

November 2020  
volume XIX  
issue 11

# Grace GATHERINGS

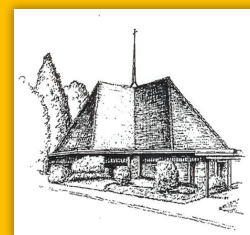
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

***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.



## *All Saints' Day*

**All Saints Day  
November 1, 2020**

Click the link below to see our 2020 Saints

[https://grace97330.org/wp-content/  
uploads/2020/10/2020-Final-All-Saints-Sunday-list.pdf](https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/2020-Final-All-Saints-Sunday-list.pdf)

## Greetings, People of Grace,

The wisdom of the Holy Spirit has brought us together at this time of transition, and I am humbled by and excited for this journey we begin together. Transitions are an opportunity to engage in conversations and questions and dreaming with God and each other.

Little by little I am getting to know some of you. The pandemic has added some layers of challenge to knowing each other. So here is a quick history of Pastor Dorthy.

My parents and I were born in Denmark. They began the immigration process, and I was born a few months before they got the ok to move. We arrived in the US when I was six months old and a year later my sister, Lisbeth, was born. Dad was a finish carpenter and contractor; Mom was a homemaker and talented seamstress, whose hands were always busy creating beautiful things. She made both of my Albs (white robe) and a few of my stoles. Both of them have joined the saints in glory. My sister lives in Seattle—a Senior Color Analyst.

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, in San Mateo, CA, is where my faith formation took place, where my parents modeled active faith and membership. Those formative years have been a blessing to me. They were supportive when I sensed God's call to parish ministry. First Lutheran, Havre, MT was my first call, and first experience of sub-zero weather!

My second call was to Zion Ev. Lutheran in The Dalles, OR. Six months after I arrived, I met John Dallum, who became my husband. He grew up in Montana, and if you know anything about Montana, it's that the degrees of separation are way less than 6. He seems to know everyone!

John and his late, first wife, Ilene "Mike" Christensen (of Corvallis OR!), raised four children in Montana. After a battle with ALS, Mike died in 1999. Three years later John and I married, and I became a wife AND a bonus grandmother...we have eight grandkids! Our joy! The other member of our family is Mille, our 10 year old dog. Also our joy!

God's call to ministry has been quite a ride. I have had three settled calls, and five (or seven) interim ministry sites, where I have accompanied congregations through their transitions. The previous site was three churches in Tillamook—Lutheran, Episcopal, and United Methodist!

The transition process is different for each congregation. And this should be. There are no pre-packaged plans for what the next year will look like for Grace. We will explore all paths and exercises, and need everyone's input when the Transition Team is brought together and begins the work of engaging all of you.

Here is a form of the work you will be doing. I say "you" because this is your work—important and unique to Grace.

There are essentially four phases: Phase I – after the Pastor/s leave; Phase II – Self-Study and Visioning Process; Phase III – The Call Process; and Phase IV – Welcoming the New Pastor. (Guess what? You are in Phase II already!)

The Three Focus Questions we will address: Who are we? Who are our neighbors? What is God calling us to do and be? And The Five Focus Points will help us answer these three questions through: Heritage, Mission, Leadership, Connections, and Future.

### **Pastor Dorthy Nielsen**

#### *Contact Information*

*Cell: 541-377-1354*

#### *Email:*

*prdorthy@grace97330.org*

#### *Pastor Dorthy's*

*On Site Working Days*

*Thursday & Sunday*

*Off Site Working Days*

*Monday - Wednesday &  
Saturday*



The work you will do with the Transition Team, which will be made up of 5-7 members of Grace, must be done before the Call Committee is formed. SO, we will all take a deep breath, and not rush the process. The Holy Spirit is present in the work that you will do.

As we begin this Transition Journey, join me in praying the Prayer of Good Courage (ELW Vespers prayer):

*O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

With confidence and joy, for the sake of God's good news for the world,

Pastor Dorthy+

## A Different Way to Give at Christmas! From Pr Dorthy+

The dread is mounting in me. What will family and friends be giving me for Christmas? I do not need more "Stuff." My husband and I have been thinning our "stuff" since we got married in 2002.

My wish list has been for something given in my name through ELCA Good Gifts catalog ([goodgifts.elca.org](http://goodgifts.elca.org)). Have you seen it? There are so many gifts that will benefit others, when given in someone's name. To date I have "received" 3 goats, 4 pigs, dozens of chickens, a couple of beehives, two ducks, and money toward a new fresh water well. I love it! And someone else receives the gift to make their lives better.

If you haven't heard of Advent Conspiracy, please check that out too ([adventconspiracy.org](http://adventconspiracy.org)). The statistics they compile on global gift giving at Christmas time is astounding. Go to their website and watch the video, look at their resources. They encourage people to give differently.

Maybe you have a favorite charitable organization. Suggest that your family give to a favorite ministry in your name for birthdays and Christmas. Be sure to check out charitable organizations at [charitynavigator.org](http://charitynavigator.org) for ratings.

Here are a few more to consider:

- We Care Corvallis <https://www.wecarecorvallis.org/>
- Corvallis Public Schools Foundation <https://cpsfoundation.org/>
- Trillium Family Services (Corvallis)—Adopt a Family for Christmas  
<https://trilliumfamily.org/adopt-a-family-participation-sign-up/>
- Lutheran Disaster Response  
<https://www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response>



## Prayers

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

- ⇒ Darlene and Jim
- ⇒ Emery and Helen
- ⇒ Kendra's Father
- ⇒ Lauray "Butch", friend of Andrea
- ⇒ Bali
- ⇒ Nicole, friend of Andre
- ⇒ Sara and her father, Molly Hallgrimson's daughter's former co worker
- ⇒ Dorothy, Dave's Mother
- ⇒ Karen, Martha's friends sister
- ⇒ All Affected by Colorado Wild Fires
- ⇒ Darlene, friend of Bev

### Deaths

- ⇒ Brad Stonacek, Cathy's cousin
- ⇒ Phyllis Norlie

### Updated Contact Information:

We have updated contact information for the names listed below. Please contact the church office to request updated contact information.

Wendy and Jude Geist  
Jeff and Brenda Beck  
Donna Blus

## Grace Personnel

**Interim Pastor**—Dorothy Nielsen

**Bookkeeper** - Robin Comforto

**Custodian** - Outside Contractor

**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

**Percussion** - Kelsey Bleck

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

### **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

**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**

## Preparing Grace for the Future Reopening

Throughout the Covid 19 pandemic, it seems as if our lives have stopped as we wait for upcoming Government executive orders or further information from our local counties. We wait for that day when we hear that in-person worship services can take place once again in the sanctuary at Grace Lutheran Church.

Although it may feel like time has stopped, Grace is full of activities, meetings and preparing the church for that time when we are able to meet again. From the Worship and Music Committee's weekly meetings to the Re-opening Grace Steering Committee meetings, Grace committee members are working hard on the details of how and when Grace will open its doors again. The health and safety of all visitors, members, and video production team members is top on everybody's list.

### **Cleaning the Sanctuary**

September left the reopening committee with different responsibilities. Because of the wildfires in Oregon and the smoke that consumed the Willamette Valley, the reopening committee had to move from protocols for reopening Grace, to organizing the clean-up of the ash that came into the sanctuary. The ash left Video Production team members Mary and Bruce Stephens and Hayden Talley cleaning pews, instruments, and electronic equipment to prepare for the upcoming live worships. Ron Larson worked hard in finding ways to clean the pews, seat covers, carpets, kneelers, and the air from the smoke and ash which left a grey film on all surfaces as well as very hazy air throughout the sanctuary. Much of this clean-up could not be done until the air quality got better. Once the heavy rains hit, the sanctuary was able to be cleaned professionally. We are proud to announce that all the pews, seat covers, kneelers, floors and carpets, and even the purlin between the columns near the altar have been cleaned of dust which has built up over the years as well as recent wild-fire ash. Some additional work will still be done to finish up maintenance in the sanctuary so that it is ready for the first in-person worship service.

### **When will we be able to Worship in Person Again?**

This is the biggest question for church members and committee members. At this time, both the Reopening Committee and the Worship and Music Committee are working hard to create protocols and to plan what worship will look like. At first, in-person worship services will look different from what we are used to, but we are confident that we will eventually transition to a service that more closely resembles what we have had in the past.

### **What can we expect when we start in person worship again?**

When Grace is ready for in-person worship services, we will send out all of the information you will need to know.

Please continue to watch for more updates and for that exciting time when we can announce that we will be able to worship in person again.



## 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.

Keep an eye out for your Financial Statements which were mailed out on October 19th. Also included with that mailing was a request for your estimate of giving for 2021. A simple Google Form is available for you to use to enter your estimate of giving at this address:

<https://forms.gle/pef6nExk6ocQZkri9>

**YOUR GIVING MATTERS!**

We would like to receive all estimates of giving by November 1st prior to Consecration Sunday on November 8th.

If you have any questions, you can contact our Financial Secretary, Mary Stephens at 541-754-9841.

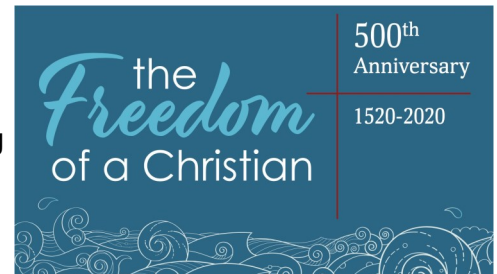
Click the link below to see the Stewardship Video

[https://youtu.be/YP9SMbl\\_DzQ](https://youtu.be/YP9SMbl_DzQ)

## “The Freedom of a Christian” Study

Now's your chance to dive a little deeper into one of the ground-breaking works of Lutheran theology. The ELCA invites our whole church body to study and reflect on Martin Luther's [“The Freedom of a Christian”](#) in 2020, its 500th anniversary year. You can download an annotated version of Luther's writing and the ELCA's study guide here:

<https://www.elca500.org>



This work is suitable for self-study – but if you'd value conversation with others and would like to tie Luther's thought of 500 years ago with questions and issues rising up today, please consider joining our local study group. Contact Deaconess Donna King at [donnak@grace97330.org](mailto:donnak@grace97330.org) by November 7, 2020 if you'd like an invitation to the introductory zoom meeting!

### Giving at a Glance

#### Support the many ministries of Grace Lutheran

##### Contributions as of October 10, 2020

Contributions for the Month of October: \$ 10,608;  
October's Budget: \$ 29,900;  
Last Weeks of Giving: \$ 10,608;  
Weekly Budget: \$ 7,475;  
YTD contributions: \$242,355;

##### Contributions as of October 17, 2020

Contributions for the Month of October: \$ 15,888;  
October's Budget: \$ 29,900;  
Last 2 Weeks of Giving: \$ 5,280;  
Weekly Budget: \$ 7,475;  
YTD contributions: \$247,635;



## 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 email Elizabeth at [CorvallisSewingBrigade@gmail.com](mailto:CorvallisSewingBrigade@gmail.com) 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](http://CorvallisSewingBrigade.org)



### Are you getting face irritation from Wearing a Mask?

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](http://quitnow.net/Oregon).

## October Council Minutes

September 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.

October Meeting Minutes can be found online at:

<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Council-Meeting-Minutes-10-12-20.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:**  
Meredith Junge  
Jaya Lapham  
Jim Leklem  
Dave Lundahl  
Anne Schroeder  
Sandie Williams  
Kendra Wollert  
Vacant: 2 Spots



## Birthday Blessings!

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

Maya Stock	11/03
Bob Saathoff	11/04
Courtney Shaff	11/04
Sue Kingsley	11/09
Beverly Raze	11/09
Isaac Hadlock	11/11
Anne Schroeder	11/12
Evelyn Vega	11/12
Molly Hallgrimson	11/14
Jaime Foster	11/16
Michael Hellberg	11/18

Van Volk	11/18
Erin Radniecki	11/19
Becky Strandberg	11/19
Joyce Gourley	11/25
Maud Corl	11/26
Mark Klopsch	11/27
Sandy Beachley	11/28
Wayne Wahrmund	11/28
Jo Anne Hellberg	11/30
Ardelle Merritt	11/30

## 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.

# 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.

## Photo Directory Insert

An insert for our 2019 Photo Directory with updated and additional contact information is now available. Please contact the church office to request a copy. Please call 541-757-1600 or email at [office@grace97330.org](mailto:office@grace97330.org)



## Adult Bible Study – September, October and November 2020

### Love for One Another

His hands damp from kneeling before his disciples and washing their feet, Jesus returns to the supper table and tells them, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 13:34).

In Christ we are commanded to love our mothers, our BFFs, the dear couple at church with whom we sit almost every Sunday, and old friends far away. Just as Jesus loved Peter, so we are called to love our family and friends.

And just as Jesus loved Judas Iscariot, we are called to love the men who dropped bombs on Damascus and those who shot up Columbine, Virginia Tech, and Parkland schools.

What? I'm not going to love those people.

Just as Jesus loved Thomas, we are called to love the ones who doubt the decisions our pastors and congregational leaders make, organize secret petitions, and announce they'll leave if they don't get their way.

Yes, love them. Just as Jesus loved Judas and Thomas.

It's not as easy to love some people as it seems at first glance. That's why we need three months to dig into this study of Jesus' commandment to love one another.

Who will help us?

The Holy Spirit will breathe on us and blow open the pages of our Bibles. There we'll meet Joseph of the magnificent coat. And we'll encounter his brothers too. Yes, them. Then David appears on the scene. And Saul, that troubling figure. Complicating everything is Jesus telling us in no uncertain terms to love those in our lives who are like Saul and like Joseph's brothers. With a story, Jesus shows us that people we hate might understand more about his love than we do.

Who will help us with these challenging tasks? Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit, most certainly will show us love with his basin of water and towel. He will tell us that we might visualize God's love in us when we examine a vine and its branches. The apostle Paul will help us too. Finally, the writers of 1 John and the book of Acts will speak to our questions about loving one another and will inspire us to love with their glimpses of love in the early church.

### Our Writer

When Pastor Susie Gamelin retired, she understood that God was calling her to "wash feet." She serves addicts, families in poverty, and those who, like her husband, Tim, struggle with the loss of their mental and/or physical capacities. When asked "How are you?" Susie responds, "Grateful."



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

Find our Live 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)



## Grace worship to broadcast on TV

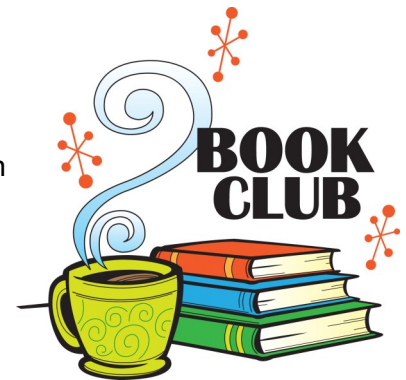
Recordings of Grace worship services will start airing on public access channel 29. Look for a note on the exact time slot. They will be from 1 week earlier than the livestream.

## November meeting of the Grace Globaliers

Grace Globaliers, a book group focusing on international and cross-cultural issues, If you are interested in attending, contact Mary Ann Matzke at [maryann.matzke@gmail.com](mailto:maryann.matzke@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

**Nov. 5 at 12:00 pm-** "House Made of Dawn" by Scott Momaday and led by Sharon Rosenkoetter.

This Native American author was featured on OPB for the 50th anniversary of his book. It won the Pulitzer Prize for literature in 1969; the first Native American to receive the Pulitzer Prize. It is the story of Abel who ends up killing a man. Upon release from prison he struggles to improve, but fails. Another downward spiral begins. As the story concludes, however, Abel, through his grandfather, connects with the ancient traditions of his people and races back toward his people and his place in the world.



### Upcoming Meetings:

Dec. 3 -"Vikings in the Attic: In Search of Nordic America" by Eric Degni and led by Carol Kamke.

Jan. 4 -"The Red Tent by Anita Diamant and led by Mary Ann Matzke

## 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.





## Camp Lutherwood

### Many Thanks for Spirit of Harvest!

Our live-stream event and fundraiser Spirit of Harvest was a huge success thanks to all of you who care about Camp Lutherwood! In total, we have raised over \$170,000, all of which goes toward our programming and operations in 2021. If you missed watching the event live, you can access and watch the recording on [our website's Spirit of Harvest page](#). Thank you again for your support and generosity!

### Camp Site & Facility Updates

We're excited to celebrate the completion of the new dining hall and kitchen, as well as a new bridge! The dining hall and commercial kitchen are fully ADA accessible, so all of our guests can enjoy this large group gathering space. Thanks to the generous in-kind donation from Wildish Construction, our new bridge will support camp for many years to come. The new bridge is four feet wider than the old bridge to allow larger vehicles to pass, and it is made of a sturdy concrete which allows for a much greater weight capacity.

### Tentative 2021 Summer Programming Dates

Please Note: With Coronavirus, this summer will look different at camp. We are preparing to adapt our typical programming to ensure the health and safety of all of our campers, staff and guests. We commit to offering an outdoor experience that will be safe and adaptable. The dates listed for 2021 are tentative, and we will continue to publish updates as more information becomes available. We look forward to seeing you soon!

### Registration Opens: TBD

- Week 1: June 27- July 2 Confirmation | Explorer
- Weekend 1: July 2-4 - Family Camp 1
- Week 2: July 4-9 - Mini | Pioneer | Explorer | Staff in Training
- Week 3: July 11-16 - Discovery | High School
- Weekend 2: July 16-18- Family Camp 2
- Week 4: July 18-23 - Forest Retreat | Pioneer | Explorer
- Week 5: July 25-30 - Confirmation | High School
- Weekend 3: July 30- Aug 1 - Women's Retreat
- Week 6: Aug 1-6 - Discovery

Mini Camp: 1st-3rd grade

Pioneer: 3rd-5th grade

Explorer: 5th-6th grade

Discovery: 7th-9th grade

Confirmation: 6th-9th grade

High School Programs: 9th-12th grade

### COVID-19 & Camp Lutherwood Oregon

Lane County is still in Phase 2 operations. Camp Lutherwood Oregon continues to follow the guidelines of Oregon Health Authority and government mandates to ensure the safety of families, guests, volunteers and our staff. At this time camp is open to small groups of guests by private appointment only. Please contact the office to make arrangements to ensure that we are able to accommodate all safety requirements at 541-998-6444 or [office@lutherwoodoregon.org](mailto:office@lutherwoodoregon.org) for more information and to make your request.

Please contact the office (541) 998-6444 or [office@lutherwoodoregon.org](mailto:office@lutherwoodoregon.org) with any questions.



## Luther House Campus Ministry

Dear Luther House friends,

I have good news to report and a special request to go along with it.

The OSU campus no longer resembles a ghost town. Students have returned after their long absence since the beginning of the pandemic last March. University administrators claim that as many as one half of all who are registered have moved back to Corvallis, despite the fact that over 90% of classes are being offered remotely.

So, there is ministry to be done.

But it must be done differently. At Luther House we are learning to minister “outside-the-box.”

Unable to gather students in-person, we have begun offering zoom discussions on faith and life amid COVID. Sermons are being offered on social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram.

In lieu of community meals, we are distributing grocery bags and hygiene products to students who are more economically insecure because of the loss of employment on campus and part-time work in Corvallis.

We are tabling on campus, presenting Luther House as a “community of compassion,” inviting engagement with students who are battling isolation and loneliness as never before.

There is ministry to be done.

But the funding needed to do it is running short. COVID has taken its toll financially as well as relationally. We received word this summer that our annual ELCA Churchwide grant will be reduced by \$1,700 due to the decline in giving across the church. You and other Luther House friends have been generous, but donations have taken a downturn. Overall, giving has declined by 10%, while annual costs continue to rise by about the same amount.

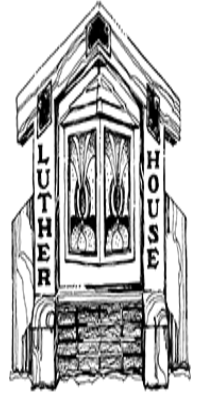
We need your help if Luther House is to continue providing ministry on the OSU campus during this challenging season.

Would you consider making a special gift this fall? The 10% figure may prove a useful guide, but we would be grateful for any additional amount you can contribute. Donations can be mailed to Luther House Campus Ministry, 211 NW 23rd Street, Corvallis, OR 97330. If you prefer, secure online donations can be made at <http://www.luther-house.org/donate/>.

We are ever so grateful for your partnership. Your support is what makes Luther House possible. We hope and pray we can count on you again.

Grace and peace be yours,

Pastor Mike  
Michael Ostrom  
Pastor  
Luther House Campus Ministry @OSU  
211 NW 23rd Street  
Corvallis, OR 97330  
[lhouse@peak.org](mailto:lhouse@peak.org)  
541-753-5213





## Lutheran Disaster Response

### Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

For more information on Oregon Synod Disaster Relief and Oregon Wildfire Relief, please see page 13 of the October Issue of Grace Gatherings or go to the link below:  
<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/2020-October-GG.pdf>

## A word from Grace Center

The arrival in October of a handsome new 15 passenger bus, equipped to handle wheelchairs, is a sign of hope in the discouraging days of the pandemic. The Center isn't allowed to resume full seating capacity in a bus, as it had before the pandemic. Then it was sharing buses with other non-profit organizations. Now with their new bus, and after the pandemic started, they will be allowed to take only small numbers of participants at a time for scenic rides, outing opportunities for safe activities with standards of transport for older adults and people with disabilities. They use current approved standards for the number of people allowed per vehicle at one time. But it is an opportunity to see fall colors or visit a park, if it is not crowded. It is also a time for their caregivers to have some respite from full time care.

The bus was purchased with money from grants and generous private donors. (Thank you, friends.) You, too, appreciate that Grace Center is following Covid protocols now. But whenever it is possible they will resume their Community Outing program of at least three outings per month for 10 to 12 participants to museums, fairs, or other community celebrations. They will be ready.

Betty McCauley



## Traveling through the Sundays after Pentecost

**Sunday, November 1, 2020**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**All Saints Sunday**

### Introduction

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

### Readings and Psalm

Revelation 7:9-17

*The multitudes of heaven worship the Lamb*

Psalm 34:1-10, 22

*Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord; for those who fear the Lord lack nothing. (Ps. 34:9)*

1 John 3:1-3

*We are God's children*

Matthew 5:1-12

*Blessed are the poor in spirit*

### Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**



*All Saints' Day*

**Sunday, November 8, 2020**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

### Introduction

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

### Readings and Psalms

Amos 5:18-24

*Let justice roll down like waters*

Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 (alternate)

*Wisdom Wisdom makes herself known*

Psalm 70

*You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord, do not tarry. (Ps. 70:5)*

Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 (alternate)

*The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction. (Ws. 6:17)*

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

*The promise of the resurrection*

Matthew 25:1-13

*The story of the wise and foolish bridesmaids*

### Prayer of the Day

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**





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

**Sunday, November 15, 2020**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Introduction**

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

**Readings and Psalm**

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

*The day of the Lord*

Psalm 90:1-8, 12

*So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)*

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*Be alert for the day of the Lord*

Matthew 25:14-30

*The story of the slaves entrusted with talents*

**Prayer of the Day**

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**



**Sunday, November 22, 2020**  
**Christ the King**

**Introduction**

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

**Readings and Psalm**

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

*God will shepherd Israel*

Psalm 95:1-7a

*We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. (Ps. 95:7)*

Ephesians 1:15-23

*The reign of Christ*

Matthew 25:31-46

*The coming of the Son of Man; the separation of sheep and goats*

**Prayer of the Day**

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**



## Traveling through Advent

**Sunday, November 29, 2020**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

### Introduction

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

### Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 64:1-9

*Prayer that God would come with power and compassion*

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

*Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.*  
(Ps. 80:7)

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

*Gifts of grace sustain those who wait for the end*

Mark 13:24-37

*The sudden coming of the Son of Man*

### Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**



### A Drive-by Youth Nativity Event - Saturday evening, December 19, 5-8 pm

2020 Everything is different including the Nativity program. Instead of a youth nativity pageant during a Worship service, the Christian Education team will work with youth and families to create an outside drive-by Nativity experience with the story proclaimed in music, signs, lights, and a living creche scene with youth playing the character parts and a few real animals. We will need help with art, tech, music, or promotions. To volunteer, please contact [Rebekah Hadlock](#) or [Shelly Lundahl](#). Families should look for notes soon regarding details for youth parts or involvement.