

July 2020  
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issue 7

# Grace GATHERINGS

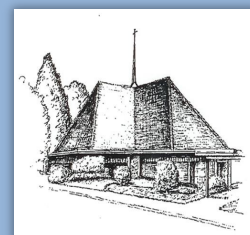
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

**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.

## Congratulations Class of 2020

**Please see the Graduate Insert for information on our graduates.**

**<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/2020-Graduation-Insert.pdf>**



## Prayers

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

- ⇒ Wendy Geist
- ⇒ Pr. Craig Johnson and his wife, Karen
- ⇒ Larry & Sharon Rosenkoetter
- ⇒ Ray William, Gordon & Mary Ann Matzke's friend
- ⇒ Pr. Wendell Hendershott
- ⇒ Sharon and Larry Rosenkoetter
- ⇒ Mary Zaske, Nancy Hemming's friend
- ⇒ Larry and Donna Blus, former members of Grace

### Deaths:

- ⇒ Daniele LeFevere, long time friend of Jim & Nancy Hemming
- ⇒ Warren Matzke, Gordon Matzke's brother
- ⇒ Jaye Westfal, Jude Geist's Paternal Grandmother
- ⇒ Dale Jurgensen, Cathy Mueller's childhood friend's husband

### Births:

- ⇒ Skyler Anderson Spiel, Martha & Dave Anderson's first grandchild

Congratulations to Todd and Brandy Greeley and big brother, Logan, on the birth of Connor James Greeley on June 24, 2020!

## 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**

Bob Keith, 541.990.2883

**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**



## Why Black Lives Matter

The plea, the persistence, the prayer, the demand that black lives matter began in 2013. It was sparked by the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the fatal shooting of the 17 year-old, African American Trayvon Martin. What began as a spark become a steady flame following the violent deaths in 2014 of African Americans, Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri and Eric Garner in New York City, both at the hands of police officers. At the end of May following the video recorded murder of George Floyd by policeman Derek Chauvin the persistence that black lives matter exploded vio-

lently onto the streets in Minneapolis, Portland and other major cities. Yet, it was mostly expressed vociferously in non-violent protests across the country and internationally.

I confess that when the Black Lives Matter movement first began I was guilty of thinking the phrase, “But, all lives matter” was an acceptable response. Many continue to think that still today and use that phrase as a way to try to put out the fire of the plea for the phrase, “Black lives matter,” to be heard, acknowledged and become a reality. The problem with the phrase, “All lives matter,” is that it is a false statement. Not being able to see the falsehood in it is a reflection of one’s blindness to the purifying flame of truth. What black people have known for centuries has become undeniably clear to non-blacks. All with eyes to see can perceive that black lives clearly do not matter compared to the lives of those who live in a realm of protection, privilege and power not known by marginalized and maligned peoples. Until black lives matter, it’s impossible for all lives to matter, because to be black is to live a life that is excluded from the term ‘all.’ Until Native American lives matter, all lives will not matter. Until Asian American lives matter, all lives will not matter. Until “      (fill in the blank)      ” lives matter, all lives will not matter.

While all lives might not matter equally in the world in which we live, all lives do matter equally to God. God’s love for us all makes us all equal whether we acknowledge it or not. God’s forgiveness of us all makes us all equal whether we acknowledge it or not. To deny love and equality to others because of a false sense of superiority is a sin. And, as our corporate confession from 1 John 1:8 reminds us, “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” And then comes the good news in the next verse, “If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)

“Black lives matter” cries out for us to wake up from our sin of racism, to confess it and be forgiven and cleansed from it. Could the numbers of people genuinely, honestly, confessionally making this plea be an indication that our world is about to turn. Inspired by the hymn text of Rory Cooney, might we actually believe that the world is about to turn?

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring, Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.*

*. . . This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.*

(ELW 723, “Canticle of the Turning,” refrain and v. 4b)

Say it, sing it, confess it and pray it, beloved people of God!

For Christ’s sake, (the one whose life was mistakenly thought not to matter)  
Pastor Netsie



For contact information and  
dates the pastors are at Grace,  
please contact the  
church office



## Tuesday Bible Study *Connecting via Email*

Dear past, present and future Bible study participants,

In this article last month I spoke of new and different ways of connecting with scripture when we can no longer gather weekly to do so as a group. This month I would like to speak to you about connecting with people of faith when we still are unable to gather in face-to-face groups (except virtually on a screen).

If you have internet access through a computer, electronic tablet or smart phone, there are inspiring interviews and articles which may be accessed. Deaconess Donna King has been providing wonderful, online resources that have been and are being posted with our Sunday worship videos. I would like to share another one with you from which I learned much about how we think (or don't think) about racism as related to our faith. It's an interview between Lutheran pastor and president of the African Descent Lutheran Association, Rev. Lamont Wells, and Rev. Dr. Miriam J. Barnett titled, "A People of Faith and a Pathway to Healing." Find it by clicking on this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIDmzm7IRAw&feature=youtu.be>

It is 36 minutes long, so set aside some time, but please do not be deterred by the length. It's very engaging and definitely worthy of your time.



Please know I realize that some of you have no electronic devices and no access to the internet. That's okay. There are other resources. If you are a member of Grace Lutheran, you automatically receive a subscription to the monthly periodical, "The Living Lutheran." It is filled with inspirational stories of faith in action. For those with electronic devices, it can also be viewed online at: <https://www.livinglutheran.org/>

On the other hand, another approach would be to choose the story of a specific Bible character to see how the story of this person of faith relates to your own faith. To do this all you need is a Bible. One of my favorite character stories in the Bible is the story of Joseph found in Genesis, chapters 37-50.

Our Grace library is full of books about people of faith and written by people of faith. Our library resource people, Linda Samuels and Jody Parker have offered to arrange to deliver books to you during this time of isolation. Also, towards the end of April, Jody 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 ponderings of people of faith, 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 these days after Pentecost through the end of the church year remind us that the Holy Spirit is not bound by COVID-19 but continues to flow freely among us and within us helping us to find new ways to connect with God, with scripture, with ancestors in the faith and with today's faith-filled people of faith both within and far beyond our congregation.

Thanks be to God!  
Pr. Netsie



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

## Address Changes

Frank and Bev Raze  
1605 Oak Street SE  
Apt. E104  
Albany, Oregon 97322

Shelley Chamberlin.  
Post Office Box 2833  
Port Angeles, Washington 98632

Sandie Williams  
190 NE Navajo Ave  
Roseburg, Oregon 97471



**There are lots of books in the Grace Lutheran Church library! And if you need a book to read, we will get it to you!!**

Have you checked out the new online catalog yet?

Try <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/GLC-Library>  
Or go to the Grace website at <https://grace97330.org/>  
and under Resources click on Grace Library.

Click on any book and then the button that says *Ask About Becoming a Library Patron*. Enter your name and email and/or phone and we will contact you.

**Exciting new news!!** This picture shows our children's space when we had just started increasing the collection of resources for children and youth with an emphasis on nourishing their faith and spirits. We do have more books now as you can see if you look at the Tiny Cat online catalog (we are still entering more books almost every day). We have just received an anonymous donation to purchase some of the children's books recommended in the June/July issue of the Living Lutheran magazine. **Thank you mystery donor!!** Diversity is a topic we feel is very important, especially lately, so we will look for books that help. Some already in our library to check out are We're Better Together, Being Me from A to Z, Each Kindness, and Maybe I Can Love My Neighbor Too. **And of course as we all know, children's books can be enjoyed by readers of any age!**

We are also adding more adult books. Two that Jody got at the latest Pacific Northwest Church Library conference are by Melanie Dobson. Melanie researches European places for incidents during WWII, finding out fascinating family histories - and mysteries. She tours the area and museums searching for information and then weaves a fiction based on real events. Her preferred style is the time-slip novel. This method tells two stories at once, one in the past and the other in the present.

Take a look at *Hidden Among the Stars*, that tells a story about the treasures, paintings, silver and gold wares, and jewelry, that people buried and hid from the Nazi's. In fact, treasures are hidden today that are still being found. Also in the library now is *Chateau of Secrets*, taking place in France. It's about a grand family chateau which is taken over by Nazi's and used as a headquarters. The family children are used as servants to the Commandant and Nazi soldiers. Both these books have excellent WWII history which Jody, as a former German major, highly recommends.

# 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.

## 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)



### **\*\*New Article\*\***

Here is an article and video if you or somebody you know is struggling with irritation from wearing a mask.

<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/rashes-breakouts-how-to-treat-common-side-effects-of-wearing-masks-192226820.html>

## Smoking, vaping and COVID-19

Here are three important things to know about COVID-19 and smoking or vaping:

- People who smoke or vape are at an increased risk of developing more severe symptoms of COVID-19
- Smoking or vaping doubles the risk of developing respiratory viruses, such as COVID-19
- If you quit, your health can improve within days and weeks, which could increase the odds of recovering more quickly if you get COVID-19

If you or your loved one need help quitting, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW or visit [quitnow.net/Oregon](https://quitnow.net/Oregon).

## *Thank You*

Thank you to everybody who helped make our June blood Drive a Success. We had a goal of 18 units and our blood drive was able to collect 23 units. In this time of great need, we were able to make this blood drive a success.

Our next blood drive is scheduled for September 3, 2020.

## Farewell, Godspeed and Thanks, Sam McKay



In June we bid farewell to our excellent custodian of six years, Sam McKay. For his faithful, consistent service cleaning, maintaining our building, and keeping it stocked with necessary custodial supplies, we give thanks! In addition to that, Sam was also very willing to be available on short notice to work with our Hospitality Team, the Worker Bees, when a special set-up was needed in Ronnenkamp Hall for a reception or special occasions.

Sam is also an OSU 2020 graduate, so you can read more about his degree and plans for the future in our list of graduates which is included with this issue of Grace Gatherings. We will miss his joyful, can-do spirit here at Grace but send him out into the world with our gratitude and God's blessing.





## Birthday Blessings!

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

Tina Risen	07/02
Milt Larson	07/03
Sandie Williams	07/04
Ron Anderson	07/05
Jody Parker	07/05
Anne Howard-Orwick	07/05
Natalie Cardinali	07/07
Dayle Christensen	07/08
Rebekah Hadlock	07/10
Pat Corkill	07/13
Anthony Cardinali	07/14
Marna Renshaw	07/15

Marshall Hill-Tanquist	07/17
Keith Levien	07/17
Tim Stock	07/20
Nicole Gelser	07/21
Carole Boersma	07/22
Mary Stephens	07/24
Abigail Foster	07/25
Dana Howe	07/29
Netsie Griffith	07/30
Dean Aulerich	07/31
Edward Hall	07/31
Jose Vega	07/31

## How to ask for a Prayer Request to the Grace Prayer Chain

We at Grace are very fortunate to have an email Prayer Chain and have had this for many years. The proper way to have a prayer request sent out is to simply email the information to [prayers@grace97330.org](mailto:prayers@grace97330.org). This will ensure your request is sent out in a timely manner. You may do this for prayers for yourself or someone else who is in need of prayers. Before requesting prayers for someone else, please seek that person's permission to place them on the prayer chain. Some people wish personal prayer requests not to be made public. If you are not currently on the Prayer Chain and want to be added, contact the church office.

## Save the date

**The Church picnic has been tentatively scheduled for Sunday, August 23, 2020**



# June Council Minutes

June 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.

June Meeting Minutes can be found online at:  
<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Council-Meeting-minutes-6-8-20.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

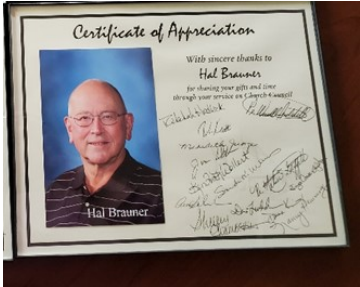
**Treasurer:**  
Hal Brauner

**Financial Secretary:**  
Mary Stephens

**Council Members:**  
 Pr. Netsie Griffith  
 Pr. Wendell Hendershott  
 Meredith Junge  
 Jaya Lapham  
 Jim Leklem  
 Dave Lundahl  
 Anne Schroeder  
 Sandie Williams  
 Kendra Wollert  
 Vacant: 2 Spots

# Council Appreciation Certificates

Had we been worshipping together in our sanctuary the latter Sundays of March, we would have publically recognized our outgoing/departing church council members and presented them with Certificates of Appreciation. Given that was not possible, the Church Council Executive Committee made home deliveries on behalf of the congregation to express our thanks to Hal Brauner, Shelley Chamberlin, Sue Musil Lew Nelson, and Kathy Vohland for their years of service as leaders on our Church Council.





## Adult Bible Study – June, July, and August 2020

We will continue to email to those that wish until we are able to meet together again. Stay well.

### Many Faces of Wisdom

In this study you will explore the many facets of wisdom as recorded in the book of Proverbs, the gospels, and the letter of James. The Old Testament has a rich tradition regarding wisdom, especially embodied in the canonical books of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, and the apocryphal/deuterocanonical books of Sirach and Wisdom of Solomon. There is no simple definition of “wisdom” because it has multiple facets. Ancient Jewish tradition teaches these truths about wisdom:

- Wisdom includes practical knowledge of how the world and human life work, including how to make decisions that are just (see 1 Kings 3:16-28 for one famous example).
- Human wisdom is limited.
- Wisdom is both a gift from God and the result of human pursuit.
- Ultimately, wisdom comes only from God, and so can only be found if one starts with “fear of the Lord.”

When reading the wisdom traditions, we run the risk of losing sight of the active, saving grace of God that frames them. But, Proverbs doesn't mention Abraham, the Law, the covenants, or the temple either. That doesn't mean such things didn't matter to the writers. It means these tenets of faith are assumed, and we should not forget them as we read the wisdom texts. Likewise, the writer of the letter of James hardly mentions Jesus, but that doesn't mean the writer finds him unimportant. James is focused almost completely on the “therefore” of how we ought to live, but that cannot stand without the “because” of what God has done through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. God's gracious actions for salvation are the assumed context within which to understand these wise words.

The New Testament writers saw Jesus as someone who taught divine wisdom. They used Jewish tradition of personified wisdom to express who Jesus is and why he matters. Jesus is the incarnate wisdom of God, active in the very creation of the world, who has entered the world to invite all people to the feast of life and to bring to fullness the life God intends. He is God's wisdom for the world.

### Our Writer

Brian Peterson has served as pastor of congregations in Minnesota and Virginia. Since 1998 he has been a faculty member at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina, where he lives with his wife, Rev. Linda Anderson. When not teaching or writing, he enjoys astrophotography and playing with his grandchildren.

## Giving at a Glance

### Support the many ministries of Grace Lutheran

#### Contributions as of June 4, 2020

Contributions for the Month of June: \$ 4,231;  
April budget \$ 21,000;  
Last Weeks Giving: \$ 4,231;  
Weekly Budget: \$ 4,320;  
YTD contributions: \$ 144,084;  
YTD budget: \$ 148,220

#### Contributions as of June 25, 2020

Contributions for the Month of June: \$ 23,143;  
June's Budget: \$ 21,600;  
Last 2 Weeks of Giving: \$ 8,220;  
Weekly Budget: \$ 4,320;  
YTD contributions: \$ 162,996;  
YTD budget: \$ 166,500

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)



DVD's for each Sunday's worship video are available upon request. Please contact the church office to request a copy. Please call 541-757-1600 or email at [office@grace97330.org](mailto:office@grace97330.org)



## Re-opening Grace—Where are we?

The Executive Committee (Council President, Vice President, and Secretary) along with Pastors Netsie and Wendell are meeting via Zoom on Tuesday's discussing what measures need to be taken to re-open Grace Lutheran at the appropriate date.

The most important factor is the safety of our members and how do we avoid the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic? Losing our long time custodian Sam McCay to OSU graduation has prompted us to hire a local cleaning company that will be cleaning the church on a regular basis.

There will be 13 work-nights per month at 2-hours each night for a sum total of 26 hours per month. Both companies that we considered seemed to believe that the tasks and frequency of cleaning are reasonable at this time if the majority of the buildings are empty most of the time with very few people in the offices. The scope of work would start with a very small list and then gradually increase as we start mid-week evening services and small group meetings.

The Executive Committee is serving as the "steering committee" and working closely with other committees (Christian Education, Property, Worship and Music and Personnel) to assure that we cover all the bases and that re-opening Grace is done in a safe manner.

Blessings,

Bob Keith  
Council President

## The Story of the Virtual Hymn “O Day Full of Grace” Pentecost, 2020

During Lent of 2020, churches around the world suspended liturgies as a pandemic spread its way around the entire globe, sending people around the world into isolation. Current communities of the faithful had never had to consider faith-life without very regular assemblies for worship. Church musicians had spent their entire efforts “bringing together” – to develop, nurture and encourage a powerful instrument: the assembly at song.

As the world arrived at Easter, many Cantors (Church musicians) were somewhat in a state of shock that we would be going through Holy Week without these gatherings. Many had adapted to new methods of encouraging worship to continue – aided by technology, but nevertheless in isolation, without the ability to accomplish corporate singing.

On Easter Sunday, the Episcopal Church released its video of the hymn “The Strife is O’er” which was put together in a short time span. It was very moving, and encouraging to many: to see the church singing together – young voices, older voices, instruments – over 800 people responded with pent-up energy and desire to once again sing together – even if in isolation. This inspired Lutherans to follow their example.

In early May, a plan was proposed to Jim Rindelaub (Executive Director, ALCM) by David Cherwien (ALCM member, Cantor, Mount Olive Lutheran Church, and Artistic Director, National Lutheran Choir). The proposal was that ALCM, with its very congregational-song-centric 1,700-person membership, could launch a similar thing for Lutherans to use in their virtual liturgies on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020. The National Lutheran Choir could help provide what was needed to launch this effort.

ALCM researched the company that helped produce the Episcopal Easter Hymn, and inquired about a project for Lutherans. Kory Caudill, President of Inside Music Nashville, was happy to take this on. Funding was found by ALCM through the generosity of Pauline and John Kiltinen. Cherwien and the National Lutheran Choir scrambled over one weekend to produce the arrangement and the initial 8 voice and organ parts with which others could create submissions. The initial hope was for at least 400 participants. (This number was surpassed by over 900)

The Hymn “O Day Full of Grace” was chosen, a hymn known to most Lutherans. This choice was solidified by a letter the ALCM membership received from very active and longtime friend, board-member Norma Aamodt-Nelson. The letter was sharing the news of her entering hospice; the end-of-life time for her due to cancer. In this letter she quoted the final stanza “When we on our final journey go, ....we’ll gather in song, our hearts aglow . . .”

The arrangement had to be simple, with a very predictable introduction and interludes as to indicate clearly the point at which to breathe and sing in time. Two stanzas were arranged for 4-part high and 4-part low voices (one for each), the standard hymnal harmonization was included, and a unison with descant final stanza. Instrumental parts (kept simple as to encourage all ages) were also created and made available.

The invitation net was cast as wide as possible – including internationally. In the end there were over 1,300 video submissions – 960 singers, 364 instrumentalists. Kory Caudill of Nashville received these, and within one week his company edited them all together, to release in various formats for churches to include in their virtual worship materials for Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020.

*Soli deo Gloria*

[translation: To God alone be glory]



## Camp Lutherwood

Join us for Campfire!

All are invited to join us for campfire. Our next campfires are July 10 and August 7 using our summer 2020 curriculum. We have a great evening planned for campers, families, adults and all who love camp. Email [office@lutherwoodoregon.org](mailto:office@lutherwoodoregon.org) for a Zoom link & password to join the fun!



### SAVE THE DATE for Spirit of Harvest

Spirit of Harvest will be an online gathering to celebrate and grow the ministry of Camp Lutherwood Oregon. Save the date for Wednesday, October 7, 2020 from 7-8pm.

More details coming soon! (This online only event will replace our annual Harvest Festival held at camp)

### COVID-19 & Camp Lutherwood Oregon

Camp Lutherwood Oregon is not open to any guests until at least July 31st. All planned 2020 summer programs have been suspended. We are following the guidelines of the local health authorities and government mandates and will consider possible events for families and adults, as soon as it is safe to do so.

The Governor's office issued a final decision around the opening of summer camps yesterday, June 1st, saying, "After much consideration, and in consultation with the Oregon Health Authority and local public health officials, our office will not be allowing overnight camps to operate this summer. We are seeing increased cases in migrant housing and other settings involving overnight programming and, when it comes to Oregon's children, we can't take the risk of opening overnight summer camps."

We have added a COVID News link on our website where updates will be posted with any new information.

### Using COVID Time for Camp Site & Facility Upgrades

Camp is far from quiet these days. Construction continues on the Dining Hall and we are still hoping for a completion date in the coming weeks. Preliminary work has begun on the permits for the new bathhouse as well. In May, we received an \$18,000 grant from the Grey Family Foundation for deferred maintenance projects around camp. This time without any guests is allowing us to complete much needed projects and upgrades. Watch our social media for updates on what's happening at Lutherwood.

## 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.

### Connecting via Phone



Thanks to those members of Grace who have taken on a ministry of checking in on some of the more isolated members of our community during this time of "sheltering at home." Given this, there may still be a need for conversation that we have not anticipated. If you're someone who would like to be assigned a "phone friend," please call the church office, 541-757-1600, and leave a message to let us know. We will make sure someone gets in touch with you.



## Luther House Campus Ministry

**At this time, Luther House is closed  
and all campus ministry 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/>



### New Sign at Luther House

If you ever find yourself walking in the neighborhood of Luther House Campus Ministries, make sure you look at the new sign

## Grace Center news

Tera, Director of Grace Center, gave us the following quote:

“Grace Center continues to weather this COVID storm and is staying creative in the ways we can continue to support our participants from afar. Daily weekday YouTube videos and twice-weekly phone call check-ins continue as well as individualized services for critical care needs. No open date is set yet but the Grace Center Co-Directors are working closely with the State as well as the other adult day centers in Oregon to make a plan for the future. Meanwhile, the center continues to get updated and organized and the administrative team is tackling all kinds of projects that we may not have had time to get to normally. So, all-in-all, Grace Center continues to do well and looks forward to re-opening one day.”

Reading the Gazette-Times' Food page on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, inspired me to add a note to Tera's message about the Strawberry Jubilee we celebrated at the Senior Center all those years ago. Held at the height of Oregon's June berry harvest, Jan offered to prepare her recipe for chocolate to dip strawberries for us, and she dipped them herself! (Thank you, Jan). Episcopal church ladies baked cakes for our strawberry shortcake. A happy crowd stayed for musical entertainment and face paint for the children. The Jubilee opened public hearts to the concept of day care for elderly or disabled adults. That was when Grace Center was held at Grace Church in the Ronnenkamp Hall. I'm so pleased that Jan recalled the first Jubilee and its mouth watering memory.

Betty McCauley

## Traveling through the Sundays after Pentecost

### Sunday, July 5, 2020 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

#### Introduction

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

#### Reading and Psalm

##### **Zechariah 9:9-12**

*The king will come in humility and peace*

##### **Psalm 145:8-14**

*The LORD is gracious and full of compassion. (Ps. 145:8)*

##### **Romans 7:15-25a**

*The struggle within the self*

##### **Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

*The yoke of discipleship*

#### Prayer of the Day

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



### Sunday, July 12, 2020 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### Introduction

God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

#### Readings and Psalm

##### **Isaiah 55:10-13**

*The growth of the word to accomplish God's purpose*

##### **Psalm 65:9-13**

*Your paths overflow with plenty. (Ps. 65:11)*

##### **Romans 8:1-11**

*Live according to the Spirit*

##### **Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

*The parable of the sower and the seed*

#### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**





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

**Sunday, July 19, 2020**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Introduction**

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

**Reading and Psalm**

**Isaiah 44:6-8**

*There is no other God than the LORD*

**Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19** (alternate)

*God's sovereignty: both righteous and forbearing*

**Psalms 86:11-17**

*Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11)*

**Romans 8:12-25**

*The revealing of the children of God*

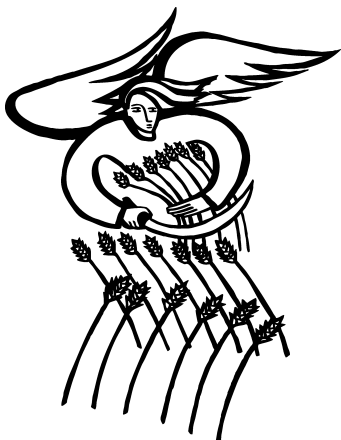
**Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

*The parable of the weeds*

**Prayer of the Day**

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



**Sunday, July 26, 2020**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Introduction**

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

**Readings and Psalm**

**1 Kings 3:5-12**

*Solomon's prayer for wisdom*

**Psalms 119:129-136**

*When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130)*

**Romans 8:26-39**

*Nothing can separate us from God's love*

**Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**

*Parables of the reign of heaven*

**Prayer of the Day**

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**





June 8, 2020

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Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Corvallis, Oregon  
Wendell Hendershott  
435 NW 21ST ST  
CORVALLIS, OR 97330-5536

Dear Wendell,

Corvallis public schools stand empty this spring – and in this unprecedented time **our students need us more than ever.**

When schools closed in March, you stepped up. The outpouring of support from our community for kids' food security and basic needs took our breath away.

Weeks have stretched into months, and **your donations are fulfilling dozens of requests from families each week** for food, hygiene items, school supplies, and other emergency assistance.

Teachers, administrators, and counselors are finding students in need by reaching out on an individual basis. **For kids experiencing adversity, this source of care and connection is a lifeline.**

As summer approaches, we are concerned about the welfare of our most vulnerable kids. **We are asking for your help to ensure that we can continue to address the needs of students** navigating homelessness, poverty, food insecurity, and mental health challenges during the summer months, and beyond.

Please help students overcome COVID-19-related set-backs by making a contribution to the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation.

With your support, we know Corvallis kids will emerge from this crisis as resourceful and resilient young people. **Thank you for your generosity!**

Yours in gratitude,

Mike Sheets  
Board Chair

Liv Gifford  
Executive Director

P.S. School closures have foisted colossal struggles on many families, especially those experiencing economic hardship. **Make a difference in students' lives and education by donating to the Corvallis Public Schools Foundation today.** Thank you!

*"Thank you for all your help and for making this time a little less stressful." – 509J Parent*