mighty acts*

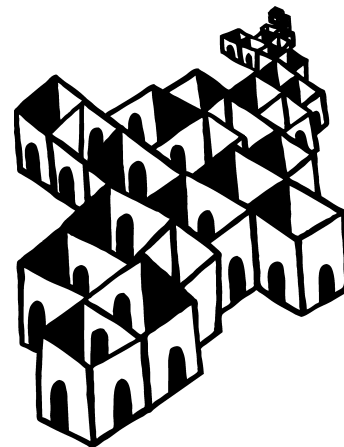
##### **John 14:1-14**

*Christ the way, truth, and life*

#### **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**





Find the Bible online at [bible.oremus.org](http://bible.oremus.org)

## Sunday, May 17 Sixth Sunday of Easter

### Introduction

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

### Readings and Psalm

#### Acts 17:22-31

*Paul's message to the Athenians*

#### Psalm 66:8-20

Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)

#### 1 Peter 3:13-22

*The days of Noah, a sign of baptism*

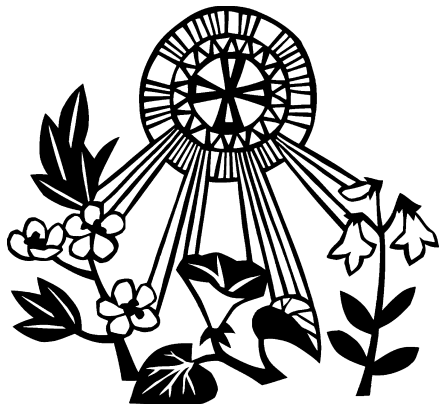
#### John 14:15-21

*Christ our advocate*

### Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**



## Sunday, May 24 Seventh Sunday of Easter

### Introduction

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.

### Readings and Psalm

#### Acts 1:6-14

*Jesus' companions at prayer after his departure*

#### Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds. (Ps. 68:4)

#### 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

*God will sustain and restore those who suffer*

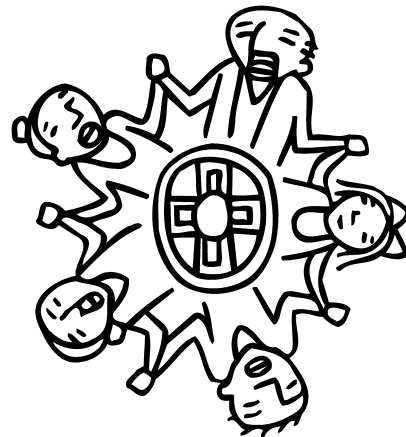
#### John 17:1-11

*Christ's prayer for his disciples*

### Prayer of the Day

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**



# Looking ahead to Pentecost

Find the Bible online at [bible.oremus.org](http://bible.oremus.org)

**Sunday, May 31**  
**Day of Pentecost**

## Introduction

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.



## Readings and Psalm

### Acts 2:1-21

*Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds*

### Numbers 11:24-30 (alternate)

*The Spirit comes upon the elders of Israel*

### Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30)

### 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

*Varieties of gifts from the same Spirit*

### Acts 2:1-21 (alternate)

*Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds*

### John 20:19-23

*The Spirit poured out*

### John 7:37-39 (alternate)

*The Spirit will provide living water*



## Prayer of the Day

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

