

February 2022
volume XXI, issue 2

Grace GATHERINGS



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

435 NW 21st Street

Corvallis, Oregon 97333

*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."*



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Lutheran Disaster Response

**"Love Thy Neighbors all around the
world"**

Help individuals affected by the Fires in Colorado,
Fires in California, Flooding in Oregon, and the
individuals of Tonga through Lutheran Disaster
Response.

[https://community.elca.org/givenow?
utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=
2018-elca-
branded&gclid=Cj0KCQiA_8OPBhDtARIsAKQu0gapS7p
qlzfd9V90623fK_1lhuqHfpp0r1zVBa1hpdXgqnAWEnKTT
woaAnxYEALw_wcB](https://community.elca.org/givenow?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=2018-elca-branded&gclid=Cj0KCQiA_8OPBhDtARIsAKQu0gapS7pqlzfd9V90623fK_1lhuqHfpp0r1zVBa1hpdXgqnAWEnKTTwoaAnxYEALw_wcB)

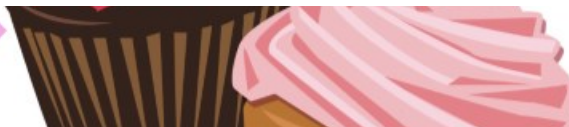
We believe that God loves us without regard for our race or culture, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, relationship status, physical or mental health, life circumstance or socio-economic situation. Therefore, we extend that same grace-filled love to you.

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.



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



Grace Personnel

Interim Pastor—Dorothy Nielsen

541-377-1354

prdorthy@grace9330.org

Youth and Family Minister – Kristin Young

406-417-1720

Kristin@grace97330.org

Office Administrator - Andrea Barnhurst

office@grace97330.org

Office Assistant - Jody Parker

jody@grace97330.org

Director of Music Ministries - Bryson Skaar

Bryson@grace97330.org

Organist/Pianist - Sunghee Kim

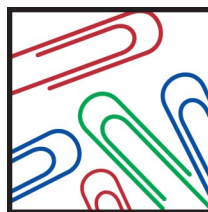
If you would like a visitation or to schedule an appointment with a member of the ministerial staff, please call the office at 541.757.1600. You are welcome to leave a message on the answering machine at any hour.

Visit our Grace web page at: www.grace97330.org



Out and About Coffee Hours Update

Kristin's Coffee Office Hours are being postponed until the end of February. However, she is still available for walk-and-talks during that time (Thursdays from 11:30-1pm). If you would like to meet up with Kristin, you can email her at kristin@grace97330.org to set up a time.



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

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Giving at a Glance

Support the many ministries of
Grace Lutheran

**Contributions as of
January 21, 2022**

Contributions for the Month of
January: \$28,657;

January Budget: \$30,500;

First 3 Weeks Giving: \$28,657;

Weekly Budget: \$6,10 (5 weeks in Jan);

YTD contributions: \$28,657;

YTD budget: \$18,300

Prayers

This prayer list is a compilation of the requests we have received at Grace throughout the month of January 2022. 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 for healing:

- ⇒ Linda & Tim
- ⇒ Tom
- ⇒ Bern, Linda's sister
- ⇒ Kaileen, Linda's sister
- ⇒ Richard, Mary's brother
- ⇒ Pr Shelley, Pr. Dorthy's friend
- ⇒ Cleo, Colby, Madelaine, Lydia and Shawn, Jaya's family
- ⇒ Bev
- ⇒ Kelly, Lyla's sister in law
- ⇒ Clifton, Lyla's brother
- ⇒ Darold & Lorna, Lyl'as brother
- ⇒ Olivia, Jim and Nancy's family
- ⇒ Mick, Nancy's friend
- ⇒ Anne, friend of Kim
- ⇒ A family in crisis
- ⇒ Teens struggling w/ depression & their parents
- ⇒ Grace Council, Luther House Council, Growing Young Ministry
- ⇒ Grace & Luther House Call Committees

Recent Deaths:

- ⇒ Comfort those grieving for...
- ⇒ Cy Stadvold
- ⇒ Kelsey's Dad



Missing First Aid Kit

The new first aid kit that was located in the Ronnenkamp Hall Kitchen has been removed from its location.

If you know where it is, please return it to the Ronnenkamp Hall Kitchen or the Fireside Room.

February

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| David Triebes | 02/04 |
| Bob Zwang | 02/04 |
| Michael Franklin | 02/05 |
| Ron Olson | 02/07 |
| Ardis Koester | 02/09 |
| Donna Wernz | 02/09 |
| Sunghee Kim | 02/13 |
| Sue Musil | 02/13 |
| Linda Roberts | 02/14 |
| Bonnie Zwang | 02/19 |

Birthday Blessings!

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

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Brenda Beck | 02/21 |
| Debbie Zeller | 02/21 |
| Toney Logan | 02/23 |
| Jerrold Koester | 02/24 |
| Katie Olsen | 02/24 |
| Gloria Werth | 02/25 |
| Joy Martin | 02/27 |
| Brandy Greeley | 02/28 |
| Noel Vineyard | 02/28 |



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,

Even before New Year's Eve there was growing displays of red hearts, cards, and candy! The next thing...Valentine's Day on Feb 14th. Then comes St Patrick's Day in March, Easter in April, Mother's Day in May...and on and on it goes...

Time is rolling on, not stopping for anyone. And this pandemic keeps on rolling as well. With the latest variant Grace has returned to worshipping through online means, as have numerous other congregations, for the sake of care for one another. This is certainly disappointing.

Yet there are signs of hope and promise all around us. Studies are showing that for the vaccinated the threat is lower, even though there has been an increase in cases. Grace's ability to pivot back to online has been amazing. We are still able to gather through Zoom for Holy Communion and meetings. We will survive, things are getting better, and ministry is still happening.

Looking back, over the past two years as well as through history, what we hear and see and hold on to is God's promise to never abandon us.

In Genesis 28, Jacob has escaped the anger of his brother Esau. Jacob had tricked their father, Isaac, and stole Esau's first born blessing. After finding a safe place to sleep while on the run, Jacob has a dream. There was a ladder extended from earth to heaven, with angels (God's messengers) ascending and descending. In the dream, God comes to stand beside Jacob, telling him that he will be blessed with many children, and how the earth will be blessed through him. Then God says "*Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.*" (v15)

This beautiful story is ours as well. God has promised that even though time will pass, and things happen both good and bad, that God will be with us

"until I have done what I have promised you." Time cannot change God's presence with us.

Jesus repeats this when he commissions his disciples before he ascends to heaven, "*And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*" (Matthew 28:20)

There are so many times in our scriptures that we hear God promise to be with us: Psalm 23; Romans 8; Revelation 21; and many other verses. We are not abandoned. God is with us. Let us cling to this hope and promise.

And so we endure, knowing that no matter what comes, we are not alone.

Time marches on. It is not the enemy, though it may feel that way at times. How do we mark time? Certainly through the holidays of our culture and the greeting card companies! LOL!

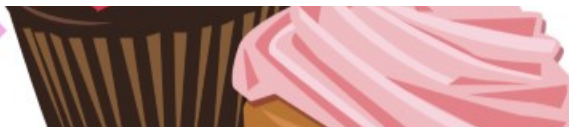
Valentine's Day, St Patty's Day, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, are ways we mark time. We also use rituals to help mark time like lighting candles after school or work, mealtime prayers, getting up and exercising before coffee, gathering for worship, going to 12-step meetings, and the like.

When rituals are part of the community, it is a way to not only mark time but recognize God with us. At no time are we left on our own. That is such a comfort to me. I hope it is for you as well.

So as time rolls on and we are still in this long season of pandemic, let us mark time together in worship of the God who is with us always. And let us help each other remember that God is with us.

In Christ,

Pastor Dorthy+



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



Wednesday Faith Conversations

Feb 2 -- Anne Lamott 12 Truths I learned from life & writing

https://www.ted.com/talks/anne_lamott_12_truths_i_learned_from_life_and_writing

Feb 9 -- Aker and Bagdonas -- Why great leaders take humor seriously

https://www.ted.com/talks/jen-nifer_aaker_and_naomi_bagdonas_why_great_leaders_take_humor_seriously

Feb 16 Brene Brown on Empathy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ewgu369Jw>

We return to Handel's Messiah for Lent

Feb 23 Handel's Messiah, the Lent and Easter portions

Return to the masterpiece to listen to the Messiah, read the scriptures being sung, and discuss God's work of salvation.

A word from the Call Committee

As our bi-weekly meetings are in full swing The Grace Call Committee is preparing the way for a new pastor and its members are taking on the responsibility of discussing everything that goes into that process. We are taking much needed time to adjudicate how the selection should be reached. We are thankful for the support of all of Grace's members for the opportunity to be the torch bearers into the future of grace. If you feel like there is something you would like to add, no matter how small, please reach out to any of the members on the Call Committee. Rest assured we will get through this moment of transition eager for a greater future.



January 2022 Council Minutes

January 2022 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.

Council continues to meet via ZOOM. To attend send an email to President Bob Keith stating that you would like the link to attend.

January 2022 Meeting Minutes can be found online at:
<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Council-Meeting-Minutes-01-10-22-00000002.pdf>

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



President:
Vice President:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Hal Brauner
Financial Secretary:
Mary Stephens
Council Members:
Jeff Beck
Mike Franklin
Nancy Hemming
Meredith Junge
Dave Lundahl
Marshall Hill-Tanquist
Mary Ann Matzke
Pr. Dorthy Nielsen
Robyn Vega
Carol Warloe
Kendra Wollert
Ted Zhang

Council Member Updates

During our 2022 Annual Meeting held on Sunday, January 23, 2022 via zoom, Grace elected and accepted 3 new council members to join the 6 returning council members for 2022. Lets please welcome Ted Zhang, Marshall Hill-Tanquist, and Carol Warloe to the Grace Church Council. Returning Grace council members include Jeff Beck, Mike Franklin, Nancy Hemming, Meredith Junge, Dave Lundahl, Mary Ann Matzke, Robyn Vega, and Kendra Wollert. As we say Welcome to our new and returning council members, we want to send a big Thank You to our council members who will be leaving. We thank Bob Keith, Isaac Hadlock, Rebekah Hadlock, and Sandie Williams for all their time, effort and all they have brought to the Grace Council and Grace Lutheran Church. We also want to send a Thank You to Hal Brauner our Church Treasurer and Mary Stephens our Financial Secretary who will continue to give their time and talents to Grace. At this time we still have 1 open spot on our church council that will be perfect for a youth or young adult who may be interested. If you are interested, please contact Pr. Dorthy at prdorthy@grace97330.org.

Thrivent Choice Dollars Designation Due

Since 2010, millions of dollars have been distributed to thousands of churches, schools, and other nonprofits just like Grace through Thrivent Choice®. Through this program, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent donates millions of charitable outreach dollars each year.

Now is the time to direct your dollars! 2021 Choice Dollars expire on March 31, 2022.

Want to know more about Thrivent?
Ask Sue Musil — 541-908-6636.





Kids Corner

For Those Young, Old or Young at Heart

Bible Quiz

The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word “love” occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?

- A. 200-300
- B. 400-500
- C. 600-700
- D. 800-900



Answer: C



High Schooler Walk-and-Talks

Kristin is looking to meet with our high school students for coffee/tea/etc. and conversation! She will be in touch to find a time that works for you!



SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday on Sunday

February 27. We will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday early, and preparing for the season of Lent, if it is safe to meet in person. Stay tuned for more details!



Sunday Readings for January 2022

Sunday, February 6, 2022 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, February , 2022 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

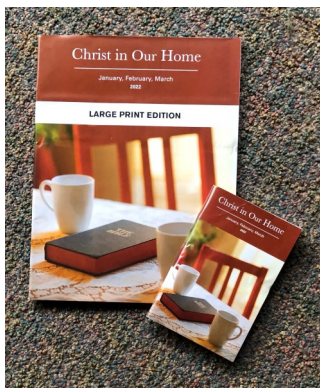
Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

Sunday, February 13, 2022 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Sunday, February 27, 2022 Transfiguration Sunday

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]



Christ in Our Home **Jan, Feb, and March 2022**

Copies can be found in the church entry and if you are needing a printed copy, please contact the church office.



Grace Library Loves Ron Larson!

By Jody Parker

Grace Church Library has a Library Champion...Ron Larson, Grace Property Manager, read 62 books from October 2020 thru December 31, 2021. All because the Corvallis Public Library closed due to COVID-19. Out of curiosity I talked with Ron for an hour and a half. This is just a bit from the engaging conversation we had.

For 20 years Ron volunteered for SCORE, a group that mentored small business people. In 2019, a transition occurred, the local chapter was too small and was going to be absorbed by the Portland Chapter. Not interested in going to Portland, Ron resigned, retired, and found himself with extra time. With this time, he devoted himself to reading books from the Corvallis Public Library. Ron read nearly 2 dozen books on WWI, WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Authors which appealed to Ron, were those writing as retired military officers. Their first-hand experiences were how *they* viewed the Political scene, not the Washington narrative. That is, things were going badly. These Veterans had what Ron termed “a reckoning.” That is “was it [the War] necessary?” For many of these authors, they were on a “search for forgiveness.” As a Veteran in the Cold War during 1956-1960, Ron flew in surveillance planes in the North Pacific Ocean “keeping an eye on the Russians.” He says this is effective diplomacy, rather than outright aggression. With the collection of Intelligence the goal is, “can we be smarter and ward off a stupid move?”

Ron speaks also of cherishing his experiences starting Bible Study on Sundays with Pastor Martha, and gathering ideas with Donna King; and with Frank and Sue Davis who have led it for some time now. The discussions with attendees brought people close because they often shared their personal life journeys while covering Old Testament family conflicts. This brought Moses and Aaron to mind for Ron.

While reading the 62 Grace Library books, Ron talked about three areas he covered: Theology, Christianity and Autobiography/Biography. Ron said he “gained an understanding of true Bible History, of the larger wider perspective of strife and suffering.” In reading on Christianity, he searched out what the Lutherans believe, and found differences in other religions that he hadn’t thought about and found “a deeper understanding of my faith.” His topic of greatest enjoyment is Autobiography/Biography.



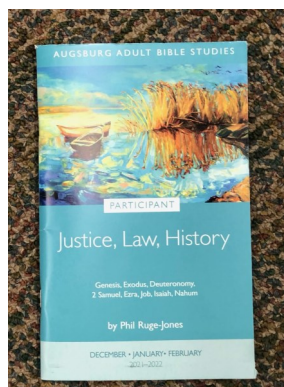
When I asked Ron what were his favorite books, he cited three autobiographies. The first was *Goodbye is Not Forever* by Amy George, who was born in the Ukraine in 1936 whose father was sent to Siberia, and were not reunited until 40 years later in America. The second book is *The Burning Fence* by Craig Leslie who grew up with no father role model and how he becomes a better father to his kids as a Christian. The third favorite of Ron’s is *Sticks, Stones and Songs* by Eleanor Cory about a poor family of 12 growing up making bad decisions who then reunited all as adults in the 70’s. Several siblings had gone on different missions throughout the world. To Ron Grace Church has a tremendous asset with its Library to spark interest, appreciate your upbringing, and to always be called upon to help others and be amateur ambassadors of the world.

Ron says, he is thankful he has good health; that wealth for him is learning all about his faith, to do what we’re called upon to do and to help our fellow man and to believe in Christ.

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.



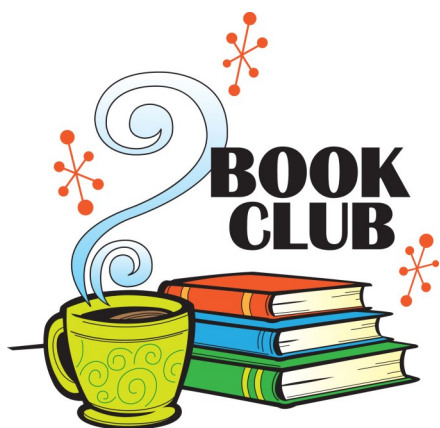
Adult Bible Study

Dec.– Feb.

Justice, Law, History

At this time, the Sunday Bible Study has been suspended. Printed materials are available.

For more information contact
Frank and Sue Davis



Global Book Club

First Tuesday of each month at 1pm
Via zoom. Contact Mary Ann Matzke for
the zoom link.

Next Meeting:

Feb 1 – A Discussion on the Navajo
Culture

Complete book List: <https://bit.ly/3ESkoLY>



Ladies Luncheon

The February Ladies Luncheon has been
canceled.

Please watch for more information about
the March Luncheon



**Grace
Lutheran
Church
Foundation**

Foundation News Website:

[http://grace97330.org/Foundation/
news/newsletter.html](http://grace97330.org/Foundation/news/newsletter.html)

November 2021 Newsletter

[http://grace97330.org/Foundation/
news/202111_GLCF_newsletter.pdf](http://grace97330.org/Foundation/news/202111_GLCF_newsletter.pdf)



Luther House

Lutheran Campus Ministry at Oregon State University

Tuesday Grab-n-Go Lunches

We are continuing to offer lunches on Tuesdays from 11:30-1:30; however, for the next few weeks, these will be served in a "grab-and-go" style. Students can take their lunches with them, and if they have time to stay for conversation, we will meet outside.

Thursday Walks

Kristin will be hosting a walk on Thursdays, meeting at Luther House at 3:45pm and heading out by 4pm. For the first few weeks, we will be walking around the OSU campus. If we change routes or locations, we will communicate that information earlier in the week.

Created Good

Kristin is working on developing a conversation time and/or online posting space to explore how Christ and the gospel are present in human creation. This would be a space to share about music, books, artwork, poetry, films, or other creation that has been impactful to participants, and what it reveals to them about God in the world. She is looking to include a variety of participants and a variety of artworks. If you are interested in participating and want to learn more, you can email Kristin at kristin@grace97330.org or call at (406) 417-1720.



Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous support of Camp Lutherwood Oregon in 2021 totaling \$1,188 (\$1,188 is tax deductible).

Because of your generous support, we were able to offer a modified, COVID-free summer program, host day-only Outdoor School programs in the spring and continue with improvement projects around the site. We appreciate your commitment to the ministry of camp and the importance of getting people of all ages to experience the out of doors.

If you have any questions regarding your giving, would like to know more about how your gifts make an impact, or other ways to get involved, please contact the camp office at office@lutherwoodoregon.org. A printed statement is available upon request by emailing the camp office.

On behalf of Camp Lutherwood Oregon and all who have the opportunity to experience camp, thank you!

Blessings

Andrea Scofield, Executive Director



Cleaning Up Grace

As the new year has come and we start getting ready to call a new pastor, we are working towards cleaning up the kitchenette/storage room off of the office. We are realizing we have a large surplus of some items and would like to offer these items to Grace members. If you are interested in any of the items below, please contact Andrea or Jody in the church office to find out when you can pick them up. We currently have available:



Thrivent T-shirts
2 colors many sizes



Gently Used File Folders

Scam/Spam Alert



It has been brought to our attention again that emails and or texts are being sent out saying they are from Grace Staff and Grace members. Please note that no Grace staff member or volunteer will email you with email you requesting these items. If Grace has a need, you will find it in the newsletter, weekly email, or worship slide. If a request does get emailed, it will get emailed out by the Grace email addresses. Majority of the spam/scam emails do not come from this person directly and are coming from other email addresses. If you question this request, please email the person from your address book and do not reply to the email it came from. If you every have questions if an email was sent by a Grace staff member or volunteer, please contact the church office and we can investigate for you.