

April 2021

GraceNotes

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE

From the Pastor

By Paul H. Pingel



Pastor's Page

Easter, the Resurrection, and You – If you read the stories of Easter and what happens to the disciples, what it

really comes down to is that all that they had learned from Jesus collided with all that they experienced in their daily lives; and it began to result in “Resurrection life.” In a very real way, everything they had to deal before Jesus’ death continues after Jesus rose from the dead. But now, what Jesus taught them, and what they learned from the Word of God came into clear focus, and it made all the difference with each new day.

Luke’s gospel especially makes the point that to prepare for faithful daily living, and to understand what Jesus’ life, death and resurrection meant for their lives, followers of Jesus have had to be open to God’s Word.

This is, of course what was at the heart of the Protestant Reformation. Sola Scriptura! was one of the cries of the Reformation – Only Scripture! To point the way to Life that really is Life. I have a friend who says that when people talk to him about the world around them and see all that is wrong with it, and wonder what to do about it, he asks them, “when is the last time you’ve read God’s Word?” And if the person says s/he hasn’t entered into the Word lately, he gently asks what’s behind that.

You may or may not know that the writer of Luke’s gospel is the writer of Acts, that great book of the New Testament which gives us a snapshot of the early Church, and all that energized a group of fishermen, tax collectors, business people, women and men, Jews and Gentiles, rich and poor, from all over the known world to become a vibrant source of God’s love and purpose for the world. What you’ll find is the Word of God shared between the people, Prayer for God’s Spirit to enter and blow a fresh wind into their lives together,

and being open to what God will do next in and through them.

Sounds like a plan! We'll be starting a new Bible study in April. Look for details in the next couple of weeks and come and be a part!

In-Person Worship – The months of April and May, we will continue to monitor four sources of information that will continue to guide how we are worshiping in person:

- The rate of positive cases in our area. As of the writing of this article, that number was 2.6% for all cases, well below the 5% number recommended for In-Person indoor activities.
- The rate of Covid infection per 100,000 cases. This rate varies according to locality, but currently in most of the localities where Grace members live, we are below the 10/100K rate recommended for a return to indoor In-Person activities.
- The percentage of Covid cases in the hospital ICU. The number of cases at Augusta Health is well below the recommended percentage of cases.
- The Georgia Tech Covid Event Risk Planning Tool that assesses the chance that a person in attendance at an

event like Grace worship would have Covid-19. Our risk level for 30 in worship is at or below 10%.

We will continue to monitor these sources of information, as well as the guidelines for public meetings published by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). As of the writing of this article, the recommendations remain firmly in-place for masking and distancing, even if you have received a vaccine. When these statistics or guidelines change to allow for relaxed-but-still-safe changes, our Worship Resumption Sub-Committee will make new recommendations to Council.

In the meantime, we're in this together! Christ is alive and guiding us! Thanks for your care, patience, and most of all, openness to the ways God continues to guide Grace forward as *A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus*.



Highlights of Congregation Council Meetings March 16, 2021

The Church Council met on March 16, 2021. The primary topics of discussion involved racism; the continuation of live, in-person worship; the upcoming Holy Week Worship Schedule; and the nomination of new Church Council Members.

The ELCA Statement on Race, Ethnicity and Culture, a 28 year old document, was shared with Council, and discussion followed. Here are some of the highlights: While Christ is always tearing down walls of division, we keep rebuilding them with familiarity, fear, lack of empathy and understanding. We love our liturgy and our old familiar hymns and we want to keep them. There is fear of change and incorporation of other church's customs and wondering if change is a mutual goal or only a one-way street. We have our doubts about the nature of change: is it genuine Agape love or just a sense of social obligation? We seem to lack empathy, understanding of black history and how they live their daily lives. We pray for change, but what comes after that? While no specific date was established, this dialogue will most likely continue at a future date.

A lowering of the positive Covid rate in the SAW health district is allowing grace to resume in-person worship. Masking and social distancing will be of utmost importance. There will be music, but no singing. Ushering duties will consist of temperature reads upon arriving at the church door and ushering worshipers to their seats before the service and a controlled exiting from the pews after the service. Worshipers will pick-up their own bulletins and holy communion chalices, and place their offerings into the collection plate located in the Narthex.

The Holy Week schedule will be as follows:

- Palm Sunday, March 28, 10:00 a.m.—In-Person Worship
- Maundy Thursday, April 1, 7:00 p.m.—Virtual Only
- Good Friday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.. —Virginia Synod—Virtual
- Easter Vigil, April 3, 7:00 p.m.—Virtual Only
- Easter Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.—In-Person Worship

In-person attendance will be limited to 30 people per service. Services will be added as needed. Worship will be limited to 45 minutes and we will continue to use individual holy communion chalices.

Fourteen church members have been nominated to replace the five (5) outgoing members and outgoing youth member. The Council is now awaiting for the nominees to accept their nomination to move forward. There will also be a need for a new Church Council Secretary effective June 1.

Respectively submitted,
David Proctor
Secretary



Budget Barometer February 2021

For the year, actual receipts are below budget and actual disbursements are below budget

| Comparison to Prior Year: Financial Barometer | Actual 2020 | Actual 2021 | Difference |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Total Budget Receipts YTD | \$50,449 | \$48,049 | (\$2,400) |
| Total Budget Disbursed YTD | \$48,000 | \$49,358 | \$1,358 |
| | \$2,449 | (\$1,309) | (\$3,758) |



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

March 9, 2021

Grace Lutheran Church
500 S Wayne Ave
Waynesboro, VA 22980-4836

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift(s) given to your synod, received by ELCA World Hunger in January 2021.

*Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.*
— ELW 328

This is a season of reflection and sacrifice, but also a season of hope. As we walk the 40-day journey of Lent, we know that we are walking toward Easter and the promise of renewal. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA are bringing that promise and hope to your neighbors around the world.

Your generosity is getting at the root causes of hunger and poverty in over 60 countries including the United States. It is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Through your gifts, you are joining with the whole church as we work toward a just world where all are fed.

You are creating new beginnings. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and the fullness of Christ's joy.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations

P.S. Please see the reverse side of this letter for your receipt.

THANK YOU!

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church- Waynesboro's 2021 Collection

raised:

\$873.79 and 82 lbs. of food

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



tacklehunger.org

February 7, 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Reese".

Alison Reese

Executive Director
Souper Bowl of Caring



Nominations for Grace Council - Grace Council Nominating Committee will be receiving nominations for Grace Council from the Congregation in April.

Between April 1 and April 15, you may make a nomination in writing c/o the Secretary of Grace Council, David Proctor, by mailing the nomination to Grace, or sending the nomination to Nancy Dowdy at

secretary@gracewaynesboro.org. *You must also secure the consent of the person you nominate.* This is according to the instructions laid out in our Church Constitution.

worship
WITH US

Through April and May, with limits on worship attendance, we will ask you to sign-up for each Sunday you wish to attend. AND, we will add an additional service on any Sunday where the sign-up exceeds 30 worshippers/service. The cut-off each week for signing up will be the Thursday morning (9am) prior to Sunday.

For those who wish to continue to worship together virtually, You Tube and Zoom (by phone) worship connections Live will continue at 10:00AM every Sunday. (other service times will not be offered Live).



To My Grace Church Family,

Thanking you all for the beautiful flowers for my ninetieth birthday and the special good wishes and cards from dear church friends with memories going back to 1998 when I became a member of a warm, welcoming, friendly church family!

Berenice Archambeault



Food Pantries - Thanks, and Continuing Need—

Many thanks to those who have donated Peanut Butter, Mac 'n Cheese, Personal Hygiene items, and Dried Rice and Beans to our local food banks. We have made *fourteen* deliveries thus far, six to Main Street United Methodist, and eight to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. Last week, 93 pounds of food went to Calvary United Methodist breaking our previous records! If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



Raising Resources for Readers (3Rs) invite you to join them at their 7th annual Fundraiser/ Celebration at Basic City Beer Company on Sunday, April 18 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM. We will be hosting an outdoor, socially-distant, COVID-aware gathering. Plan to drop by, say hello, enjoy some

refreshment and bring a donation 3Rs raises monies to ensure all students at William Perry and Wenonah Elementary schools have access to books for summer reading. Members of Grace have been extremely generous and committed in their support for our students - in this era of virtual learning your support is needed more urgently than ever! Please share this invitation with your friends!



APRIL

Birthdays

4/2 Ty Elliott

4/13 Amy Warren

4/18 Sandra Hoy

4/19 Glenn Myers

4/7 Quinn Franklin

4/13 Sam Biggers

4/18 Jerry Kite

4/20 Trotter Franklin

4/24 Kai Blosser

4/13 Laura Shaw

4/15 Brad Hull

4/18 Farrah Smith

4/20 Barbara Susen



APRIL

Baptisms

4/3 Brad Keefer

4/6 Larry Meeks

4/7 Jenna Smith

4/11 Owen Keefer

4/12 Jim Kite

4/14 Katie Morrison

4/19 Kate Van Bremen

4/26 Carolyn Shields

4/4 Aaron Lynch

4/7 Alex Skelton

4/9 Frannie Knicely

4/11 Sharon Lynch

4/12 Carol Varner

4/14 Donna Gum

4/20 Ashley Stollings

4/28 Kim Hull

4/6 Bobby Hite

4/7 Paige Smith

4/11 E. G. Rankin

4/11 Kiera Mahoney



4/14 Tom Carper

4/15 Kaitlyn Hull

4/23 Zoe Stein

4/29 Anne Barnes

WAPRIL

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word In-Person and via YouTube</i></p> <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>  | <p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> | <p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> | <p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> | <p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> <p>7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday <i>Service of the Word via YouTube</i></p> <p>Holy Communion</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> <p>7:00 p.m. Good Friday <i>Service of the Word via YouTube</i></p> | <p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil <i>Service of the Word via YouTube</i></p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word In-Person and via YouTube</i></p> <p>Holy Communion</p>  | <p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> | <p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> | <p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> <p>5:00 p.m. Discussion with Christ Tabernacle <i>Via Zoom</i></p> | <p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>7:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. <i>Student Care</i></p> | <p style="text-align: right;">10</p> |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| <p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>Second Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of the Word In-Person and via YouTube</p> <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Grace Anti-Racism Group meeting via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Round Tables via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Discussion with Christ Tabernacle Via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>Third Sunday of Easter</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of the Word In-Person and via YouTube</p> <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Church Council</i></p> </div> <p>7:00 p.m. Council Meeting via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Discussion with Christ Tabernacle Via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> |
| <p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Easter</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of the Word In-Person and via YouTube</p> <p>Holy Communion</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Discussion with Christ Tabernacle Via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> |



APRIL

**Sunday
April 4**

**Preaching &
Presiding**

Pastor Paul Pingel

**Assisting
Minister**

Ashley Stollings
Donna Gum

**Children's
Worship**

Stollings/
Cooper Family

Alter Guild

Jean Morgan

**Offering
Stewards**

Pat Brady

Temperature Takers

Carolyn & Bobby Hite
Gail Johnson, Jill Pingel

Ushers

Fred Biggers
Jean Morgan

Jack Eckstrom
Linda Meyer

**Altar
Flowers**

Gail Johnson

**Council
Member
of the Week**

Kathy Bump

**Sunday
April 11**

**Preaching &
Presiding**

Pastor Paul Pingel

**Assisting
Minister**

Tripp Franklin

**Children's
Worship**

Van Bremen
Family

Alter Guild

Jean Morgan

**Offering
Stewards**

Pat Brady

Temperature Takers

Ushers

**Altar
Flowers**
Schwiesows

**Council
Member
of the Week**
Holly Carper

**Sunday
April 18**

**Preaching &
Presiding**

Pastor Paul Pingel

**Assisting
Minister**

Robin Crowder

**Children's
Worship**

Stollings/Cooper
Family

Alter Guild

Jean Morgan

**Offering
Stewards**

Pat Brady

Temperature Takers

Ushers

**Altar
Flowers**
OPEN

**Council
Member
of the Week**
Robin Crowder

**Sunday
April 25**

**Preaching &
Presiding**

Pastor Paul Pingel

**Assisting
Minister**

**Children's
Worship**

Bokelman
Family

Alter Guild

Jean Morgan

**Offering
Stewards**

Pat Brady

Temperature Takers

Ushers

**Altar
Flowers**
OPEN

**Council
Member
of the Week**
Kim Hull



Nursing Home, Assisted Living and Homebound Members

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Genevieve Arneson 220 Adventure Trail Waynesboro, VA 22980</p> | <p>LizAnn Binns c/o Steve Binns 8921 Sturgeon Point Road Charles City, VA 23030</p> |
| <p>Maribeth Faivre Summit Square 501 Oak Avenue Waynesboro, VA 22980</p> | <p>Phyllis Kite 57 Skyline Avenue Stuarts Draft, VA 24477</p> |
| <p>Bob Knemoller Summit Square 501 Oak Avenue Waynesboro, VA 22980</p> | <p>Glen & Flossie Myers The Legacy 1410a North Augusta Street Staunton, VA 24401</p> |
| <p>Pete Rufe Summit Square Healthcare 501 Oak Avenue Waynesboro, VA 22980</p> | |

Grace Church Sunday School Teachers

Carrie Jones, Sunday School Superintendent

| CLASS | LOCATION | TEACHERS |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Pre-K-K | Lower Level | Deloris Wertman Sarah Beth Kite |
| Grades 1-3 | Lower Level | Amy Warren Jane Blosser |
| Grades 4-5 | Lower Level | Jill Pingel Jane Stein |
| Grades 6-8 <i>Catechism</i> | Lower Level | Pastor Pingel Fred Biggers Robin Crowder (SUB) |
| Senior High | Lower Level | Linda Meyer Antoinette Eckstrom |
| Adult | Upper Level | |



Members of Grace Congregational Council



Linda Meyer, President

Jerry Kite, Vice-President

Bob Barrette, Kathy Bump,

Holly Carper, Robin Crowder,

Kim Hull, Gail Johnson,

Kathryn Johnson, Amy Warren

Hannah Pingel, Youth Representative

David Proctor, Secretary

Ron Almarode, Treasurer

Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer

Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

500 South Wayne Avenue
Waynesboro, VA 22980

LABEL



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

"A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus."



facebook.com/gelc.elca



twitter.com/gelc_elca



instagram.com/gelc.waynesboro



flickr.com/gracewaynesboro



youtube.com/



[GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro](https://www.GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro.org)

www.gracewaynesboro.org

E: gracelc@lumos.net

T: 540.949.6171

Church Staff

The Rev. Paul Pingel

Pastor

Nancy Dowdy

Administrative Secretary

Mike Myers

Director of Music & Organist

Church Office Hours

Mon–Thu: 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

(Lunch 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.)

Friday: 8:30 a.m.—Noon