

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.**



September 2021
volume XX
issue 9



Wildfire Recognition Sunday Sunday, September 12, 2021

Commemorating the Oregon and Western States Wildfires of 2020

In 2020, the State of Oregon experienced one of the most destructive wildfire seasons on record. The 21 fires that year killed at least 11 people and burned more than 1,000,000 acres of forest land as well as populated areas. The wildfires uprooted the lives of at least 500,000 people, destroyed thousands of homes and businesses, decimated old growth lands and urbanized areas alike, and killed countless numbers of mammals, fish, birds, amphibians and insects. The cities of Phoenix, Talent, Detroit, Gates, Blue River and much of Vida were left in ashes.

**Please Join us in person or live on YouTube for
special prayers and Lutheran Disaster Response
Information**

Grace Personnel

Interim Pastor—Dorothy Nielsen
prdorthy@grace9330.org

Bookkeeper - Robin Comforto
bookkeeper@grace97330.org

Custodian - Outside Contractor

Director of Music Ministries - Bryson Skaar
Bryson@grace97330.org

Office Administrator - Andrea Barnhurst
office@grace97330.org

Office Assistant - Jody Parker
jody@grace97330.org

Organist/Pianist - Sunghee Kim

Percussion - Kelsey Bleck

Youth and Family Minister – Kristin Young
Kristin@grace97330.org

Facebook Administrator - Rebekah Hadlock

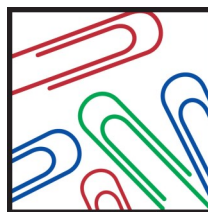
Financial Secretary: Mary Stephens

Nursery - No Nursery at this time

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



Office Hours

Church Staff Schedule

Monday (on site:)

11am—4pm: Jody Parker

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday (off site):

9am—4pm: Andrea Barnhurst

Thursday (on site):

9am—4pm: Andrea Barnhurst



New Church Directory coming Soon

If any of your contact information has changed since the directory came out in 2019 please contact the church office to ensure your current information will be included in the directory update.



Giving at a Glance Support the many ministries of Grace Lutheran

**Contributions as of
August 16, 2021**

Contributions for the Month of August:
\$12,261;

August's Budget: \$23,700;

First 2 Week of August Giving: \$12,261;

Weekly Budget: \$5,925;

YTD contributions: \$194,655;

YTD budget: \$212,150

Prayers

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

- ⇒ Jim
- ⇒ Jean
- ⇒ Bob and Donnette
- ⇒ Heather, Tristan, Liam, and Kellan
- ⇒ Bret, Andrea's brother
- ⇒ Pr. Wendell and Pr. Netsie
- ⇒ Grant
- ⇒ Jeanette, friend of Maxine
- ⇒ Olivia, Nancy's family member
- ⇒ Meghan, Cathy's Niece

Births:

- ⇒ Nathaniel, son of Lisa and Steve who are new friends of Grace



Coleus in courtyard

Thank you Becky and Tom Kiersky and Marna Renshaw for keeping our Courtyard looking amazing



Birthday Blessings!

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

Sue Davis	09/01
Gordon Matzke	09/01
Jim Zeller	09/01
Bud Helpenstell	09/04
Mark Stephens	09/05
Shelly Bilotta	09/06
Franklin Raze	09/07
Patrick Schroeder	09/09
Erika Donner	09/13
Kris Saathoff	09/14
Juan Guzman	09/15
Karen Stephenson	09/15
Marjorie Kinch	09/16
Eli Geist	09/18
Mary Ann Brenan	09/19
Rick Osborn	09/19

Martha Anderson	09/20
Anita Upenieks	09/20
Dan Hallgrimson	09/22
Seamus Harrington	09/23
Bob Keith	09/23
Andrea Barnhurst	09/24
Rachel Harrington	09/24
Avi Hadlock	09/25
Annikka Howe	09/25
Elaine Franklin	09/26
Cyndi Wahrmond	09/28
Gail Barte	09/29
Evelyne Hendrix	09/29
Gloria Chaves	09/30

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*

Dear people of God at Grace,

Yes, I will say it again, "You are weird!" LOL! And I love how you are weird, because it is all about what God has done and is doing in and through you. And I am thankful for the things you are teaching me, as God brings new horizons to bear.

This time of transition is quite unique and ripe with opportunities: the purchase of the final piece of land and the dreams for developing a ministry site; the transitions at Luther House and the ways that we can strengthen one another's ministries; and, the evolving hybrid nature of being Church in these challenging days.

The complexity of all that is going on is challenging for your leaders. The time demand, the discerning how to move forward into new ventures, the hiring of new staff, and other needs of this transition are heavy. And your leaders have been doing marvelously.

In Romans 12:4-8 Paul talks about the new life we have in Christ Jesus and likens this to a human body. This is one of my favorite images for a faith community. We have differing functions as the Body of Christ, even taking turns to lead.

Paul writes, *"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another."*

We are reminded that all of us belong, and have connections, and different functions. We need each other as much as we need Christ Jesus!

And, we are a microcosm of the whole Body of Christ, connected to all the other churches who follow Jesus all over the globe. The expressions of faith in Tanzania, Chile, Japan, Palestine, and the US are all different. That is the Body of Christ. And is a beautiful thing.

The calling of the Body of Christ is to be Christ in this world, sharing good news amid the challenges of these times. We are called to serve our neighbors who suffer, to share our resources, to aid in disasters, to do whatever it takes to be good news and a source of hope.

One year ago cataclysmic fires raged in Oregon, changing the landscape and disrupted the lives of people, habitats for animals, leveled forests. Once again those fires rage. The Body of Christ has reached out hands to lovingly bring relief and hope.

The turmoil of war and uncertainty of life in Afghanistan is disheartening, and people are fleeing leadership that does not seem to have the best interests of their people at the forefront of their work. The Body of Christ reaches out.

Luther House-Lutheran Campus Ministry at OSU is in transition, and the Body of Christ comes along side to find out ways to move forward in ministry. What will ministry look like? I cannot answer that, however I do know that the Body of Christ will be there to discern the way.

During this time of transition, you are needed. You are the Body of Christ in this place. You have the heart, eyes and ears of Christ which allows you to see and hear and lovingly move in the directions where ministry can meet the world's hurts.

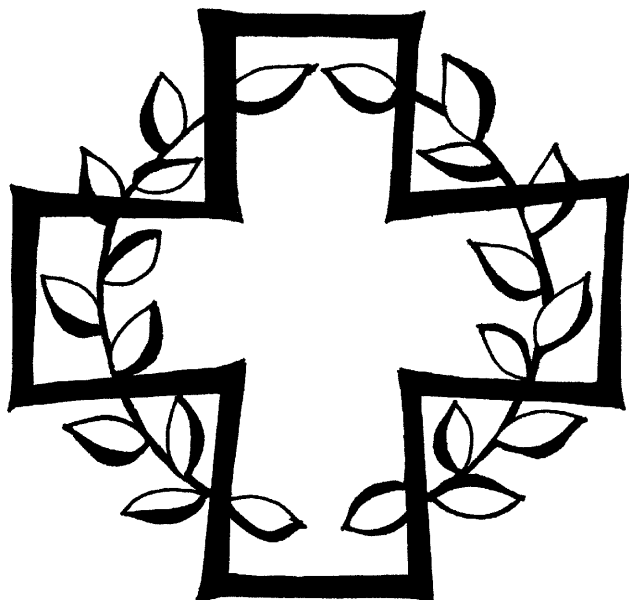
Thank you for being the Body of Christ, for stepping up in uncertain times. Let us continue to encourage one another. Let us continue to evolve in the calling to follow Jesus and be the Body of Christ. The path forward is not fully clear, however the Holy Spirit of God goes with us.

In Christ, peace and hope,

Pastor Dorthy+

Kids Corner

For Those Young, Old or Young at Heart



Journals for College Students: Journals will continue to be available after worship for people to sign with words of encouragement. Parents of college students: Kristin will be reaching out to you for your student's college mailing address (or she can send them with you in person!)

Journals will continue to be located in the entry after worship services into September.

If you are wanting to send post cards, stickers, etc and are not coming to in-person worship services, please mail or drop off at Grace during open office hours and we will make sure they get into the journals.

Growing Young Cohort

Kristin still has 3 spots available for this year's Growing Young Cohort! This online course will help you learn more about what it takes to connect with youth, and to fuel a community they want to be a part of. Guided by research from Fuller Youth Institute, the course is structured around online summits, reading, and engaging with your own congregation and community. Visit with Kristin to learn how to join, or check out a copy of *Growing Young* from Grace's library!

Sunday School/Christian Education Updates

Sunday School Starting: Kristin will be reaching out to families in the coming weeks about the start of Sunday School! We are so excited to learn and grow together, and we also want to be mindful of safety and schedules. Kristin can also be reached at kristin@grace97330.org and (406) 417 1720.

Christian Education Training: The Growing Young Ministries committee will be offering a training session for ALL who are interested in learning more about what Sunday School and Christian Education can be like this year. Join at Ronnenkamp Hall on **Friday, September 10 from 6-8pm** for a potluck, an intro to curriculum, and lots of fun! ALL ARE WELCOME (including youth of all ages)!

A Word from Grace's Committees

Teams & Committees

Property Committee - Ron Larson, 541.752.0754

Communications Committee

Bob Keith, 541.990.2883

Sunday Hospitality

TBA

Events Hospitality

Molly Hallgrimson, 541.753.8581

Christian Education Team

Kristin Young, 541.757.1600

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

Disaster Preparedness Committee

Andrea Barnhurst, 541.757.1600

Campus Ministry at Luther House

TBA

Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers

Norma Moody, 541.754.2555



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

God's work.
Our hands.

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, September 12

We will be kicking off fall ministry with an afternoon of service! This year, our projects will focus on creation and the environment. We will have a few park cleanup sites, gardening and light maintenance at Starker Arts Garden for Education (SAGE), and enrichment craft projects from Heartland Humane Society (to be done at Grace). We will be gathering for lunch after worship--be sure to sign up on the sheet in the entryway! If you would like to be a point person for a particular project, or just want to learn more, talk to Kristin!



TRANSITION TEAM UPDATE

The Transition Team has been working hard on the MSP document. Council got a first glimpse of the work-in-progress on August 23rd. There is more work to be done. As soon as it is complete and has final approval from Council the document will be submitted to the Synod and the ELCA database. That means it will be time for the Council to appoint the Call Committee, a group of 5-7 members of Grace, to do the interviewing and bring a candidate recommendation to Grace Council and congregation. Please continue to pray for the Transition Team as they complete the work. Also, pray for the formation of the Call Committee. The Spirit of God is hovering with us in this transition time.

Sunday Readings for August 2021

September 5, 2021 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Isaiah 35:4-7a
Psalm 146
James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 19, 2021 17th Sunday After Pentecost

Jeremiah 11:18-20
Wisdom 1:16--2:1, 12-22 (alternate)
Psalm 54
James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

September 12, 2021 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 26, 2021 18th Sunday After Pentecost

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50



August Council Minutes

August 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.

August Meeting Minutes can be found online at:
<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Council-meeting-minutes-08-09-21-00000002.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



Global Book Club

First Tuesday of each month at 7pm
Via Zoom

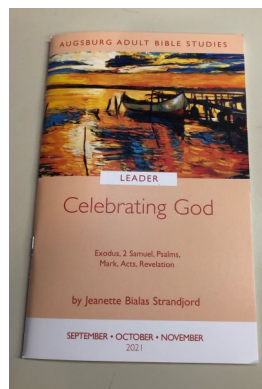
Next Meeting:

Sept. 7 – *Caste, the Origins of
Our Discontents*

by Isabel Wilkerson.

Discussion led by Ardis Koester

Contact Mary Ann Matzke for zoom
information



Adult bible Study

Sept.- Nov.
2021

Celebrating God

**Starts Sunday, September 12,
following Sunday Worship**

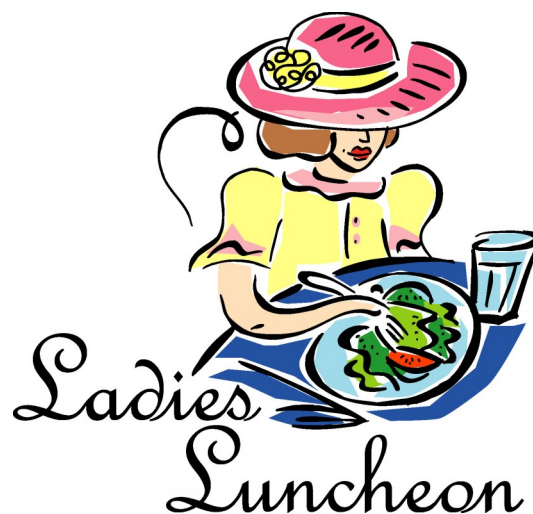
For more information contact
Frank and Sue Davis or go to
page 11 for more information.



Volunteers needed

Grace is seeking volunteers to go to local
Hospitals and check the Hospital List of
Patients.

Please contact Dale Weber for more
information



Ladies Luncheon

On the Second Tuesday of each month

September 14 at 11:45
At New Morning Bakery



Heartland Humane Society Service Project

On September 26, after worship, youth and families are welcome to participate in a service project at Heartland Humane Society. We will be helping out with on-site projects and learning more about Heartland's role in the Corvallis community. The time will be announced soon. Kristin will be in touch with families about further details.



CHURCH LIBRARY *News*

If you need a book from the Grace Lutheran Church Library, we will get it to you!! Have you checked out the new online catalog yet? Try <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/GLC-Library> Or go to the Grace website, under Resources, click on Grace Library. Click on any book, then the button that says Ask About Becoming a Library Patron. Enter your name and email and/or phone and we will contact you.

Small Group and Bible Study Meetings

All Small Group meetings or Bible Studies are to be approved through the reopening committee prior to the event taking place. This will ensure that the safety of all attendees and will ensure all needed protocols will be in place.

A Building Use form can be found outside the Church Office and shall be returned to Andrea in the church office. This form shall be returned at least 1 week prior to event for small groups and 2 weeks for larger groups.

All group activity representatives shall fill out a Covid Tracking/Attendance Sheet and return to Andrea. These can be found outside the Church office and are orange

Electronic Forms:

Building Use Request Form:
<https://bit.ly/3jjQ98h>

Building Use Request Google Form:
<https://bit.ly/38emt6c>

Covid Tracking/Attendance Form:
<https://bit.ly/3DkEJJm>



Synod Day of Learning Saturday, September 25 From 9:15 am—3:45pm It will be virtual again this year

Please join us for the second annual Synod Day of Learning. The rise of the Delta variant will not stop us - workshops and the keynote address will all be offered via Zoom!

Conversations and workshops will follow the theme of the year here in the Oregon Synod: Faithful in the Fray. This fall we will be looking at faithfulness as it applies to faith and racism, and we are delighted to share that local leader and author Pr.

Lenny Duncan has agreed to be our keynoter. Workshops will be both morning and afternoon, and will include themes such as anti-racist reading of the Bible, facing the climate crisis with honesty and hope, hidden stories from the margins and our own lives, crafting new liturgies as sacred collective action, how to have tough conversations in congregations, and honoring our grief around the history of racism in our state and world.

"For God did not give us a Spirit of timidity, but of power, of love and of wise discernment," says the Second Letter to Timothy. Let's join together from all corners of the state to deliberate with power and love what it means to follow the Way of Jesus today, here, now!

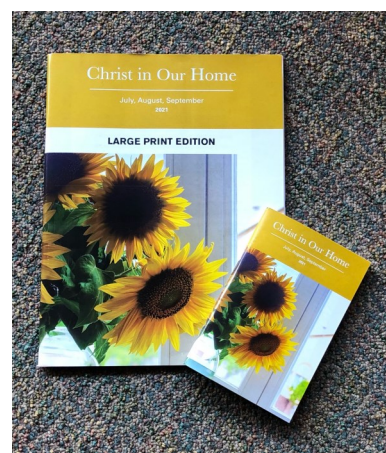
Registration Fee: \$50 per screen for all day

[Register Here:](#)

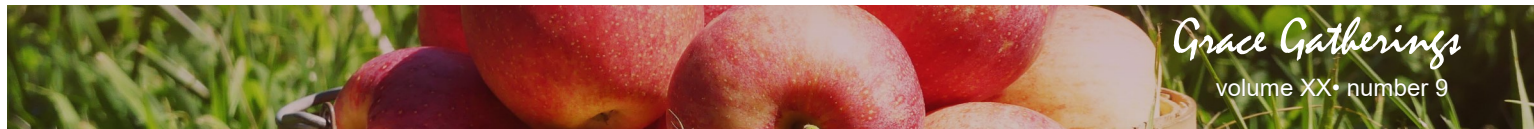


Out and About Coffee Hours

Kristin will be continuing to hold office hours at the Coffee Culture on Kings. If you'd like to learn more about Growing Young, youth ministry and programming, or just want to visit, swing by anytime between 11:30am and 1pm.



New Christ in Our Homes Devotional Available for July, August and September



Sunday Morning Bible Study Sept. Through Nov. 2021

Our Bible study theme, "Celebrating God," is an invitation to celebrate. The study will proclaim the "who, what, where, when, and why" that shape our celebration of God. Throughout thirteen sessions, the celebration of who God is, what God has done, and how God strengthens us through worship will bring you comfort, courage, and joy in your faith journey.

Moses and Miriam are the first participants. Miriam and the women lead the singing and dancing on the banks of the Red Sea after Pharaoh's army has been defeated. King David is also present. He leads God's people in the procession of the ark of the covenant to Jerusalem. God's presence through the ark and God's victory over the Philistines bring safety and new life to Israel. David is jubilant as he dances and sings. Then there is Bartimaeus, who glories in the good news of God's kingdom come in Jesus. This man who is blind gives "legs" to praise as he leaps up to be healed and to follow the way of Jesus. Peter is present preaching Jesus as Lord of all. He invites all to repent, believe, and join the worshiping and witnessing chorus.

Also part of the chorus of faith are the psalmists, in sessions 5-9. All 150 psalms immerse us in Israel's life of worship and faith: praises, pleas for God's help, protests, laments, and thanksgiving. This is honest celebration that speaks of injustice and implores God for deliverance. The psalm-singers are fully aware of the brokenness of our world but also of God, who creates, loves, and redeems the world. More singers join us in sessions 10-12, where John of Patmos speaks of all heaven and earth coming together to sing praise around God's throne. Do not be intimidated by John's dramatic visions in Revelation; they are full of hope and promise. In Jesus Christ, proclaims John, God comes to defeat evil, create new faith, and redeem all creation. Even some of the most hopeless sinners end up celebrating God. How fitting that this chorus of faith includes seeming polar opposites, Peter and the Gentile Cornelius. Placed together in a duet of faith, they demonstrate that God shows no partiality but desires all people and nations to be saved.

Our Writer

Jeanette Bialas Strandjord, a retired ELCA pastor, encourages ongoing Bible study for everyone. She is happy spending time reading and writing, hiking and birding with her husband, playing games via FaceTime with her granddaughter, and connecting with family and friends.

Interest Meeting for Grace Membership, Sunday, Sept 26 after worship in Courtyard

What is membership at Grace about?

Membership means you are calling Grace your home faith community and that you will worship on a regular basis (whatever that is), support the on-going ministry in and through Grace, participating in ways to live out your faith in Christ Jesus, and serve as elected leaders.

Types of members:

Baptized members are persons who have been baptized in the name of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They can participate in the life of Grace congregation in a variety of ways.

Confirmed members have been baptized and engaged in further study on the Christian faith and Lutheran theology, and have publicly professed their faith in Jesus Christ. These persons can serve as elected leaders.

Voting members are confirmed, and have given financial support and received Holy Communion within the past 12 months. They are eligible to vote on any matters, and can serve as elected leaders.

Associate members are those who hold membership in a congregation in another location, but live in Grace's neighborhood and wish to participate in the life of Grace congregation. Associate members cannot vote on any matters at Grace, nor serve as elected leaders.

Seasonal members are voting members of another ELCA congregation who might live seasonally in Grace's neighborhood, and who want to be involved at Grace while local.

If you are interested in transferring your membership from another Christian Church or are wanting to Affirm your Baptism (Confirmation) or are curious about what it means to be a member at Grace, or even what Baptism is about, please come to this meeting. You can RSVP to ordorothy@grace97330.org or just show up!



Camp Lutherwood Website:
<https://www.camplutherwood.org/>

Virtual Harvest Festival
Wednesday, October 6 at 7pm

lutherwoodoregon.org/spirit-of-harvest



Grace Center Website:
<https://gracecenter-corvallis.org/>

4th Annual Aging Summit

Saturday, September 25, 2021

9am—12:30 pm

This will be a virtual event

More information to come

Free to attend, registration is required.

Click the link below for more information and to register.

<https://gracecenter-corvallis.org/events/agingsummit/>



Luther House Campus Ministry

Luther House Website:
<http://www.luther-house.org/>

Potlucks on Pause:

In light of recent recommendations from the OR Synod, Oregon State University, and the governor, the biweekly potlucks at Luther House are on pause. However, we are seeking ways to gather safely and to continue fostering this relationship. Stay tuned, and thanks to all who have participated up to this point!



OSU Football Parking

Sept. 11, Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 23,
Nov. 13, and Nov. 20

Times and more information to come.