

Grace GATHERINGS

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

435 NW 21st Street

Corvallis, Oregon 97330



Some of what can be found inside

What's Inside:

About Grace.....	2
Prayers and Birthdays.....	3
Corvallis Sister Cities	3
A Word from Pr. Remy.....	4
Council Corner	5
Member Recognition.....	6
Midday Concert	7
Pride Day	7
Trivia Night	8
VBS 2026	8
Class of 2026	8
Tie Dye	8
Sunday Readings.....	9
Sack Lunch	9
Bible Study with Pr. Remy	9
Committees.....	10
Dandelion Royal	10

Small Group Updates

Ladies Luncheon.....	10
Quilting/Prayer	10
Global Book Club	11
Gather Rivers of Mercy	11



Bali Retirement Potluck

Page 6



Wisdom Seekers

Page 7



RIC Sunday

Page 6



Summer Hymn Sing

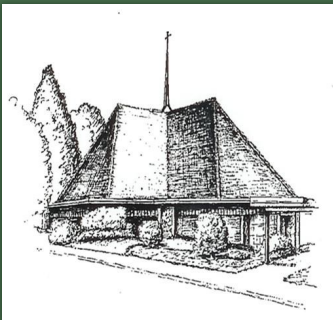
Page 7



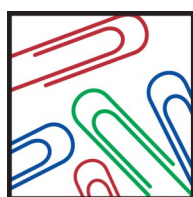
Grace Lutheran Church of Corvallis is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. Whoever you are, Whatever your past, However you live, Whomever you love – You are welcome here.



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
May 22, 2026**

Contributions for the Month of
May: \$18,383;
May Budget: \$29,900;
First 3 Weeks Giving: \$18,383;
Weekly Budget: \$7,475;
(4 weeks in May)
YTD contributions: \$139,985;
YTD budget: \$145,425

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

David P.
Cobie
Sue M.
Jerry K.

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



Sally W	06/04
Mary B	06/05
Simon M	06/05
Mikaila S	06/05
Hannah S	06/07
Kyle S	06/07
Cynara S	06/07
Mary Ann M	06/08
Robin C	06/09
Tony S	06/12
Frank D	06/14
Cecile P	06/14
Iona T	06/14
Kelsey M	06/16
Wilson S	06/16
Jeff L	06/19
Bali	06/24
Denise Ci	06/25
Jan B	06/26
Bekki L	06/29
Larry R	06/29
Peter G	06/30

Corvallis Sister Cities Association



Friendship
Awareness
Understanding



Monday, June 8th from 6:45 pm to 8 pm
Corvallis Public Library



Pastor E. Remy Remmers
(They/Them)

Contact Information
Email: revremy@grace97330.org

Office Hours

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

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

Each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. Connection and relationship has been such an important part of my faith journey because we each hold the Holy Spirit. By getting to know you, I get to encounter God in a new way. By getting to know me, you get to encounter God in a new way. This is such a blessing to be in relationship with each other. God calls us to love our neighbor and to welcome the stranger which is an invitation to meet an image bearer of God and in turn get to know God better.

Our Congregation is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation. This congregation became RIC in 2001. Reconciling in Christ is a delightful program from Reconciling Works that works with Lutheran Congregations across the country. The RIC program which started in 1983 has been helping educate congregations how to welcome and advocate for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. Over the past 10 years Reconciling Works has known that the work and celebration of welcome goes beyond learning how to welcome people in the LGBTQIA+ community. At the same time reminding all of us that there are many races that are a part of the LGBTQIA+ community.

You might have heard that we have been on probation for our RIC status. While this sounds scary, Reconciling Works updated some of the requirements for welcome statements. Welcome statements are now required to use the words anti-racism or racial equity. We know that God calls us to love all people and that loving people across difference can require learning. These changes help us better articulate our values and have them understood our local communities. Welcome statements help us put our best foot forward and show our values. As words change to give language to our changing experiences, it is a faithful practice to review our statements to make sure the words reflect the spirit in which we wrote them. This is especially important for us in Corvallis because we live in a college town. College towns by nature have transitional elements because of the flow of students into and out of the town. Our welcome statement helps people know that they are welcomed as they are. The act of creating a welcome statement also helps us learn how to be better hosts. Being a host is a skill that needs practice and opportunities for growth.

On June 14th we will be celebrating our RIC status and unveiling our new welcome statement. Please join us for this special service and the fellowship following the service to unpack the new welcome statement and answer any questions that you may have.

Pastor Remy



Grace Lutheran Church Council

May Council Meeting Minutes:

<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/26-05-11-Draft-Congregation-Council-Minutes.pdf>

The council took an action at its last meeting that you should know about. It elected Julia Rankin, the intern serving Luther House and a member of Grace Lutheran to be a Young Adult Voting Member to the 2026 Oregon Synod Assembly. Our congregation, due to membership size, is allowed two (2) lay voting members to the Synod Assembly. We elected Bob Keith and Susan Speulda as our voting members. We are allowed up to six (6) additional voting members from our membership; two (2) from each of the following categories:

- Persons of color or whose primary language is other than English.
- Youth or young adults. "Youth" means a voting member who has not reached the age of 18 at the time they are elected. "Young adult" means a voting member between the ages of 18 and 30 at the time they are elected.
- Voting members that self-identify as LGBTQIA+ /gender expansive.

Luther House, while an extension of the ELCA with the Pastor called by the Oregon Synod, is not recognized by the synod as a worshipping community so does not have lay representation at the Assembly. With Pastor Hallie taking parental leave, intern Julia is essentially running the programming at the Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry. As a member of Grace, it is to our benefit and the ministry at Luther House's benefit that they be a voting member of the assembly. Your congregation council elected her to fill the role of one of the young adults from Grace Lutheran.

The term "voting member" is used rather than "delegate" as all elected persons from the congregation vote their mind as determined by their world experience, what they hear and learn at the assembly and prayerful consideration. They do not go, "directed" to vote for the congregation. The council, realizing this, also felt that it serves the synod's ministry and subsequently ours, to have more young adult representation at the assembly. Given the short notice for registration, the council, representing the congregation between congregation meetings, took the action of electing Julia, even though it is a congregation responsibility according to a strict reading of the constitution.

Congratulations and thank you to Julia! Blessings in your deliberations.

I want to introduce to you the new council secretary. Susan Speulda has resigned as secretary but will be remaining on the council. That will give her more time to deal with family issues for the next few months. Gary Hertel (he/him) was good enough to "volunteer" to be elected secretary for the rest of the council year. Gary and Nancy moved to Corvallis in September 2021. They became members of Grace Lutheran in April 2024. Their daughter and son-in-law have lived in Corvallis for over 20 years. Visiting them and the two grandchildren over the years allowed them to become familiar with Corvallis. Their son moved to Corvallis in 2024.

Gary was born and grew up in Waverly, Iowa. He was baptized and confirmed as a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. He attended St. Paul's Lutheran School from Kindergarten through 8th Grade, Waverly-Shell Rock High School, and Wartburg College, all in Waverly. He met Nancy at Wartburg, graduating and getting married in 1970. Gary's profession was as an Actuary working for several insurance companies during his career. This took them to Hartford, Connecticut, Des Moines, Iowa, back to Waverly and finally Madison, WI before moving to Corvallis.

He has been involved in church life as a School Board member of St. Paul's Lutheran School and as a Church Council member of Christ the King Lutheran in Windsor, CT and Bethel Lutheran Church in Madison, WI.

Nancy and Gary are enjoying getting to know Oregon and getting involved in the community and Grace Lutheran. Travel and staying active including golf, are favorite activities..

President
Mike Franklin
Vice President
Frank Davis
Secretary
Gary Hertel
Treasurer
Robin Comforto
Financial Secretary:
Mike Franklin

Council Members:
John Baggenstos
Angie Gallagher
Todd Greeley
Meredith Junge
Holland Smith
Susan Speulda
Robyn Vega



First Sunday of the Month Potluck

**Sunday, June 7, 2026
Bali Retirement Party**

Let us celebrate in the official retirement of Bali, our Office Administrator Andrea's first guide dog.

Bali worked 8.5 years guiding Andrea and is now enjoying retirement as a pet dog with Andrea and her family.

Please bring a dish to share and enjoy in the celebration. There will be different items on display about Bali's life and career along with some information on Guide Dogs for the Blind.



New Member Recognition Sunday, June 21

We will be recognizing new members in June. If you are interested in becoming a new member, please contact Pr. Remy.

Please welcome all of our new members that we have had over the last year. Pictures of our new members can be found on the bulletin board.



RIC Sunday Sunday, June 14

Grace is an RIC (Reconciling in Christ) Congregation and we will be hosting a special Sunday Worship service to recognize the hard work Grace has done.

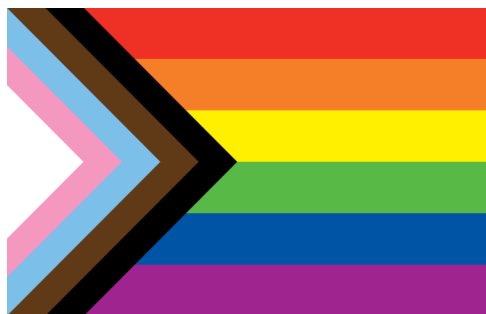
Please watch for information on what it means to be an RIC Congregation and also information about other events/discussions happening on this day.



Summer Hymn sing

3rd Saturday of June, July and August
11 am to 12 pm
At Common Fields

Next Hymn Sing:
Saturday, June 20, 2026



Albany Pride Day Events

Sunday, June 28
Downtown Albany

Please watch for more information

MIDDAY

Concerts



12:15 pm—12:45 pm
In the Grace Sanctuary

June 3

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

Spring Midday Concert Series, A Thank You!

I want to give thanks to all the people supporting the midday concert series at Grace. I'm very glad this series is able to continue. Personally, I continue to enjoy the creativity in planning my programs and coordinating with guests. Our guest artists have expressed appreciation of our friendly and attentive audience, and the lovely sanctuary as a performance space. They love the piano, the acoustics, and the slightly more relaxed vibe of a midday performance. In particular the OSU students beam with excitement to be performing in a non-academic setting.

It's vital for developing artists to have these sorts of transitional opportunities. Through hosting and applauding their efforts, we are encouraging them to take the next step in pursuing their passion. I look forward to our midday series return in the Fall and the future series to come!
Thank you all once again,

Kindly,
Bryson Skaar



VBS 2026

August 10—14, 2026

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

Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities.



Class of 2026 Graduate Insert

<https://grace97330.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Class-of-2026.pdf>



Trivia Night

Wednesday, June 17
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



Tie Die Fellowship

Watch for information on a date this summer.

What to bring- a white 100% cotton t-shirt or other items to tie-dye, and a bucket or zip lock bag to bring your tie-dye home in

Wear old clothes in case you splash dye.

Questions contact Denise Cardinali



June 7, 2026

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 5:15—6:6

Psalms 50:7-15

Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

June 14, 2026

RIC Sunday

June 21, 2026

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Psalms 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

Romans 6:1b-11

Matthew 10:24-39

June 28, 2026

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

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



Bible Study with Pr. Remy

Wednesdays at 1 pm

Sundays at 9 am

In the Grace Library

**There will be no Bible Study on
Wednesday, June 3**



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

June 9, 2026
Yummy Yummy

June 23, 2026
Taqueria Alonzo



Dandelion Royal Contest

Have you ever wanted to play a king or queen? Wear a crown? Do you love pomp and circumstance? Join Lynne in deadheading our communities weeds. Running from April 20th to June 20th, whoever will have picked the most weeds (including dandelions), and debris around the church will win a \$100 prize. The current winner count is 6000! Contact Dawn Donato at dawndonatospalding@gmail.com with an attached photo of your haul.

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. Please watch for information on the June luncheon.



Grace's Global Book Club

June 2, 2026

Circling the Sun by Paula McLain



Wisdom Seekers Book Group

New Book Starts in June

The Wisdom Seekers Book Group will be starting a new book on Thursday, June 25th. "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi is described as "a novel about the power of generosity, the importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder."

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.