

Grace GATHERINGS



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

435 NW 21st Street

Corvallis, Oregon 97330



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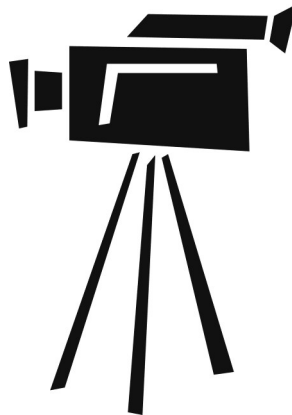
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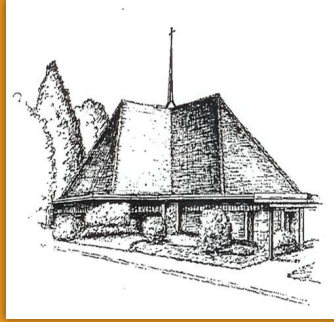
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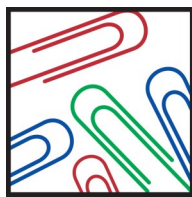
Grace Lutheran Church of Corvallis is a **Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation.** Whoever you are, Whatever your past, However you live, Whomever you love – You are welcome here.



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

Updated Church Staff Schedule

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

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

**YOUR GIVING
MATTERS!**

Giving at a Glance Support the many ministries of Grace Lutheran

Contributions as of
April 24, 2026

Contributions for the Month of
April: \$12,492;
April Budget: \$26,100;
First 4 Weeks Giving: \$12,492;
Weekly Budget: \$6,525;
(4 weeks in April)
YTD contributions: \$112,032;
YTD budget: \$116,475

Grace Personnel

Pastor E. Remy Remmers (They/Them)
revremy@grace97330.org

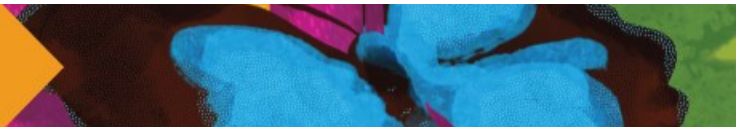
Office Administrator - Andrea Barnhurst (She/Her)
office@grace97330.org

Director of Music Ministries - Bryson Skaar (He/Him)
Bryson@grace97330.org

Percussion - Kelsey Bleck
Bookkeeper - Cobie deLespinasse (She/Her)
bookkeeper@grace97330.org

Financial Secretary: Mike Franklin (He/Him)
Prayer Chain - Cathy Mueller & Bruce Stephens
prayers@grace97330.org

Custodian - Outside Contractor



Prayers

If you have a prayer request,
please send it to prayers@grace97330.org
If you would like to be added to the prayer chain
mailing list, please contact Andrea in the church office.



Prayer Request

Mary K, Friend of Dawn D
Holland S.

Scanning this QR Code is another way to add
prayers to our prayer chain and prayers in
worship



Bill B	05/01
Megan V	05/01
Derek G	05/02
Karen S	0/02
Reed V	05/02
Christopher K	05/04
Jana S	05/04
Bill B	05/06
Serena O	05/06
Todd G	05/07
Susan H	05/07
Johanna L	05/07
Chad W	05/07
Ashley W	05/07
Benjamin B	05/08
Leah B	05/09
MaryAnn H	05/09
Ronly G	05/10
Lucas J	05/10
Sarah B	05/11
Tracy C	05/11
Joni B	05/12
Jeff B	05/14
Cooper C	05/15
Casey S	05/16
Melissa S	05/16
Ted Z	05/18
Marika S	05/20
Donna H	05/21
Marie Belle V	05/21
Karen S	05/23
Jacob D	05/24
Marjorie B	05/25
Ida S	05/25
Lincoln W	05/26
Kiah G	05/27
Eila H	05/27
Wendy N	05/27
Sarah S	05/27
Brooke D	05/30
Julia D	05/30
Debbie K	05/31

Pastor E. Remy Remmers
(They/Them)

Contact Information
Email: revremy@grace97330.org

Office Hours

Mon.-Thurs: In the Area
Friday: Sabbath
Saturday: Day Off

Siblings in Christ,

When I was a child, I wondered why the disciples didn't immediately celebrate that Jesus was risen. I wondered why they didn't listen to the woman. I wondered why they couldn't just be happy.

As an adult, I am often faced with things too good to be true. There are times that I want to be happy but my anxiety for the state of the world gets in the way. I'm just not always ready to share good news. I'm not always ready to believe in death and resurrection.

The good news of Easter is that there is nothing that can separate us from the love of Jesus. The good news is that we as people can mess up so badly and kill our God, and God will raise himself from the dead and forgiveness.

The good news is that tomorrow can always be better. The good news is that when you were born God said that you were good. That nothing you can do can remove that goodness. There is nothing you can do that will be irredeemable. There will be consequences, and there's always opportunities to turn your life around.

This Lent we leaned into the theme Tell Me Something Good. Once a week we gathered midweek to hear wisdom from each other. We raised money for Corvallis for Refugees to help our refugee neighbors. We wrote on green and pink pieces of paper something good that had happened to us that week. Then at Spring Clean Up, Erin and I created this beautiful ribbon tree with all the good news that had been collected in Lent.

Choosing to see the good in things is a spiritual practice. We do this not because we are ignoring the pain of the world or the pain of our lives. We do this because speaking truth aloud has unique power to help us trust the good news. We do this to lift our spirits in hard times.

I invite you to take some time to look at our tree of Good news and remember to celebrate the little things.
Pastor Remy



Grace Lutheran Church Council

April Council Meeting Minutes:

This month's Council Corner is being co-opted by the Oregon Synod of the ELCA. I, Mike Franklin, as most of you already know, have the honor of serving on the Oregon Synod Council. The Synod's equivalent of our congregation council. I am approaching the end of my three (3) year term and have chosen not to run again.

That said, being on the council makes me privy to a lot of information that is not often shared with congregations and it also gives me the pleasure of recognizing congregations that have shared with the synod. So, speaking from my position on the Synod Council, THANK YOU GRACE LUTHERAN!

I would like to share with you some 2025 data. For the ELCA and each of its 65 synods, the typical fiscal year is February 1 through January 31. The information that follows is for the 2025 calendar year. The Oregon Synod currently has 94 member congregations which collectively donated \$901,248.97 to the Synod's general fund. Of that amount, Grace contributed \$20,295.69. There were nine (9) congregations that did not contribute and the largest contributing congregation donated \$72,737.07. The average per congregation was \$9,587.76 and the median was \$4,278.68. This distribution shows there are a few healthy congregations and much larger number of smaller and/or less healthy congregations in the synod. THANK YOU GRACE LUTHERAN!

Other aspects of Grace's giving to the synod includes special needs and giving to ELCA supported programs such as the ELCA Hunger Appeal, Disaster Response and Global Missions. In some cases our members give to these funds directly and in other instances, they give through Grace's budget. One example of special giving is the ELCA Hunger Appeal. Twenty-two (22) congregations in our Synod contributed to this fund through the Oregon Synod in 2026 for a total of \$34,550.30. Through our members directing contributions to this appeal, Grace contributed \$7,855.00 of that amount! THANK YOU GRACE LUTHERAN!

All this demonstrates the great concern our wonderful congregation has for the greater church and the needs of the world around us. From the Oregon Synod, THANK YOU GRACE LUTHERAN! for your ministry and your part in the ministry of the greater church as well as the needs of the people in your/our community.

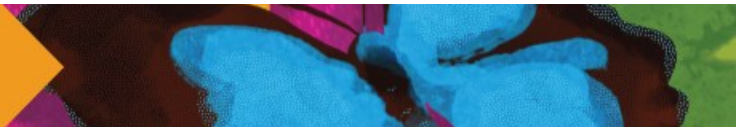
President
Mike Franklin
Vice President
Frank Davis
Secretary
Susan Speulda
Treasurer
Robin Comforto
Financial Secretary:
Mike Franklin

Council Members:
John Baggenstos
Angie Gallagher
Todd Greeley
Gary Hertel
Meredith Junge
Holland Smith
Robyn Vega



During Lent our midweek offering went to Corvallis for Refugees. We were able to raise \$1,472.53!

Thank you for your generosity and your commitment to care for the immigrant.



**First Sunday of the Month
Potluck
Sunday, May 3, 2026
Following Worship**

Please bring a dish to share and join us in an afternoon of board games.

Do you have a favorite board game, bring it to share with others.



**Trivia Night
Wednesday, April 15
At Corvallis Sports Pub**

Trivia Starts at 7 pm. Please arrive early to get drinks or snacks to be ready to play at 7 pm.

We are hoping to host fellowship events and trivia nights regularly. If you are interested in learning more about upcoming trivia nights or upcoming fellowship times, please contact Bryson Skaar or Shane Mueller



Please Welcome Vicar Melanie Bowman! Vicar Mel will be starting this summer. Stayed tuned for an official start date.

Vicar Melanie Bowman was born in Minnesota and has lived in Massachusetts, New York, Italy, and Arizona (and briefly in Oregon). She has a bachelor's degree in business administration and management. Her work experience has been in higher education at The College of Saint Rose in Albany, NY and the University of Arizona in Tucson. After feeling a call to ministry, Melanie enrolled at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. Melanie has a husband, Rick, two adult children, and three grandchildren. Vicar Mel is thrilled to have the opportunity to do her internship at Grace Lutheran Church!

What is a Vicar? Vicar is a pastor in training. They are still officially enrolled in seminary but devote an entire year to serving in a church. At Grace Vicar Mel will shadow Pastor Remy for the first month or so, then set her own learning goals and focus on what is best for her pastoral formation. The word "vicar" is close to the word "vicarious" – the original Latin root meaning "substitute," or "stand-in." A vicar might "stand in" as almost a pastor, but not quite. As a Vicar, She will preach and teach bible studies and do other pastor-like duties, but she is not officially a pastor...yet!



Do you know somebody who is Graduating this year?

Please send in your graduates information to the office so we can recognize them in June.

Please send the name, place graduating, and any other information about your graduate to Andrea in the office.

Deadline for Graduate submission is May 24 to ensure your graduate gets into Grace's publications.

For questions or to submit your graduate, please call Andrea in the office during normal office hours or email Andrea at office@grace97330.org

MIDDAY Concerts



**Wednesdays from
12:15 pm—12:45 pm
In the Grace Sanctuary**

May 6

Emma Nichols with Joy Ueng, OSU Soprano

May 13

Ron Train with David Nicholas, OSU Tenor

May 20

Kaiya Miller with David Nicholas, OSU
Soprano

May 27

Flute Cocktail, from the Corvallis Community
Band

June 3

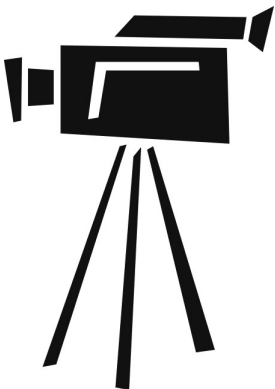
Jazz Fusion Trio: Kelsey Bleck, Justin Shepig,
Bryson Skaar

Church Photos

Starting on May 3

Times available starting at 9 am and
continuing following Worship

The photos will be used for our database, our photo wall, and for those who need them for the online photo directory.





VBS 2026

August 10—14, 2026

Our theme this year will be: Just like Me: digging in & growing deep

Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities.



May 3, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14

May 10, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 17, 2026
Seventh Sunday of Easter

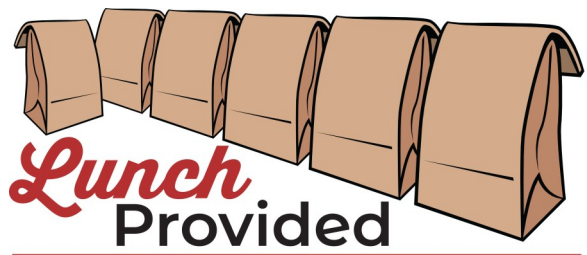
Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

May 24, 2026
Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

May 31, 2026
Holy Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1—2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20



Sack Lunch Ministry

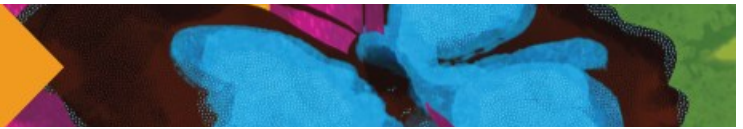
Grace prepares 50 sack lunches each month to hand out at Grace or at Vina Moses

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



Quilting and
Prayer Shawl
Ministry

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 1 pm
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

May 12, 2026
Taco Vino

May 26, 2026
Castors



Grace's Global Book Club

2025/2026 Book List

<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/2025-2026-Global-Book-Group-Reading-List.pdf>

We meet on the First Tuesday of each Month in the Grace Library at 1 pm

Upcoming Dates

May 5, 2026

A Long Petal of the Sea by Isabel Allende

June 2, 2026

Circling the Sun by Paula McLain

Teams & Committees

Property Committee - TBD
Communications Committee— Dave Lundahl
Sunday Hospitality—Meredith Junge
Events Hospitality—Sue Davis
Growing Young Ministry: TBD
Altar Guild - Linda Samuels,
Worship & Music Committee—Sue Davis

Finance Committee - Bob Keith
Personnel Committee - Gary Hertel
Caring Ministry Team - Marshall Hill-Tanquist
Stewardship Committee - Robin Comforto
Climate Resiliency Task Force—Johanna Lundahl
Outreach Committee—Elaine Franklin



Gather Rivers of Mercy Young Adult Lunch

Gather Rivers of Mercy is a group for young adults in their 20s and 30s. You can follow us on Instagram @gatheriversofmercy. Each month we have lunch on the last Sunday of the month after church. This May! we will have lunch on May 31st. Can't wait to see you there!

Oasis Ensemble Concert

May 1, 2026 at 7 pm
Grace Lutheran Church Sanctuary

Performing new music from the Cascadia Composers.

Ticket Price: \$10 at the door
Students Free with ID



Wisdom Seekers Book Group

The Wisdom Seekers Book Group will be starting a new book on Thursday, April 9th - "Separation of Church and Hate: A Sane Person's Guide to Taking Back the Bible from Fundamentalists, Fascists, and Flock-Fleecing Frauds." In this New York Times Bestseller, comedian and broadcaster John Fugelsang delivers a deeply irreverent and biblically correct takedown of far-right Christian hatred and counters with a fight for the love, mercy, and service that are supposed to make up the heart of Christianity. It is told with Fugelsang's blend of radical honesty, comedy, and deep political and religious knowledge and offers practical tips on how to debate our Christian nationalist friends and family.

Meeting Times: Thursdays at 12 pm via zoom

If you would like to join us for some fun discussions, please contact Mark Klopsch at klopschm@comcast.net to request the Zoom invitation.