

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.

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."



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





# **Holy Week Schedule**

April 1, 2021 at 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service with Communion (Zoom)

April 2, 2021
Region 1 Good Friday Service
Please watch for more information

April 3, 2021 from 7pm to 9 pm Easter Vigil Drop-In (at Grace parking lot)

April 4, 2021 at 10 am EASTER! (YouTube)



# Prayers

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

# **Prayers**

- ⇒ Darlene and Jim
- ⇒ Helen
- $\Rightarrow$  Milt
- ⇒ Denise
- ⇒ Gabrialle and Bret, Andreas brother and his wife
- ⇒ Thomas and Barbara, former Grace member

#### Deaths:

⇒ Oramo, long time member of Grace

# Giving at a Glance Support the many ministries of Grace Lutheran

Contributions as of March 12, 2021

Contributions for the Month of March: \$14,060; March's Budget: \$25,200; Last Weeks Giving: \$9,946; Weekly Budget: \$6,300; YTD contributions: \$71,308; YTD budget: \$75,800

# Grace Personnel

Interim Pastor—Dorthy Nielsen

Bookkeeper - Robin Comforto
Custodian - Outside Contractor
Director of Discipling Ministries - Donna King
Director of Music Ministries - Bryson Skaar
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

#### 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 Dear People of God at Grace,

Holy Week was a flurry of activity. The parade into Jerusalem began with jubilation and hope, but by week's end had crawled to defeat and fear. Yet we call this week holy because God's plan of salvation worked through, and in spite of, humanity's plans.

We long to celebrate together, and one day we will. For over a year the Church has been "decentralized," as one colleague has called it. That is a way of saying that the people of God have been scattered will be gathered. To discover that our faith community still exists beyond our buildings rather than centered in those buildings, and to have figured out ways to worship together and BE the Church is the work of God's Spirit inspiring us. Imagine what else could be part of this life in Christ?

When I come into Holy Week I think about how God is not detoured by what is going on. Certainly it was heartbreaking to experience the rejection, the plotting, the condemnation, and the suffering unto death for the Son of God. Yet through that Hoy Week parade, Jesus continued his mission for the sake of the whole work. all the way to Good Friday.

#### 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

God, in infinite wisdom, had other plans. Thank goodness! Amid the defeat and fear of the disciples came new life, resurrection. Surprise! And that new reality changed everything! No going back to what was, God's plan of salvation defeated the power of sin and death so that we could have new life.

It has been a long year. The way we lived life has died. Maybe that way needed to die so that there can be new life. What do you suppose that new life will look like? Returning to the way we did things in the past is no longer possible. Can we take the time to ponder the new life we are walking into now? It is filled with hope and opportunity in following Jesus, the crucified and risen Savior. Now, how will we live in these days knowing that God's plan of salvation cannot be detoured? In the Easter season we will see how the resurrection of Jesus Christ changed the way his followers lived. They can be inspiration for us. Let's see what they can teach us. They did not return to the way things were but moved out into a new reality. They moved into Easter! And that is where we are headed too!

May the God of hope and promise guide us as we walk into new life and Easter!

In Easter joy,

Pastor Dorthy







# **March Council Minutes**

March 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 <a href="mailto:office@grace97330.org">office@grace97330.org</a>. 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: <a href="https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Council-meeting-minutes-03-08-21.pdf">https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Council-meeting-minutes-03-08-21.pdf</a>

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



President: Bob Keith Vice President: Kendra Wollert Secretary: Nancy Hemming Treasurer: Hal Brauner **Financial Secretary:** Mary Stephens **Council Members:** Jeff Beck Mike Franklin Isaac Hadlock Rebekah Hadlock Meredith Junge Dave Lundahl Mary Ann Matzke Pr. Dorthy Nielsen Robyn Vega Sandie Williams



Dear Grace Lutheran Church Congregation:

The Reopening Grace Steering Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your outstanding response to our recent survey. The volume of responses and the information they contain are very important components of our deliberations on how and when to reopen Grace in the safest and most beneficial manner.

Some of the findings from the survey include the following:

- There is great support for taking a cautious approach to reopening despite an overwhelming desire to get back together again.
- There is also support for some kind of reservation system if, when we reopen, we are still constrained by State and Synod rules regarding the number of people who can gather.
- There is solid support for continuing the transmission of services online even after we are together again.

These valuable pieces of information will aid us in formulating the best reopening plan we can. We thank you again for your input and for your caring attitude toward your fellow parishioners. Let us all continue to work together in Jesus' name.

Sincerely, The Grace Lutheran Church Reopening Steering Committee

Bob Keith
Pastor Dorthy Nielsen
Rebekah Hadlock
Ron Larson
Nancy Bond Hemming
Andrea Barnhurst

# Family Game Night Friday, April 9 at 6:30 pm

Join Grace for another Family Game Night via zoom. This time we will be playing Jeopardy. Fun and prizes for all ages.

Watch for zoom information in the weekly email or contact the church office for more information.







# Birthday Blessings!

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

Martina Vega	04/02
Herbert Hansen	04/02
Dick Junge	04/06
Teri Briskey	04/07
Dale Weber	04/08
Hal Dick	04/09
Carol Erickson	04/09
Christina Lundahl	04/10
Hal Brauner	04/11
Betty McCauley	04/11
Jeff Palmgren	04/11
Ellen Gelser	04/12
Millie Babb	04/14
Michael Beachley	04/14
Calla Shaff	04/15

Aaron Davis Grayson Foster Wendell Hendershott	04/17 04/17 04/17
Marilyn Walsh	04/18
Terry Renshaw Susan Speulda	04/19 04/22
Kendra Wollert	04/23
Sharon Rosenkoetter Eleanor Harrington	04/24 04/25
Angie Kingsley	04/27
Linda Samuels	04/27
Kris Warloe Doris Volk	04/28 04/29
Todd Washington	04/29

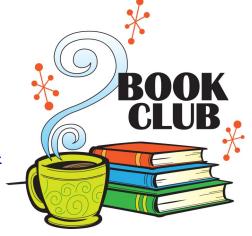
# **April meeting of the Grace Globaliers**

The Grace Globaliers will be discussing "The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas on Tuesday, April 6, at 7 pm on Zoom. In this extremely topical novel, sixteen year old Starr Carter witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend and is thrust into the spotlight of national headlines. Starr lives in a poor neighborhood, but goes to a fancy suburban prep school. As she threads this balance, her family is threatened and experiences riots that damage their livelihood. Written in a style that helps us empathize with the Black Lives Matter movement, it is stirring, funny, and informative. For more information, or to get the zoom link, please contact Mary Ann Matzke at <a href="mailto:matzke@gmail.com">matzke@gmail.com</a>.

We have changed our dates and times for the remainder of this year, so please note them. All meetings will continue on Zoom.

Tuesday, May 4, 7 pm - <u>Tell: Love, Defiance, and the Military Trial at the Tipping Point for Gay Rights.</u> Discussion led by Jaya Lapham

Tuesday, June 1, 7 pm - The Day the World Came to Town by Jim Defede. Discussion led by Sharon Rosen-koetter



# 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.



# **Library Donation from Vohland Christian Collection**

As of this March of 2021, Grace Lutheran Church Library is happy to announce that we are the grateful recipient of Kathy Vohland's generosity. Kathy has graciously donated 60 books from her Christian and Faith based collection. Our newly acquired books from Vohland represent approximately 10 percent of her personal library.

Kathy spent her working career as an elementary school principal from Oak Harbor, Washington. Her retired years have been spent in Corvallis. She has been a long-time member of Grace Lutheran Church, a dedicated Bible Study participant and reputable member of Wise Women, now known as Wisdom Seekers. Grace Church has also been the welcome recipient of Vohland's sense of humor for all these years. In addition, during her years at Grace Church Kathy has served as a volunteer on the Church Council, and as Vice President. Most notably, Kathy has a compassionate admiration of the canine species. In fact, she has a shelf full of books on dogs, but is keeping every one of them.



As mentioned, the books which the Grace Library has acquired from Kathy are just part of her collection. All her books bestowed upon our Library are rather new, recent, and encompass timely but contemporary issues and inquiries. A great deal of the publications will be of interest to women, but many are spiritually inspired for the general reader. Of note for women, are titles such as *A Woman's Journey to God, Finding the Feminine Path* by Joan Borysenko. To the spiritually curious are titles like *Living the Border, of the Holy, Renewing the Priesthood of All* by L. William Countryman.

It was a wonderful time with Kathy choosing appropriate items. Together we looked over each title and cover leaf, with her enthusiastic, educated, knowledgeable and tasteful approval, for the Grace Library. Vohland's books significantly update and freshen up our William E. King Memorial Library, and will give it a healthy glow.

The Library Committee will soon be currently working on cataloging, labeling and shelving the books. We are pleased that readers of the Grace Congregation will be able to enjoy these books for years to come.

By Jody Parker

there!

# Spring Time Walk at Bald Hill

Hello, Grace Lutheran family! Spring is here, the flowers are starting to bloom, and it's time to get outside! Bob Keith and I are welcoming you to join us on a walk at Bald Hill. This walk is an all-flat loop, will take about 45 minutes, and welcoming to ALL ages! We will be meeting at the Bald Hill parking lot at 6455 NW Oak Creak Dr. at 1:00pm on Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup>. Please bring good walking shoes and wear a mask. Dogs are also welcome on a leash! If you have any questions, please contact me via email at: beachlock@hotmail.com. We hope to see you





# Adult Bible Study March, April and May 2021

We will continue to email to those that wish until we are able to meet together again. Contact Frank or Sue at <a href="mailto:fssndavis@msn.com">fssndavis@msn.com</a> if you wish to get the Bible Study lessons or ZOOM with our class on Wednesdays at 6 pm. Stay well.

### Prophet's Faithful to God's Covenant

Shortly after Pope Francis remarked on the global climate crisis in 2015, a US presidential candidate opined that the pontiff should "leave science to the scientists" and suggested that the church should stick to its proper bailiwick of morality and theology (Christopher Hale, "Rick Santorum Wants Pope Francis to Leave Science to Scientists…," *Washington Post*, June 4, 2015).

Leaving aside for a moment that Pope Francis holds a degree in chemistry (and thus is a scientist), and leaving without further comment the simple observation that the global climate crisis is, in fact, a proper topic for moral and theological consideration, one wonders at the idea that the Christian church's expressions are limited to morality and theology, narrowly defined. In that view, the church and believers have no legitimate voice in public policy, the practices of business, finance, military armaments, or a host of other "secular" topics. Unfortunately, many modern believers have been led to understand that the divorce between private piety and public policy is normal and even desirable.

Such a view could not be further from what one finds in the Bible and, especially, what one discovers reading the prophets.

This quarter's study introduces the ministry of prophets. *Prophet* in the following sessions is used rather informally to describe any who were summoned to speak the word of God, including some who are not traditionally numbered among the prophets. Some of the characters encountered are well known, others are more obscure, and one remains anonymous. All of them, however, were summoned by God to speak a timely word to their own communities of faith in particular times and circumstances.

To speak a timely word to people living in a specific epoch is, in fact, the hallmark of biblical prophecy. Authentic prophets did not stand on a figurative promontory casting a predictive eye over centuries of events to foretell details of historical circumstances that neither they nor their auditor's great-great-grandchildren would live to see. Indeed, living to see that a prophet's word had come to pass was one means of determining an authentic prophet (Deuteronomy 18:20-22). Moreover, and far from limiting their subjects to morality and theology, Yahweh instructed prophets to pronounce the diving intentions about building walls, surrender to an enemy army, the treatment of foreigners, and more.

The first four sessions, drawn from Exodus, Deuteronomy, Joshua, and 1 and 2 Kings, explore the reasons prophets were necessary in Israel's history. The next four sessions reveal the compassion of God during times in Israel's history when the people continually forsook the ways of God. The final five sessions of this quarter show the boldness of God's prophets as recorded in 1 Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Jonah.

#### Our Writer

After twenty-five years of boring students into medical comas at Wartburg College, Walter (Chip) Bouzard retired to Rockbridge Baths, Virginia, where he lives with Romano, his wife of forty-six years. Friends correctly conclude that she stays with him out of morbid curiosity. He is trying to grow Shitake mushrooms.





# **Camp Lutherwood**

## **Register Now for Spring Work Days**

Do you want to spend a day working at camp this spring? We're opening up 3 different Work Days with space for up to 5 families each. These work days will be held on April 24 (only 1 spot remaining!), May 8, and June 5 from 10AM to 2PM. Reservations are required on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit our website at <a href="https://www.lutherwoodoregon.org/work-days-2/">https://www.lutherwoodoregon.org/work-days-2/</a> to request your space!

## 2021 Summer Registration is OPEN!

Registration is open for Family Camp, Women's Retreat and Youth Programs now! Space is limited for all programs and spots are filling up fast. The most up to date information about program dates and costs can be found at <a href="https://www.lutherwoodoregon.org/camp/">https://www.lutherwoodoregon.org/camp/</a>

#### **Now Hiring for Summer 2021**

2021 Summer Staff applications are now available online at lutherwoodoregon.org/employment. Staff members must be at least 18 years of age by June 1, 2021 and willing to serve in a variety of roles this summer. For questions contact the camp office at office@lutherwoodoregon.org or call 541-998-6444

# COVID-19 & Camp Lutherwood Oregon

At this time camp is open to 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 <a href="mailto:office@lutherwoodoregon.org">office@lutherwoodoregon.org</a> for more information and to make your request.

# **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.



# 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 pastor would greatly appreciate you sharing this with them. Also, please know that we will respect any and all requests for confidentiality.



# **Traveling Through Holy Week**

# Thursday, April 1, 2021 Maundy Thursday

#### Introduction

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

# Readings and Psalm

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14

The passover of the Lord

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. (Ps. 116:13)

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Proclaim the Lord's death until he comes

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

The service of Christ: footwashing and meal

#### Prayer of the Day (Alternate)

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

# Friday, April 2 Good Friday

#### Introduction

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

# Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 52:13--53:12

The suffering servant

Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Ps. 22:1)

Hebrews 10:16-25

The way to God is opened by Jesus' death

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 (alternate)

Jesus is our merciful high priest

John 18:1--19:42

The passion and death of Christ

#### Prayer of the Day (Alternate)

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.







# Find the Bible online at bible.oremus.org

# Sunday, April 4 Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter

#### Introduction

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

### Readings and Psalm

Acts 10:34-43

God raised Jesus on the third day

<u>Isaiah 25:6-9</u> (alternate)

The feast of Victory

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Witnesses to the risen Christ

Acts 10:34-43 (alternate)

God raised Jesus on the third day

Mark 16:1-8

The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.

John 20:1-18 (alternate)

Seeing the risen Christ

# Prayer of the Day (Alternate)

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



# Sunday, April 11 Second Sunday of Easter

#### Introduction

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

# Readings and Psalm

Acts 4:32-35

The believers' common life

Psalm 133

How good and pleasant it is to live together in unity.

(Ps. 133:1)

1 John 1:1--2:2

Walking in the light

John 20:19-31

Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ

# Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.





# Find the Bible online at bible.oremus.org

# Sunday, April 18 Third Sunday of Easter

#### Introduction

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

# Readings and Psalm

Acts 3:12-19

Health and forgiveness through the risen Jesus Psalm 4

The Lord does wonders for the faithful. (Ps. 4:3) 1 John 3:1-7

The revealing of the children of God Luke 24:36b-48

Eating with the risen Christ

# **Prayer of the Day**

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



# Sunday, April 25 Fourth Sunday of Easter

#### Introduction

The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need.

# Readings and Psalm

Acts 4:5-12

Salvation in the name of Jesus

Psalm 23

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

1 John 3:16-24

Love in truth and action

John 10:11-18

Christ the shepherd

# Prayer of the Day

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

