

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.**



The Transition Team needs you!

You have received a link to the Grace Church History survey. We are looking forward to hearing from you the stories of Grace, the events, the people, and how God has been working in and through Grace over the years. Since we cannot be together yet, your Transition Team is reaching out to you through this on-line tool. Some of you will receive it in the mail. Please fill it out and submit by May 8th. As we move forward in the work of preparing for calling a new pastor, it is important that everyone at Grace give input when the Team invites participation. There will be other occasions for engagement in the process. Once Grace is able to re-open the building, there will be some in-person events to get feed-back. This will help us write the MSP (Ministry Site Profile), which is used by the Bishop and Synod Staff to find candidates for interviewing and by the Call Committee, when formed, to be ready for the interview process.

Gratefully,
Neil Christensen, Meredith Junge, Dave Lundahl, Mary Ann Brenan, Jude Geist, and Pr Dorthy+

Link to Survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdGTE3d6UVDymZWlbp8GKJrnHniO8wM4SqYj9Q7b-hDd-lRyQ/viewform>



Dear People of Grace,

Happy Easter! May the crucified and risen Jesus Christ fill you with hope and peace.

There is no doubt that the Christian Church has been declining in membership for a long time. Longer than we care to admit. There is lots to read on the subject. One such recent article came from Sojourners magazine, by Adam Russell Taylor, titled "It's Time to Rethink American Churches." Here is the link if you want to read the whole thing online...https://sojo.net/articles/it-s-time-rethink-american-churches?fbclid=IwAR1pJU-vHea5v7_aBnGHigiCF147IsEV8-aDB8bCDxTbaKzASISyLEQeUrl

While I can tell you Grace has vitality and capacity, this transition time is crucial for Grace. This pandemic has accelerated the dynamics and influences on the Church, as has racial reckoning, the political divide, and Christian Nationalism, a theological corruption of what it means to be followers of Jesus.

There is no "road map" to guide us during this transition at Grace. Your Transition Team gets this truth. Your Council is reading a book on leadership called, "Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory" by Tod Bolsinger. The language used relates to the experiences of Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. After leaving Mandan, the Corps were off all known maps. When they got to Lemhi Pass, they saw that there was no easy way to the Pacific. They had to change how and what they were doing to fulfill the mission President Jefferson had given them: record the trip, make friends along the way, find the rumored waterway to the Pacific, and stake a claim for the US beyond the Louisiana Purchase.

Well, we are not going to be staking any claims during this transition. However, like Lewis and Clark, we do need to do things differently than we have in the past. Making friends with those outside our faith community will be crucial, as will trying new ways of living out Grace's mission and loads of prayer and trust.

To borrow from Adam Russell Taylor: It's Time to Rethink Church, Grace!

What does that mean? It's scary, unknown, and not the way you have done things before. This time in Grace's life is completely different from anything you have known. It's time to make new friends, to listen more. Let go of the boats and get on horses, let's forge on ahead!

Even though we do not have a "road map" for this transition, what we do have is a framework for moving forward, for re-thinking what it means to be Church.

In order to answer the basic Three Key Questions (*Who are we? Who are our neighbors? What is God calling us to do?*) we work through a framework of Five Focus Points, which are:

- **Heritage** – reviewing how Grace has been shaped into who you are today; listening to the stories of the past and recognizing the Spirit's work among and in this community of faith
- **Leadership** – assess the leadership needs for the current time as well as for the coming years; how new and seasoned leaders are able to energize members in the goals and mission of Grace
- **Connections** – this is a time to re-connect with the Synod and the ELCA, as well as build new networks of friends, and listening in our context in order to discern where God is calling Grace
- **Mission** – defining and redefining Grace's reason for existence; clarifying Grace's identity and core values, reviewing mission/vision statements, and setting some short-term goals
- **Future** – dreaming with God, discerning where Christ is leading Grace for the days and years ahead; this takes honest assessment of the other focus points so that Grace can call a pastor who shares the same goals and visions for ministry.

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*



Grace's Transition Team has sent out a Timeline document to engage the people of Grace. Please take the time to participate. We look forward to hearing your stories and responses that relate to the ministry and life of Grace. Your participation will help with the work of preparing the Ministry Site Profile, which will be used by the Call Committee (when it is formed), as well as the Synod Staff in searching for a pastor candidate with the qualities and skills needed for this time.

There is more to come. Like Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery, we forge ahead, taking the time, knowing that the journey will lead to new discoveries, new friends, new ways of being Church. Some of those things will seem familiar. All of us are needed for this journey into the uncharted territory of emerging ministry opportunities. And we go knowing that God's Spirit goes with us...filling us with the hope and vision of Easter.

Easter blessings!

Pr Dorthy+

This is your Transition Team:

Neil Christensen, Meredith Junge, Dave Lundahl, Mary Ann Brennan, and Jude Geist said "yes" to being on the Transition Team. Please hold them, and Church Council, and Pastor Dorthy in your prayers during the Interim time at Grace. Their work is to engage all of you in conversations of all kinds, to do the work needed to prepare for calling the next settled pastor to join in ministry with Grace. We trust the Holy Spirit to work in and through us all. And it is fun! Let's dream together with God.

The Transition Team has been meeting several times a month since March 1st. They have been working on the Timeline document that was sent out recently, by email and by mail, as was needed. Your participation is appreciated. We look forward to being able to do more work once we are able to gather together in person. In the meantime, thanks for engaging with the TT!

The Search for a Youth & Families Ministry Connector

Since November a Search Committee has been in place to post job opportunities for interim, part time positions, Children & Families Minister and Youth & Families Connector. The positions are interim, as once Grace extends a call to a pastor, that pastor will need to have final say on the ministry team to be built. The field has narrowed to two candidates for final interviews with the youth and parents. More information to come when one is hired.

Bob Keith, Rebekah Hadlock, Kendra Wollert, Katie Olsen, and Pr Dorthy+

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: Our congregation has experienced tremendous changes in the last 12 months, the greatest of which is not worshipping together on Sundays. I want to express my gratitude for the stewardship of time, talents and giving by our members. Thank you for the mutual leadership of Pastor Dorthy, Council, Worship and Music Committee, all other committees, Grace Alive, video production team, lay readers, guest musicians, adult Bible study, Zoom communion, our young people, and our staff. God's guidance and our faith is enabling GLC's ministry to prosper. *Blessings, Mary Ann Brennan*



Prayers

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

Prayers

- ⇒ Darlene and Jim
- ⇒ Helen
- ⇒ Clark, Pr. Netsie's Nephew
- ⇒ Butch and Sara, Andrea's friends
- ⇒ Dave and Cammie
- ⇒ Pastor Mike and Laura
- ⇒ Donette and Bob

Deaths:

- ⇒ Maud
- ⇒ Carol

Giving at a Glance Support the many ministries of Grace Lutheran

Contributions as of April 15, 2021

Contributions for the Month
of April: \$11,158;
April's Budget: \$35,000;
1st Half of April Giving: \$11,158;
Weekly Budget: \$8,750;
YTD contributions: \$101,560;
YTD budget: \$105,900

Grace Personnel

Interim Pastor—Dorothy 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



About Zoom Holy Communion at Grace Lutheran, from Pr Dorthy+

"We live in anxious times. COVID-19 makes these times even more anxious. In a time of crisis, it is our natural instinct to gather together, but this pandemic demands that we distance ourselves from one another for a time. This has led to major disruptions to all aspects of our lives, including corporate worship...We recommend that we do not urge people to employ virtual communion...[but to] use this time as a teaching moment about the Lutheran understanding of the Word of God," (*"Worship in Times of Public Health Concerns: COVID-19/Coronavirus," updated March 20, 2020, © 2020 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*)

This word came from the Worship Team of the Office of the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA a year ago. Little did we know that we would still be worshipping on-line 14 months later, still hoping to gather in-person. Soon, dear Grace, soon.

Let me share with you some of the theological constructs I hold for doing Communion by Zoom and not in the live-streaming Youtube channel worship service.

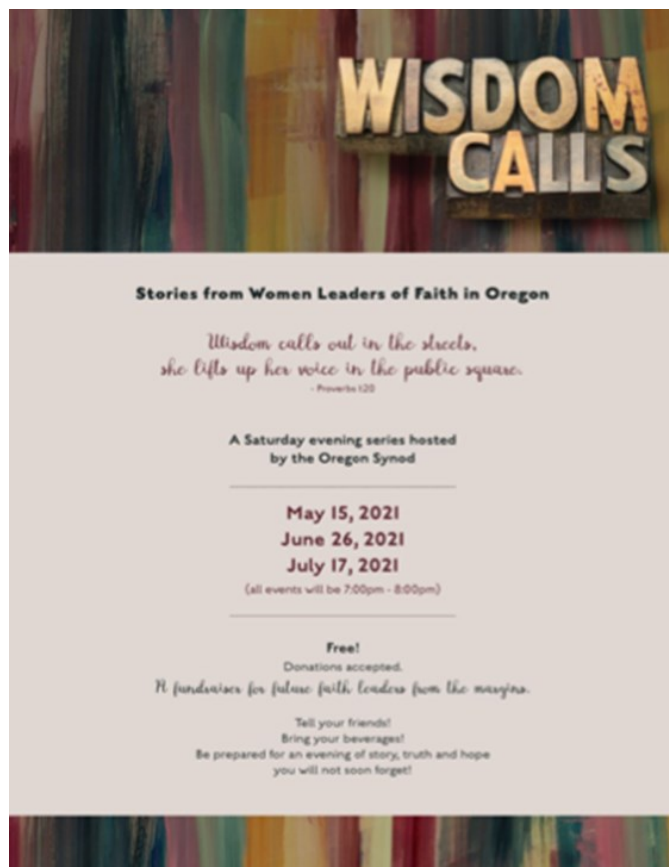
1. Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three are gathering in my name, I am there among you." We cannot see each other on Youtube. There is no way to "gather" in this particular platform. However, via Zoom we are able to see each other face-to-face! We can interact with each other, pray together, commune with one another. Technology has helped us create "sacred space" where we can be together.
2. St Paul on Holy Communion in 1 Corinthians 9:23-33 "... (v33) so then...when you come together to eat, wait for one another..." The issue of recording worship for use at another time, as well as for broadcasting on Channel 29 brings up another reason for not including Communion in that platform. If you have ever watched a TV show or movie where there is a marriage ceremony, you will not hear the whole rite used. That is because words do things. Recording the Words of Institution is not where the effectiveness of Holy Communion comes to bear. The Words of Institution in the gathered people of God along with the Word and the elements and the mystery of God becomes the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The recording has no power. And recording the sacrament opens up the possibility for abuse of the sacrament outside of the gathered people of God. When we begin to have hybrid services—on-site and on-line—there will be a sound overlay of some sort during Holy Communion. Eventually the Zoom Holy Communion will come to an end.

Hopefully this has been helpful for you in understanding why we do not partake of Holy Communion during the worship service. Making Communion an add-on is not ideal. However, in these days of distancing for the sake of the well-being of others, Zoom helps us commune with each other. Our wonderful Technology Team and Worship and Music Team have worked so steadfastly so that we can worship, to be gathered into a virtual sacred space to give thanks and praise to God, to hear that our sins are forgiven, to know that God has been restoring us to Godself and each other.

In Christ,
Pr Dorthy+

Address Change

Church member Kathy Vohland has moved. Please contact the church office for updated contact information.



Wisdom Calls!

An Oregon Synod Special Event –
Save the dates! May 15, June 26 and July 17.

Storytelling from some of the first ordained women faith leaders in Oregon - Susan Granata, Susan M. Kintner, Donna Herzfeldt-Kamprath, Joan Beck, Netsie Griffith, Solveig Nilsen-Goodin, Mary Peterson, and more.

Zoom! Free! Registration opens soon via the Oregon Synod's website and Facebook page.

April 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 office@grace97330.org. You are also welcome to attend council meetings, should you want to know what is going on or have something you would like to talk about.

March Meeting Minutes can be found online at: <https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/04-12-21-Council-meeting-minutes.pdf>

**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. Dorothy Nielsen
Robyn Vega
Sandie Williams



A Special Note from Deaconess Donna

Dear Grace, I'm writing to let you know that I'll be retiring in June. I want to thank you for the privilege of getting to serve here! I am so very grateful to know you, and so thankful to have served with you and to have had the opportunity to witness grace-in-action through you. I want you to know that you've filled my mind with memories and my heart with joy. Thank you!

One person who heard this news responded with, "you're not old enough!" Well, yes, I am ;-). I was consecrated as a Lutheran Deaconess in 1977, then served through the Lutheran Council for Community Action at Neighborhood House and participated in chaplaincy training at the Methodist Hospital in Lubbock, Texas. In 1981, I was invited to Corvallis to serve as Lutheran Campus Deaconess through Luther House. Then, in 2005, I came to Grace to serve as Director of Discipling Ministries. Each of these beginnings brought the wonder of all kinds of things I didn't even know I needed to learn! Now it's time for another "new thing," with all the surprises of learning and serving that another new stage of life in ministry will bring.

I am really looking forward to having more time to be creative through gardening and art. I'll get to travel a little bit, too. My husband was ordained and accepted his first call as a Lutheran pastor last November. He's serving part time at Grace Lutheran Church in Enterprise, Oregon and gets to do it in such a way that he can be in Enterprise part of the month, and here in Corvallis part of the month. When I retire, I'll get to go with him some times, which will be great fun. The Willows are beautiful – plus, there's an art center in Joseph (5 miles away) where I can take some classes (yay!), and lots of incredible Oregon to visit on our trips.

I'm pleased to be retiring and happy to help make a way forward for new things at Grace. You've given me lots of great memories. Know that I'm grateful. God is always calling us all into new and renewed life, no matter where we are or where we go. I can't wait to see what it looks like!

We need some photos –

Please send photos of "grace-filled life during the pandemic"

to donnak@grace97330.org by May 15

Grace's "Growing Young" team has an idea - a slideshow of our grace-filled life during the pandemic! Wouldn't it be interesting to see what we haven't been able to see? If you help us, we can do it. As we brainstormed ideas, the list got longer and longer. Smiles crossed our faces and eyes lit up at the realization that *lots* has been happening. But most of us haven't seen these things first-hand during this crazy pandemic year. So we want to put together a slideshow. Do you have any photos of Grace people engaged in service projects or music and worship or study or community-building fun? Special moments at home count, too! **Please help us out by e-mailing photos to Donna King at donnak@grace97330.org no later than May 15.** We'll put it together and share the results. Let's see what we can see!

Calling ALL Generations of Grace –

Please help us by taking the Growing Young survey before May 15!

The Growing Young/growing together process is starting to gain some momentum at Grace. Our next step is to gather your perspective on where we are with the project's six core commitments (*unlocking keychain leadership, empathizing with today's young people, taking Jesus' message seriously, fueling a warm community, prioritizing young people (and families) everywhere, and being the best neighbors.*) Will you give about 15 minutes to take a quick survey? Individual responses will be confidential but will be compiled with everyone's to give us an overall perspective of where we think we're at. The results of the survey will help us make choices that will shape where we go next. It's important and we thank you for sharing your thoughts! The survey will open May 1 and close May 15. Find it here: <https://www.oursurvey.church/GraceLutheranChurchCorvallis97330>



Birthday Blessings!

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

Bill Byers	05/01	Tracy Collier	05/11
Megan Vega	05/01	Joni Beilby	05/12
Derek Gourley	05/02	Jeff Beck	05/14
Karen Smith	05/02	Cooper Castellano	05/15
Reed Vega	05/02	Casey Smith	05/16
Christopher Kamke	05/04	Melissa Smith	05/16
Jana Seeliger	05/04	Ted Zhang	05/18
Jean Grosz	05/05	Marika Stock	05/20
Bill Briskey	05/06	Donna Hansen	05/21
Serena Orwick	05/06	Marie Belle Vega	05/21
Christopher Buckley	05/07	Karen Strand	05/23
Todd Greeley	05/07	Jacob Donner	05/24
Susan Hale	05/07	Marjorie Boster	05/25
Johanna Lundahl	05/07	Ida Stemple	05/25
Chad Washington	05/07	Lincoln White	05/26
Ashley White	05/07	Kiah Gourley	05/27
Benjamin Boysen	05/08	Eila Howe	05/27
Leah Byers	05/09	Wendy Nichols	05/27
MaryAnn Hall	05/09	Sarah Stephens	05/27
Ronly Grindahl	05/10	Brooke Donner	05/30
Lucas Junge	05/10	Julia Donner	05/30
Sarah Brauner	05/11	Debbie Kuehn	05/31

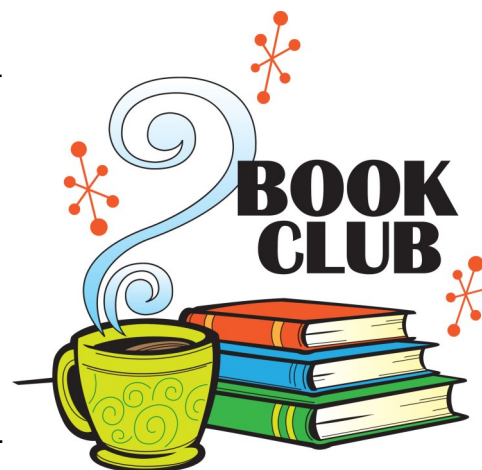
May meeting of the Grace Globaliers

Grace Globaliers Book Group will be meeting over Zoom on Tuesday, May 4 at 7 pm. Jaya Lapham and Tammy Skubina will lead our discussion of Tell: Love, Defiance, and the Military Trial at the Tipping Point for Gay Rights by Maj. Margaret Witt.

Major Margaret Witt is a decorated twenty-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force who made history in 2010 with her successful challenge of the notorious Don't Ask, Don't Tell law, which prohibited known gays and lesbians from serving in the U.S. military. Contrary to its intent, DADT had the perverse effect of making it harder for gay servicemen and -women to fight expulsion. Tell captures the tension and drama of the politically charged legal battle that led to the congressional repeal of the controversial law and helped pave the way for a suite of landmark political and legal victories for gay rights. Major Witt is currently working for the Portland VA Health Care System in Portland, Oregon. To get the Zoom link, contact Mary Ann Matzke at maryann.matzke@gmail.com.

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

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



Time of Easter



Sunday, May 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Introduction

This Sunday's image of how the risen Christ shares his life with us is the image of the vine. Christ the vine and we the branches are alive in each other, in the mystery of mutual abiding described in the gospel and the first letter of John. Baptism makes us a part of Christ's living and life-giving self and makes us alive with Christ's life. As the vine brings food to the branches, Christ feeds us at his table. We are sent out to bear fruit for the life of the world.

Readings and Psalm

[Acts 8:26-40](#)

Philip teaches and baptizes an Ethiopian

[Psalm 22:25-31](#)

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. (Ps. 22:27)

[1 John 4:7-21](#)

God's love perfected in love for one another

[John 15:1-8](#)

Christ the vine

Prayer of the Day

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, 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, May 9 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Introduction

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

Readings and Psalm

[Acts 10:44-48](#)

The Spirit poured out on the Gentiles

[Psalm 98](#)

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands. (Ps. 98:4)

[1 John 5:1-6](#)

The victory of faith

[John 15:9-17](#)

Christ the friend and lover

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.



Sunday, May 16 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Introduction

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

Readings and Psalm

[Acts 1:15-17, 21-26](#)

Matthias added to the apostles

[Psalm 1](#)

The Lord knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)

[1 John 5:9-13](#)

Life in the Son of God

[John 17:6-19](#)

Christ's prayer for his disciples

Prayer of the Day

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, 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, May 23 Day of Pentecost

Introduction

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

Readings and Psalm

[Acts 2:1-21](#)

Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds

[Ezekiel 37:1-14](#) (alternate)

Life to dry bones

[Psalm 104:24-34, 35b](#)

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

[Romans 8:22-27](#)

Praying with the Spirit

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

Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds

[John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15](#)

Christ sends the Spirit of truth

Prayer of the Day

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Sunday, May 30 Holy Trinity Sunday

Introduction

When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

Readings and Psalm

[Isaiah 6:1-8](#)

Isaiah's vision and call

[Psalm 29](#)

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. (Ps. 29:2)

[Romans 8:12-17](#)

Living by the Spirit

[John 3:1-17](#)

Entering the reign of God through water and the Spirit

Prayer of the Day

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.





Camp Lutherwood

See the April issue of Grace Gatherings for recent updates from Camp Lutherwood or see their website at:
<https://www.camplutherwood.org/>

Grace Center News

As Spring has popped out all over and we've enjoyed sunny days, I've been happy to hear that Grace Center has launched a new program. Once a week the staff will be traveling to participant's homes for visits which will include short activity or exercise sessions on the Grace Center bus, or hopefully, outside in the sun! Some of the activities are craft projects, painting, letter writing, word games, potting small plants, tie-dye shirts, and more.

Warmer weather is on the way, and Grace Center's garden plans continue to be made. They hope to have flowers, of course, as well as vegetables, herbs, and a tea garden. Some of the work has been done with planting flowers. They have planted tomatoes, peppers, garlic, and onions for our salsa bed. This required cleaning up our potting bench and beds for planting. We have mint, chocolate mint, and basil already planted. I'm amazed at the skills of our staff. They have been inspired, of course, by experience of participants who in former years gardened and harvested crops, helped in cooking, and ate their own good food. So let us have joy in sunny days and rain that we need. Most of all let us all support our Grace Center that brings joy and good health to our participants and their kind and generous care givers.

Betty McCauley

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 If you know that someone from Grace has entered the hospital and you have their permission to share this information, please call the Church Office so that our pastor and Visitation Team can call on them. The hospital has recently allowed visiting by lay Hospital Visitors. Any messages left on the church number (541-757-1600) will be picked up and forwarded. Thanks for the help!