

# Grace GATHERINGS



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

435 NW 21st Street

Corvallis, Oregon 97330



*Some of what can be found inside*

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Potluck

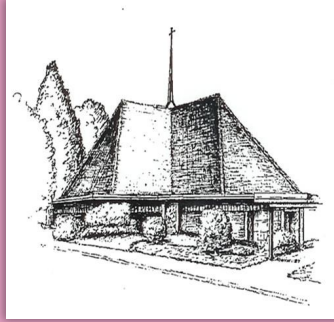
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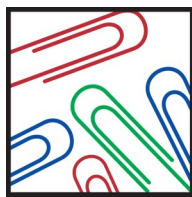
Grace Lutheran Church of Corvallis is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. Whoever you are, Whatever your past, However you live, Whomever you love – You are welcome here.



**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

**YOUR GIVING MATTERS!**

### Updated Church Staff Schedule

Monday and Thursday  
(on site):  
9am—4pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and  
occasional Friday (off site):  
9am—4pm

**The Church Office will be closed the week of April 21-25, 2025. Office staff will not be checking emails that week.**

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

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

**Contributions as of  
March 21, 2025**

Contributions for the Month of  
March: \$14,122;  
March Budget: \$24,800;  
First 3 Weeks Giving: \$14,122;  
Weekly Budget: \$4,600;  
(based on 5 weeks)  
YTD contributions: \$79,056;  
YTD budget: \$81,680

## *Grace Personnel*

**Pastor E. Remy Remmers** (They/Them)  
[revremy@grace97330.org](mailto:revremy@grace97330.org)

**Director of Youth and Family** – Shae Parsons (They/Them)  
[shae@grace97330.org](mailto:shae@grace97330.org)

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

**Director of Music Ministries** - Bryson Skaar (He/Him)  
[Bryson@grace97330.org](mailto:Bryson@grace97330.org)

**Percussion** - Kelsey Bleck

**Bookkeeper** - Robin Comforto (She/Her)  
[bookkeeper@grace97330.org](mailto:bookkeeper@grace97330.org)

**Financial Secretary:** Mike Franklin (He/Him)

**Prayer Chain** - Cathy Mueller & Bruce Stephens  
[prayers@grace97330.org](mailto:prayers@grace97330.org)

**Custodian** - Outside Contractor



# Prayers

## Prayer Request

Gordon M  
Kitty, Friend of Becky K  
Baby Callum, family member of Cathy M  
Jean S, Friend of Martha A  
Doran J, Nancy H Cousin  
Bret, Andrea's Brother  
Jerry K  
Wayne K  
Mother of Elaine F.  
Ruth V, Mother of Robyn V  
People of Ukraine  
People of Sudan

## Prayers of Comfort

Family and Friends of Jean Grosz  
Family and Friends of Andrew Kirchen  
Family and Friends of Pete Kozak  
Family and Friends of Sally Sowen

Please email prayers to [prayers@grace97330.org](mailto:prayers@grace97330.org)  
or Scan this QR Code to add prayers to our  
prayer chain and prayers in worship



Martina V	04/02
Herbert H	04/02
Dick J	04/06
Teri B	04/07
Dale W	04/08
Hal D	04/09
Carol E	04/09
Christina L	04/10
Jeff P	04/11
Ellen G	04/12
Michael B	04/14
Calla S	04/15
Aaron D	04/17
Grayson F	04/17
Marilyn W	04/18
Susan S	04/22
Kendra W	04/23
Sharon R	04/24
Eleanor H	04/25
Angie G	04/27
Linda S	04/27
Kris W	04/28
Doris V	04/29
Todd W	04/29



### Sunday Worship

10 am  
In Person and Live on YouTube

### Sunday School (ages 2-5th Grade)

9 am every Sunday

### Nursery

Child Care is available each Sunday during  
worship



**Pastor Emerson Remy Remmers**  
**(They/Them)**

*Contact Information*

*Email: [revremy@grace97330.org](mailto:revremy@grace97330.org)*

**Office Hours**

*Mon.-Thurs: In the Area*

*Friday: Sabbath*

*Saturday: Day Off*

Beloved Siblings in Christ!

Welcome to April! Firstly I want to thank everyone who came out to the play Amadeus at Majestic Theater. It was wonderful to have this creative project to work on and see y'all come out and enjoy that amazing production. March was a busy month filled with our chili cook off, Ash Wednesday, Lenten services starting, and more. This year lent has felt like it had a late start this year because this is almost the latest lent can start.

When is Easter? When is Christmas? Well Christmas is always on December 25<sup>th</sup>, and Easter moves around quite a bit! For a long time there was no single way of determining what Sunday to celebrate Easter on. Even now not every church denomination celebrates Easter on the same Sunday. What also didn't help is that there wasn't a standard calendar that all Christians followed. When the Gregorian calendar (the one we use) started to become the standard in the west, this process of choosing when Easter would fall became more standardized. Christians looked back to the Council of Nicaea that met in 325 AD which came up with the following method to determine which Sunday Easter would be. Easter is on the Sunday after the first full moon following or on the equinox. Seasons of the earth affect our bodies in so many ways so it was decided that this is when Easter would be every year.

What are your signs that Easter is coming? Is it the Dandelions blooming? Is it when the tulips bloom? This Lent we have been seeking an embodied faith in our Lenten services. We have been going through 5 of the different senses, thankful that God has created our bodies. Living in our bodies feeling our different senses and feelings is a holy a sacred journey. Can't wait to Celebrate Easter with you in person or through our livestream April 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am or 11am.

Peace,  
Pastor Remy





## Grace Lutheran Church Council

March 2025 Meeting Minutes can be found online at:

[https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Council-Minutes\\_031025-0000002.pdf](https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Council-Minutes_031025-0000002.pdf)

### Congregation Council Corner

This month, we'll introduce the other two (2) members of the Executive, the vice-chair of the council and the congregation vice president, Sue Speulda and the secretary of both the council and the congregation, Cathy Knock.

First, Sue. She has four (4) sisters, is originally from Chicago and is now living in Philomath. She has been a member of Grace for 48 years. Sue and Mark have been married for 47 years and have a son, Nahan. They have two grandkids, 10 and 13 years old. Sue says that over the years, she has done everything from serving on altar guild to teaching Sunday school. She has been a software engineer most of her career.

Cathy (she/her) has been at Grace for four (4) years. She started attending because she needed a place to build some community after moving to Oregon and going through the Covid shutdown within a year of arriving. After first picking another church, she came to Grace as she made the realization she was Lutheran through and through and needed the familiarity. She has two (2) adult children, a son in North Dakota and a daughter, and a 2½ year old grandson in Australia.

In the council box, you can find all the members of this year's council. Please feel free to contact any of them with any issues you may have, good, bad, neutral. We are all here to serve God, lead Grace with God's and your direction and to be responsive to your concerns.

At March's council meeting, two (2) discussion items of note were first, the lift in the Sandcastle wing that helps allow inside access to Ronnenkamp Hall for all. I say inside as there is an outside ramp as well on the 21<sup>st</sup> Street side of our building. The lift appears to be under-utilized and possible options were discussed. The council agreed to pay maintenance and licensing for another year so we have time to evaluate and incorporate any decision that may be made. Elsewhere, in this edition of Grace Gatherings, you will find a more detailed discussion of this issue. Please read it carefully and if you have input, please talk to a member of the council or a member of the property committee.

The second item was to give the property committee permission to go ahead with a fund raising campaign to purchase and install a new bell tower for the courtyard. The council was clear, as was the property committee that this is to be an "above and beyond" campaign that will not interfere with already planned giving to the congregation. You will be hearing more about this from the property committee as well.

**President**  
Mike Franklin  
**Vice President**  
Susan Speulda  
**Secretary**  
Cathy Knock  
**Treasurer**  
Bob Keith  
**Financial Secretary:**  
Mike Franklin

**Council Members:**  
John Baggenstos  
Charlotte Chrisman  
Frank Davis  
Angie Gallagher  
Gary Hertel  
Meredith Junge  
Jaya Lapham Conser  
Nate Olsen  
Robyn Vega



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Lenten Events

All Events will be Live Streamed by the Church Hosting. Please watch for links in the Email.

### April 2, 2025

Mid Week Lenten Soup Supper and Worship  
6 pm Soup, 7 pm Worship  
at First Presbyterian Church  
Theme: Sense of Touch

### April 9, 2025

Mid Week Lenten Soup Supper and Worship  
6 pm Soup, 7 pm Worship  
at Grace Lutheran Church  
Theme: Sense of Taste

# PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, April 13, 2025

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

## Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 17, 2025  
At Grace Lutheran Church

# GOOD FRIDAY

## Good Friday

Friday, April 18, 2025  
At First Congregational Church

# EASTER SUNDAY

## Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 20, 2025  
8:30 am and 11 pm  
At Grace Lutheran Church

Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hung will be between services

# MIDDAY Concerts



The Grace Spring Midday Concerts begin soon! We hope you'll be able to join our weekly Wednesday concert series. Performances run from 12:15 to about 12:45 for a concise musical break in your day. These concerts are free for anyone; any donations made are greatly appreciated and will go directly into funding Grace's music ministries. The spring concert series will run weekly from April 2nd to June 4th. Here is the April schedule:

### April 2nd

Bryson Skaar on the Piano: Chopin and Beethoven Selections

### April 9th

Bryson Skaar on the Organ: Bach + Hymn/Non-Secular Arrangements

### April 16th

Bryson Skaar on the Piano: A variety of Jazz Stylings

### April 23rd

Bryson Skaar on the Organ: "Alleluia!" Easter Hymn Arrangements

### April 30th

Guest feature: Steven Evans-Renteria

### May 7th

Bryson Skaar on the Piano: Impressionism and Jazz

### May 14th

Bryson Skaar on the Organ: A Keyboard with Breath - Musings and Meditations

We hope you are able to join and enjoy these musical offerings from Grace and the Corvallis community. Sincerely,  
Bryson Skaar



## First Sunday of the Month Potluck

Sunday, April 6, 2025  
Following Worship

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat  
For our April potluck, we will be watching the 1999 movie musical Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat! This is based on the story of Joseph in Genesis 37. Please bring a dish to share, feel free to be inspired by all of the amazing colors in the story! *Red and yellow and and green and brown and scarlet and black and ochre and peach and...*

For those with littles, please be aware of the PG rating. While most of the movie is family friendly, there is one scene that can be a bit suggestive. Feel free to talk to Shae or Pastor Remy if you have any questions about this.



Grace  
Lutheran  
Church  
Foundation

**Foundation News Website:**  
<http://grace97330.org/Foundation/news/newsletter.html>

**December 2024 Newsletter**  
[https://grace97330.org/Foundation/news/2024\\_12.html](https://grace97330.org/Foundation/news/2024_12.html)



**Sunday, April 6, 2025**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Isaiah 43:16-21  
Psalm 126  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
John 12:1-8

**April 13, 2025**  
**Palm/Passion Sunday**

**April 20, 2025**  
**Easter Sunday**  
Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
Luke 24:1-12

**April 27, 2025**  
**Second Sunday of Easter**

Acts 5:27-32  
Psalm 118:14-29  
Revelation 1:4-8  
John 20:19-31

## Sack Lunch Ministry

Grace makes up 50 sack lunches each month to hand out at Grace or at Vina Moses

### Sack Lunch Work Party

4th Sunday of the Month during Coffee Hour

Items we are collecting

- Drinks – Juice Boxes, Capri Sun, or small bottles of water.
- Granola or Fruit and Grain Bars
- Fruit Cups
- Puddings or other treats
- Napkins, spoons, and paper bags



## Wisdom Seekers Book Group

### ***New Book Starting in March***

The Wisdom Seekers Book Group will be starting a new book on Thursday, March 20 – *Fight Like Jesus: How Jesus Waged Peace Throughout Holy Week* by Jason Porterfield

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

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





# Grace's Global Book Club

Meeting is the first Tuesday of Each Month

1 pm in the Fireside Room

Complete 2024/2025 book list

<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Global-Book-Club-2024-2025-Book-List.pdf>

## Upcoming books for 2025

### April 1

*A Stone is Most Precious Where It Belongs: A Memoir of Uyghur Exile, Hope, and Survival* by Gulcherhra Hoja.

### May 6

*Take Heart: Encouragement for Earth's Weary Lovers* by Kathleen Dean Moore. Art by Bob Haverluck Gulcherhra Hoja

### June 3

*Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese

## A Word from Property Committee Proposed removal of the Lift

The property committee is proposing to decommission the lift (installed in 2010) in the west hallway. The usage has been minimal. The yearly cost for maintenance, inspection and permit is around \$1000-\$1200 per year. If someone feels so moved as to fund these expenses while not diminishing their regular giving to Grace, please see Frank Davis to discuss.

Access will still be provided, as we still have the outside ramp to Ronnekamp Hall. The ramp will be staffed during Ronnekamp events, just like the lift, except the staffers will escort folks to the ramp and help as necessary.

We are seeking comments from the congregation Those comments can be submitted to Frank Davis or anyone on the property committee. Written comments are best.





**Camp Lutherwood Website:**  
<https://www.lutherwoodoregon.org/>

**Programs at Camp Lutherwood**  
<https://www.lutherwoodoregon.org/camp>

Shae Parsons and Wendy Geist attended the Annual Camp Lutherwood meeting on Feb. 8.

Camp Lutherwood welcomed its new executive director, Robin Eisenbach, who started in January after the retirement of Andrea Scofield, who served as executive director of Lutherwood for 15 years. Robin comes to Lutherwood with a love for the camp, having attended camp herself in 1990, and then later serving as a summer staff member.

In 2024 Lutherwood received the Character Impact Award for its Compass Program from the American Camp Association Northwest Region. The award recognizes camp programs that help camper's well-being and foster personal growth. In 2024 Lutherwood also saw its highest camp numbers since Covid.

Lutherwood hosts Outdoor School programs, with many coming from the Eugene area. In addition, Lutherwood is creating its own Outdoor School program called Branches Outdoor School.

The annual meeting provided the opportunity for Lutherwood to reveal its new branding refresh focused on the western Tanager bird, which sports bright yellow colors. It will be incorporated through logos, ideas, and camp names: "Lutherwood, where we pause to hear the call"; Branches Outdoor School; and the future Tanager Retreat Center.

The capital campaign, "Bridge to the Future," is nearing its goal of \$4.2 million. Lutherwood reached \$2,874,042 at the end of 2024. The dining hall and the upper cabin bathhouse have been completed. The retreat lodge is left to complete. The plans and application permit are being submitted now. Andrea said she will be sticking around to help with "Bridge to the Future," and hopes churches will contact her if they want to join in on the campaign.

Lutherwood's annual work day will be June 7. Volunteers are needed to work on trails, building maintenance, and to greet people. Plus, all volunteers will get an amazing lunch!



**Children and Youth Newsletter**

<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/GYM-Newsletter-April-25-1.png>



## Quilters and Sewing Group

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

Contact Linda Samuels for more information



The 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of Each Month  
at 11:45 am

**April 8, 2025**  
New Morning Bakery

**April 22, 2025**  
Taco Vino



## Christ in Our Home

April —  
June 2025

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



## Sign up for Grace's online Directory

Do you need help making your online profile?

**To get the link to sign up, please contact the church office**

### Teams & Committees

**Property Committee** - Michael Hadlock  
**Communications Committee**—Bob Keith,  
**Sunday Hospitality**—Meredith Junge  
**Events Hospitality**—Molly Hallgrimson  
**Growing Young Ministry:** Shae Parsons  
**Altar Guild** - Linda Samuels,  
**Worship & Music Committee**—Sue Davis

**Finance Committee** - Bob Keith  
**Personnel Committee** - Cathy Mueller  
**Caring Ministry Team** - Marshall Hill-Tanquist  
**Stewardship Committee** - Carol Warloe  
**Safety Committee**—TBA  
**Outreach Committee**—Elaine Franklin