

# Grace GATHERINGS

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

435 NW 21st Street

Corvallis, Oregon 97330



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Wisdom Seekers  
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## 2023 Oregon Synod Day of Learning



Nurturing Authentic Spiritual  
Friendship and Healthy, Vital  
Faith Communities through  
the Gift of Sacred Encounter

September 23  
9:30 am to 3:00 pm

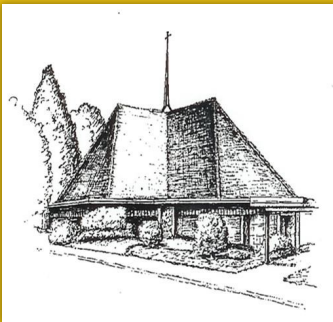
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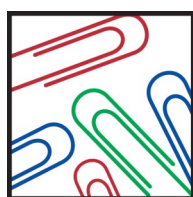
Grace Lutheran Church of Corvallis is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. Whoever you are, Whatever your past, However you live, Whomever you love – You are welcome here.



**Our VISION is**  
“to be a Christ-centered  
Community who welcomes all,  
grows in faith, and reaches out in  
love.”



**Our MISSION is**  
“to follow Christ into our commu-  
nity and world manifesting with  
caring hearts and helping hands  
the good news of the Kingdom  
of God.”



## 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

If you reach our voice mail, please leave a  
message. We do check voice mails  
regularly.

## YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

### Giving at a Glance

the many ministries of

#### Grace Lutheran

#### Contributions as of August 25, 2023

Contributions for the Month of  
August: \$11,165;  
August Budget: \$19,600;  
First 3 Weeks Giving: \$11,165;  
Weekly Budget: \$4,900;  
(4 weeks in August);  
YTD contributions: \$202,362;  
YTD budget: \$202,200

## Grace Personnel

Youth and Family Minister – Kristin Young  
406-417-1720

[Kristin@grace97330.org](mailto:Kristin@grace97330.org)

Office Administrator - Andrea Barnhurst  
[office@grace97330.org](mailto:office@grace97330.org)

Office Assistant - Jody Parker  
[jody@grace97330.org](mailto:jody@grace97330.org)

Director of Music Ministries - Bryson Skaar

[Bryson@grace97330.org](mailto:Bryson@grace97330.org)

Percussion - Kelsey Bleck

Bookkeeper - Robin Comforto

[bookkeeper@grace97330.org](mailto:bookkeeper@grace97330.org)

Financial Secretary: Mike Franklin

Prayer Chain - Cathy Mueller & Bruce Stephens

[prayers@grace97330.org](mailto:prayers@grace97330.org)

Custodian - Outside Contractor





# Labor Day Worship in the Park Sunday, September 3 at 10 AM

@ the Central Park Gazebo

ALL ARE WELCOME FOR THIS ANNUAL SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AND UNITY  
BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR/BLANKET - COFFEE AND SNACKS PROVIDED  
A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT OF CORVALLIS CHURCHES



**First Christian**  
Disciples in the Heart of Corvallis



*Grace Lutheran Church*

*first presbyterian  
Corvallis*



## A Time for Grace Listening and Discussion

Sunday, September 10th following Worship

The Council asks you to stay after worship to have a time of listening and discussion on Three Focus Questions: Who is Grace? Who is Our Neighbor? And What is God Calling Grace to Be and Do? Please ponder these questions and join in this important time, as we anticipate calling a pastor to Grace, to join in Christ's ministry in this time and place.



**Pastor Dorthy Nielsen**

Contact Information

Cell: 541-377-1354

Email:

[prdorthy@grace97330.org](mailto:prdorthy@grace97330.org)

On Site Work Days: Mon, Thurs, and Sun

Off Site Work Days: Tue, Wed, and Sat.

Day off: Friday

Dear People of God at Grace,

In July the gospel readings from Matthew 13 focused on Jesus' teachings on "The Kingdom of Heaven is like..." Using common items such as seeds, birds, yeast, pearls, fish, and new and old treasures, Jesus spoke about the Reign of God to prepare and inspire his disciples to join in the building of this kingdom on earth.

So, I offer you this contemporary parable...The realm of God is like...bridges! Six times a week I drive over the bridges over the Willamette River at Corvallis, and watching the progress to put in the new bridge.

Building God's community is like building bridges. There are by-passes and detours to keep traffic moving. Then comes sinking deep, strong piers and foundations on which to build the structure. Beams must be secured in place so that a deck wide enough for the traffic can be laid down. And then the opening of the bridge to use.

At some point the metaphor breaks down. But the image is good. The church, the Body of Christ does not exist to serve itself only. Bridges must be built in order for there to be coming and going. Coming in to be refreshed in our faith, hearing God speak to us, and being energized to go out into the world with the good news of God's love in Christ Jesus.

Like the bridges being built over the Willamette (some are temporary), there will be changes in traffic flow and the coming in and going out. It means the Church must be sinking deep into the Scriptures, as part of your foundation, to mine God's will for Grace in these continuing and changing times. It means building and rebuilding relationships with each other and our neighbors to support the deck, the bridging to meet God at work in the world and join in the mission.

Building bridges takes time, and effort, and vision, and creativity, and working relationships. Grace has been rebuilding relationships with Luther House, the Oregon Synod, our siblings in Christ, and our partners and neighbors. This needs to continue in some creative ways.

Building new bridges opens us up to the ways

God is showing up around us. Building bridges means we are open and welcoming AND on the move forward out into God's beloved world.

When I come into Corvallis three times a week for just about three years, the first thing I see is the city welcome sign: Welcome to Corvallis: Home of Oregon State University. What is the welcome sign at Grace? You! When you interact with someone new in a welcoming way you are building a bridge for someone else to be at Grace.

The strength of Grace is each one of you, whether member or friend of Grace. Together, founded in the life of Christ Jesus, we are able to build bridges, strengthen relationships, share the good news. Like a bridge, and like the Body of Christ in 1 Corinthians 12, everyone is important to the building, function, mission, and use of the bridges that go out from Grace.

There is and always will be bridges to build in the realm of God, bridges that welcome and provide a way into the world to follow Jesus and share the good news. In the coming weeks and months those bridges need to keep being built and tended.

Calling a pastor in the near future will mean new resources, creativity, vision, and compassion will be employed in the bridge-building mission of Grace. You are the piers and beams and deck, all build on the foundation of Jesus Christ. There is nothing that can get in your way of bridging over the obstacles that we must address. So remember, dear Grace, you are weird. You build bridges, and will keep doing so. Let the weird come out, let your creativity try new things, whatever will help move Grace toward the new horizons God is inviting you into.

God built a bridge to come to us—Jesus! And we continue building...

Pr Dorthy+

*<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.<sup>23</sup>This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. <sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. — Ps 118:22-24*





## Prayers

*This prayer list is a compilation of the individuals on our current prayer list.*

*If you have a prayer request,  
please send it to [prayers@grace97330.org](mailto:prayers@grace97330.org)*

*If you would like to be added to the prayer chain  
mailing list, please contact Andrea in the church office.*

### Prayers:

Art T. friend of Jody  
Sue S.  
Millie  
Hal B  
Brenda B.  
Ruth, Robyn's Mom  
Pr Tweed (R Beltran)  
Michael, Becky's family friend  
Pam (Junge niece)  
Kaitlin and her Dad, Friend of Andrea  
Donna and Herb H.  
Mike, friend of Grace member  
Denise, friend of Andrea B.  
Kathy V.  
Ali B.  
Jaya's nephew  
Capella, Jaya's sister  
Joy M.

Meghan, Niece to Cathy M.  
Teens and Families in crisis

### Prayers of Comfort

The family of Charlie Vars  
The family of Bob Keith's cousin

### Other Concerns:

For an end to gun violence and war; for the People of Ukraine and Russia, Iran, Sudan, Yemen, Niger and Myanmar; for our houseless and hungry neighbors; those who are fighting wildfires, storms, floods, earthquakes and for support staff and relief workers; for our LGBTQIA+ siblings who experience exclusion, hate, and violence daily;

**We continue to hold our Call Committee in prayer  
in the Call Process. We trust the Holy Spirit is at  
work in this process.**



## Birthday Blessings!

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

Kelsey Bleck	09/01
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 Wahrmund	09/28
Gail Bartee	09/29
Evelyne Hendrix	09/29
Gloria Chaves	09/30



**Teams & Committees**

**Property Committee** - Ron Larson, 541.752.0754

**Communications Committee**

Bob Keith, 541.990.2883

**Sunday Hospitality**

Meredith Junge

**Events Hospitality**

Molly Hallgrimson, 541.753.8581

**Growing Young Ministry**

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** - Cathy Mueller

**Hospital Visitation Team** - Dale Weber, 541.757.3043

**Mission Groups** - Bob Saathoff, 541.929.3045

**Stewardship Committee** TBD

**Disaster Preparedness Committee**

Andrea Barnhurst, 541.757.1600

**Safety Committee**—TBA

**Outreach Committee**—Rob Beltran



**Out and About Coffee Hours**

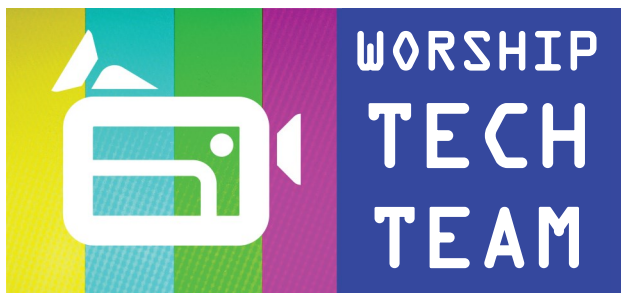
Kristin will be available for coffee and catch-up from 11:30 am to 1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Please contact Kristin to set up a location or drop by Luther House to see her.



**Sunday School, Christian Education, and Learning at Grace**

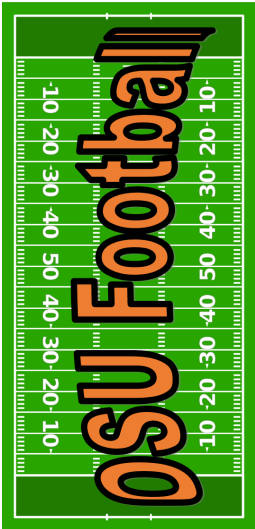
Youth and families, stay tuned for details about programming for the year. We are making some shifts and trying new things, and looking forward to you joining us this year!



Caden Buck  
Shelly Lundahl  
Bruce Stephens  
Mary Stephens  
Domnique Williams



## OSU Football Parking Fundraiser for Luther House



Luther House will be using the Parking Lot at Grace for their annual fundraiser for OSU Football Home Games. Parking Lot opens 3 Hours before the game starts

### Home games occur on:

September 9	September 16
September 29	October 14
November 11	November 18

If you are interested in helping, please go to the link below.

If you have questions or want to be put on the “maybe” list, please email Luther House at [lhouse@peak.org](mailto:lhouse@peak.org)

Sign up to help here:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084fa9ab23a6f8ce9-football#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084fa9ab23a6f8ce9-football#/)



**Luther House**  
Lutheran Campus Ministry at Oregon State University

### Bridge Grant

Luther House has generously been awarded the Bridge Grant to develop and facilitate programming days for high schoolers in the winter and spring. Stay tuned for details about upcoming "Luther House Days," where high schoolers will have opportunities to learn about care of creation through worship, small group conversation, hands-on projects, and fellowship time. For more information, contact Kristin at [kristin@grace97330.org](mailto:kristin@grace97330.org).

### Gather Grant

Luther House has also received the Gather Grant through the ELCA, with the intention of developing young adult (18-35) faith spaces. Pr. Hallie, Pr. Mark Bringman, and Kristin will be organizing and leading pub theology, one-to-one conversation, and a weekend retreat in the coming months. For more details, or to set up a one-to-one visit, reach out to [lhousepastor@peak.org](mailto:lhousepastor@peak.org) or [kristin@grace97330.org](mailto:kristin@grace97330.org)



**September 3, 2023**

**14th Sunday after Pentecost**

Jeremiah 15:15-21  
Psalm 26:1-8  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28

**September 10, 2023**

**15th Sunday after Pentecost**

Ezekiel 33:7-11  
Psalm 119:33-40  
Romans 13:8-14  
Matthew 18:15-20

**September 17, 2023**

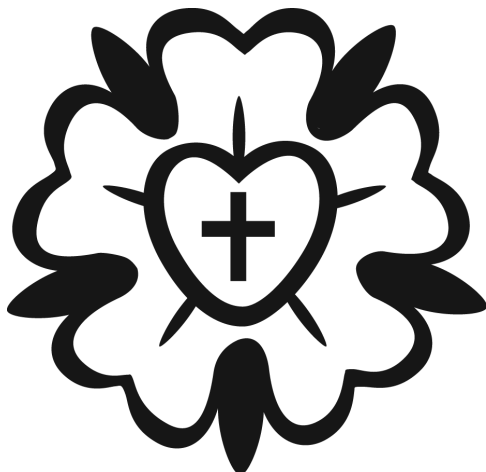
**16th Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 50:15-21  
Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13  
Romans 14:1-12  
Matthew 18:21-35

**September 24, 2023**

**17th Sunday after Pentecost**

Jonah 3:10--4:11  
Psalm 145:1-8  
Philippians 1:21-30  
Matthew 20:1-16



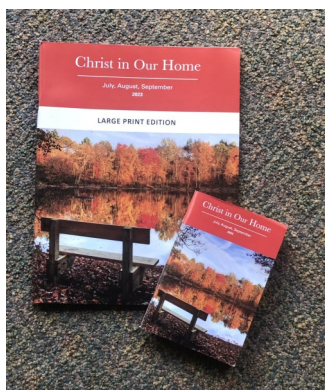
August 2023 Council Minutes, Executive Committee meeting, and other interesting items can be found in a binder on the church office counter. Should you want them emailed to you, please just notify us at [office@grace97330.org](mailto:office@grace97330.org). You are also welcome to attend council meetings, should you want to know what is going on or have something you would like to talk about.

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

August 2023 Meeting Minutes can be found online at:  
<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Council-Meeting-Minutes-08-14-23-00000002.pdf>

<b>President:</b> Dave Lundahl	<b>Council Members:</b> Jeff Beck
<b>Vice President:</b> Meredith Junge	Charlotte Chrisman
<b>Secretary:</b> Nancy Hemming	Frank Davis
<b>Treasurer:</b> Hal Brauner	Angie Gallagher
<b>Financial Secretary:</b> Mike Franklin	Mike Franklin
	Marshall Hill-Tanquist
	Pr. Dorthy Nielsen
	Robyn Vega
	Carol Warloe
	Kendra Wollert





## Christ in Our Home

July—September  
2023

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



On Second and Fourth Tuesdays  
at 11:45 am

**September 12**  
at Bohdi Café  
on 2nd & Washington

**September 26**  
at Delicias Cafe (Mexican Restaurant)  
on 933 Circle Blvd.



## Wisdom Seekers Book Group

The Wisdom Seekers Book Group will be starting a new book  
on Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Illuminations: A Novel of  
Hildegard von Bingen by Mary Sharratt, described as “the  
unforgettable story of how Hildegard of Bingen, Benedictine  
abbess and polymath, triumphed against impossible odds to  
become the greatest woman of her age.”

Meetings are at noon every Thursday via Zoom, covering about  
30 pages each week.

Please join us for some fun discussions! If you would like to do  
so, please contact Mark Klopsch at [klopschm@comcast.net](mailto:klopschm@comcast.net) so  
that he can add you to the Zoom invitation.

## Quilters and Sewing Group



**Grace  
Lutheran  
Church  
Foundation**

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

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 1pm  
In the Sewing Room in the Basement

Contact Linda S. for more information

**Jne 2023 Newsletter**  
[https://grace97330.org/Foundation/  
news/2023\\_06.html](https://grace97330.org/Foundation/news/2023_06.html)



## Grace's Global Book Club

Meeting is the first Tuesday of Each Month  
1 pm in the Fireside Room

Complete 2023/2024 book list  
<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Global-Book-Club-Readings-for-2023-2024.pdf>

### Upcoming books for 2023

**September 5**

Ma and Me by Putsata Reang

**October 3**

Their Eyes Were Watching God  
by Zora Neale Hurston

**November 7**

The White Girl by Tony Birch.

**December 5**

The Last Train to London by Meg Waite Clayton



### Updates to Your Information

We are working towards printing a new church directory insert.

If your information has changed, please contact Andrea in the church office either via email or on Thursdays at the office.



### Coming in October

An opportunity to share your extra winter coats, sweaters etc.

Grace will be gathering winter coats, sweaters, and other cold-weather clothing to share with those in our community who are less fortunate.

So as you are looking in closets and drawers keep an eye out for those things you can share with others.

We will be teaming up with Vina Moses with an emphasis on Men's clothing as that is where the highest need is.

Watch for more information coming in mid September.



## CHURCH LIBRARY *News*

from Linda Samuels

I was privileged to also attend the PNACL library conference that was held at Mt Angel Abbey this last June. The conference was great. It is always wonderful to visit with favorite authors in person – and to meet new ones and see and hear about their books. One of the sessions I was registered for was cancelled which was disappointing but the one I went to instead was about children's books and how can that not be lots of fun! The other session I really enjoyed was about Reaching Readers within the Church. It was presented by Christina Suzann Nelson a local author who I discovered also is a substitute teacher in Philomath – those lucky kids. She writes Christian fiction (we have some of her books and got more at the conference!). Her first sentence was "Jesus was a storyteller!" She talked about how fiction increases empathy and prepares us to be good friends. Often Christian fiction does not have the greatest reputation but there really is great quality, many genres and themes available, realistic and authentic stories without preachiness. The research the authors do to make their books accurate is truly incredible. Come check out what is available in the Grace Library – and let us know if there is something we should be adding.

If you are **looking to get books** from the library there are paper sign-out sheets to check things out on the desk there. And also - have you checked out the new online catalog? Try <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/GLC-Library> or go to the Grace website, under Resources, click on Grace Library. You can search for things by title, author or subject. Click on any book, then the button that says Ask About Becoming a Library Patron. Enter your name & email & message and we will get back to you!!



Oregon Synod  
*Walking Together Into Courageous Love*

Synod Day of Learning 2023  
Saturday, September 23, 2023

*Looking for a day of faith-filled exploration, new, practical learnings and doorways into spiritual friendship?*

Session Topics include:

- Tips for faithful church leadership
- Tools for relational fundraising
- Spaces for deep listening to others
- How to implement an ongoing congregational commitment to Reconciling in Christ
- And much more!

Additional Information

- Live on Zoom
- \$35 for adults over 21 (cost is per screen)
- Under 21s are free
- Scholarships available

Printed copies of information is available. Please contact Pr. Dorthy for more information.

For More information or to Register,  
click link below:

<https://oregonsynodelca.regfox.com/day-of-learning-2023>

### 2023 Oregon Synod Day of Learning



Nurturing Authentic Spiritual  
Friendship and Healthy, Vital  
Faith Communities through  
the Gift of Sacred Encounter

September 23  
9:30 am to 3:00 pm





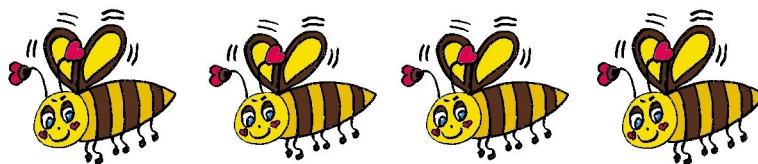
## **VOLUNTEER INTERFAITH CAREGIVERS**

### **JOB DESCRIPTION of TREASURER**

The Treasurer may be a board member designated by his/her congregation or a member-at-large. This person will be responsible for the accounting procedures for all of the funds of the corporation. The office is a one-year term and may be elected by the board for additional terms.

Specific Responsibilities include:

1. Establish a system that will ensure accurate accounts are maintained for the business transactions of the corporation.
2. Evaluate and advise the board on financial matters including investments and insurance.
3. Evaluate banking activities and advise the board of best practices.
4. Establish signing ability for checking account.
5. Reconcile bank statement each month.
6. Provide a financial report at each board meeting.
7. Work with Director and board President in preparation of annual budget.
8. Negotiate procedures for filing IRS, State taxation, payroll and other reports requires by the state, now being performed by A&S Accounting.
9. Prepare annual financial report to the board and participating congregations.
10. Arrange for an independent audit when requested by the board.
11. Work with the board of Directors to perform other duties that may become apparent in the course of events.



## ***Thank you so much!***

The Hospitality Team wants to applaud the Property Committee and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to renovate two storage rooms for us. These renovations will make our work more efficient and organized for our team. Prior to these renovations, we had to wrestle heavy bins of tablecloths and serving pieces within very cramped spaces. Now, we can hang our tablecloths up and have sufficient shelving for our many serving pieces.

We especially want to recognize Ron Larson who oversaw the project and did much of the retrofitting and building projects and Bob Keith did a fantastic paint job on both rooms. Everything is so bright and clean! I know there were many others involved in this project whose names I don't have at this time. Everyone who helped we truly appreciate. Thank you again!