

GraceNotes

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE

From the Pastor

By Paul H. Pingel



Pastor's Page

It may have been some time that you've considered the Bible, God's Word to us, as a whole. It has an Old Testament, and a New Testament. It begins with Genesis, it concludes with Revelation. There are 66 books, letters, gospels, prophecies, etc. that make up the Bible.

We also know that we have a Church Year. It begins in Advent as we prepare anew for Jesus to come into our lives, not just in the manger. Christmas allows us to celebrate that God Is With Us. Epiphany shows how the Light of the World, Jesus Christ has come into the world. In Lent we follow Jesus as his life directs us to the

Cross, where God's love for the world is lifted up for us and our neighbor. In Easter we celebrate that the deathliness of this world has lost its sting, because Jesus is alive, he is Risen! And he invites us to follow him as he prepares us to be the Church. Then comes Pentecost and the time after, where we remember that Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to move and guide us to share the gospel with the world and in the "Galilee" in which the Risen Jesus meets us where we live.

In 2010, two scholars at Luther Seminary, one of the ELCA's seven seminaries, devised a new Narrative Lectionary – the readings we use each Sunday – which follow the Church Year just like we do now. The Narrative Lectionary is a little different. It begins in September,

(Continued on page 2)

and starts with readings from the Old Testament, starting in Genesis, and moving through the stories of God in Creation, and God's relationship with the world and God's people. These stories reflect reality of the world that is both created very good, and because of sin and death, not yet what God has created it to be. By Advent, we will be hearing the prophets share their powerful words that point us to the way God will redeem the world through a promised Messiah. And then from Christmas to Easter, we will hear the gospel story from beginning to joyous conclusion. We hear from the book of Acts and the letters of Paul which show us how the Gospel begins to spread outward until Pentecost, when we celebrate God's promised Spirit. Then summer gives us an opportunity to focus on particular books from Old and New Testament (like Job, or Proverbs, or letters of Paul) to help us hear God's Word to us in the whole of a book or letter.

The Southern Valley Conference, a group of about 16 Virginia Synod Lutheran congregations in our area, has been looking at trying the Narrative Lectionary for a

year. While the Revised Common Lectionary – the three year cycle of readings we are currently using - allows us to hear the fullness of God's Word through four readings each Sunday, it often doesn't help us hear the full flow of God's Salvation story, particularly in the stories of the Old Testament (which was Jesus's Bible – and from which large parts of the New Testament regularly quote from!).

Grace Council, as well as our Round Tables, and Children and Youth Team, have been looking at the Narrative Lectionary since the beginning of the year, and will be making a decision about the use of the Narrative Lectionary in the next month or two. The format we have been using in You Tube worship since March 15th – having two lessons instead of four – will continue with the Narrative Lectionary. The primary Old Testament lessons of the Fall, and Sundays which focus on Paul's letters or Acts in Spring and Summer will also have a gospel reading. Sundays where the gospel readings are primary will have a Psalm reading to accompany it.

(Continued on page 3)

The contribution of our Lutheran heritage to the whole of the Church was to recover the central importance of God's Word – the hearing of it and the proclaiming of it – in our worship, and more importantly in our daily lives. God's Word will not come away empty, says the prophet Isaiah! And our becoming more fluent our God-given language of faith can only help us to negotiate the challenges and joys of this world in which we live, because it helps us to look for the God of Grace who has been with us all along.





Highlights of Congregation Council Meeting June 16, 2020

For the last three months, we have been worshipping on line because of the Coronavirus; and now as some restrictions are being lifted, we are looking for a safe way to resume worship and other activities. A survey was sent to all members of Grace seeking their thoughts on how to safely return to in-person worship. The Virginia Synod has recommended that Lutheran Churches not resume worship until Phase III.

We have had a Book Study Group for almost a year about race relations (White Fragility, Dear Church and How to be an Anti-Racist. The first two are national best sellers. Some of the members of the book study are going to be giving temple talks during our worship in July.

Respectively submitted,
Deloris Wertman

NEWS



worship
WITH US

Worship News at Grace - Phase III is upon us in Virginia...Surveys have been completed by Grace as of this week (of publishing this Grace Notes)...The Virginia Synod of the ELCA just published guidelines for the congregations of our Synod this week...Our Worship Resumption committee meets NEXT week. All this to say, we have a lot of data and information to help us to make some decisions about In-Person worship here at Grace! Please stay tune for information forthcoming in bulletin, e-blast and U.S. Mail about worship in July and August together.

NEWS



From Nancy Dowdy—I feel so very blessed to be part of the “Grace Family” and cannot begin to thank you for all the love and support you have given me over the past several years of my husband’s illness and most recently his passing. Your kindness and support for me and my family are greatly appreciated. You have certainly eased a very difficult time for us. Thank you!



"Coffee Fellowship" after Worship on Sundays!

In an effort to gather us for fellowship and conversation as the Body of Christ here at Grace, we invite you to bring your cup of coffee (or other beverage, or just yourself!) and join a Zoom meeting after Sunday worship (approximately 10:45 - 10:50 a.m.) whose purpose is for us to see and check in with each other, to enjoy a smile and a laugh, to share what's on our hearts - what Martin Luther called a sign of the church - "the mutual consolation of the brothers and sisters." Look for an email or U.S. Mail note this week with information on joining the Fellowship!



Food Pantries - There continues to be a regular demand for food in our community. We are continuing to assist two Pantries: Main Street UMC, and Calvary UMC in Stuarts Draft They need donations, specifically peanut butter, mac and cheese, personal hygiene items, dried rice and beans. If you would like to contribute, a box is set up inside the office door for you to drop them off.



Children’s Sermons—Thanks to the Jones, Bokelman and Franklin families for providing Children’s Sermons for our YouTube worship. An invitation was sent to all families with children to take part. Call Pastor Paul or Carrie Jones to take part!

Grace's Antiracism Book Group began last fall, reading and discussing in succession three books on the role of white people in systemic racism and how to become an antiracist. The books were:

White Fragility, by Robin D'Angelo;
Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US, by Lenny Duncan; and
How to Be an Antiracist, by Ibram X. Kendi.

We had no idea at the time as we finished each of these books and considered how to move forward with what we had learned that the whole country and much of the world would be plunged into painful and heartfelt consideration of how racism has affected our brothers and sisters of color and our role in the systemic racism in which we find ourselves. We believe the Holy Spirit had to have been leading us in our studies to bring us right to the point of realizing that we must be active in making changes in ourselves and in our community.

Racism is systemic and we, as white people, are all part of the system and benefit from it, often at the expense of non-white people. We need to emphasize that our benefitting from racism does not make us a bad person; but if we do not work to understand how inequality of opportunity has helped us, we cannot hope to work to eliminate inequities so that all people can be helped as we have been. We have found that being "not a racist" is not enough in the world today; we are called to adopt a new boldness so that our thoughts and actions work against racism – we must be anti-racists.

We believe it is important to share how this year of education and discussion has helped prepare us for the challenges our country faces today. We want to share what we have learned, but not from the standpoint of a finger point, or an assumption of "wrong-ness" in how we and our sisters and brothers in Christ at Grace would come to such a discussion; but around the discussion of "story" and asking seriously, "who is our neighbor?". The last year of study has shown how much we have changed, and how much we still have to learn from our neighbors of color.

Continued

We are God's people in Christ, and that WILL change the way we talk about this. We are not talking about this FIRST as friends, or whites, or family, or as "good people," or as Democrats or Republicans, or even as the Book Study group, we are talking about this as followers of Christ.

Why are we bringing this to you as our family in Christ? In order to follow the Scriptures that require us to love our neighbor. To increase understanding and resolve to correct injustices—to work together to become antiracists.

We will be offering temple talks, invitations to work together in small groups (either face to face or by Zoom) of Grace members and members of Christ Tabernacle, perhaps to read books and articles together, and to share tools that each of us might use to become antiracist.

Please contact any of us to ask about our readings and discussions and our planning for future work among the congregation and in the community to break down barriers and become one in our work together.

Bob Barrette
Carolyn Barrette
Caroline Biggers
Kathy Bump
Rick Bump
Beth Ann Doering
Linda Meyer
Pastor Pingel
Anne Putnam
Gordon Putnam
Joan Ranzini
Joe Ranzini
David Schwiesow
Nancy Schwiesow





6/2/2020

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
500 S. Wayne Avenue
Waynesboro, VA 22980

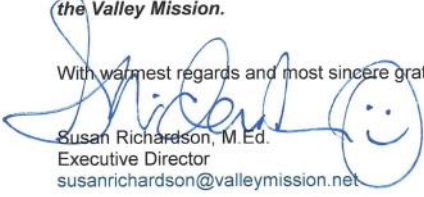
Dear Friends of the Valley Mission,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of Valley Mission, I extend our warmest thanks for your support of our agency. Your recent financial gift of \$2,000.00 on 6/2/2020 is greatly appreciated! According to IRS regulations, we must state that no goods or services were received in exchange for your donation. Please keep this letter for your tax records.


The Valley Mission not only provides shelter, clothing, and meals to the homeless in our community, but our staff also offers spiritual and emotional support to our residents, helping them face issues surrounding homelessness. Generous gifts like yours allow us to fulfill our mission to serve those in need, twenty-four hours a day seven days a week. **Each year Valley Mission serves between 650 and 700 local homeless-at no cost to them.** In addition, **free meals**, as many as **58,000 per year**, are provided to those who reside in our shelter and in our local community who cannot afford to properly nourish themselves or their families. Most often, those in need of help face difficulties that they simply do not have the tools to repair. Their circumstances cause them to feel hopeless that tomorrow could ever bring about the possibility of a positive change in their lives. Because of donors such as yourself, the residents of the Valley Mission are fed, clothed, encouraged, and provided the tools that allow them to hope for a better life. In many cases, our clients are making this dream a reality. **For so many, your caring support is life transforming.**

Valley Mission's sole purpose is to serve the needs of others in our community, and we are incredibly grateful for your partnership in helping us provide a place of hope for those who are experiencing challenges. If you have not recently taken a tour of our facility, I encourage you to contact us about visiting Valley Mission to witness our work, and your financial contributions, in action! **May God continue to bless you in all that you do. Thank you for investing in our local community through supporting the Valley Mission.**

With warmest regards and most sincere gratitude,


Susan Richardson, M. Ed.
Executive Director
susanrichardson@valleymission.net

1513 W. Beverley Street Staunton, VA 24401
Phone: (540) 886-4673 Fax: (540) 885-7228
www.valleymission.net

Thank you again for this amazing generosity! Our shelter is helping our clients find work. You all are amazing!  Susan



6/2/2020

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
500 S. Wayne Avenue
Waynesboro, VA 22980

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With warmest regards and most sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan" with a smiley face drawn next to it.

Susan Richardson, M.Ed.
Executive Director
susanrichardson@valleymission.net

Thank you for this very generous donation to BE used toward cleaning supplies and clothes.
God Bless You All!
M Susan

1513 W. Beverley Street Staunton, VA 24401
Phone: (540) 886-4673 Fax: (540) 885-7228
www.valleymission.net

NELSON KID CARE

3679 Pharsalia Road
Tyro, VA 22976

(Help feed the body & mind to lift the spirit of children in need)

May 31, 2020

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
c/o Linda Meyer, President
Congregation Council
500 S. Wayne Ave
Waynesboro, VA 22980

Dear Mrs. Meyer:

Thank you so much for the grant from your Congregation Council to Nelson Kid Care on May 26, 2020 in the total amount of \$500.00. Your support is greatly appreciated in so many ways. The impact of your donation is already having a positive outcome on our ministry.

The 2019-20 school year marks our eighth year of providing weekend food to county public school students in need. We serve all four public schools in Nelson County.

Presently, the food is being stored and packed at Rockfish Presbyterian Church in Nellysford and Blue Dog Associates in Lovingston, VA.

Last year, we served 230 students. Currently, we are packing food for a total of 200 students in all four Nelson County schools. **Our goal is to make this a program that is sustained by the community and your generous contribution helps make this possible.**

We are entirely volunteer run and 98% of our funding goes toward food.

Again, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,



Frosty Flippin

Volunteer and Treasurer www.nelsonkidcare.org amherstnelsoncaresltd@gmail.com

All donations are tax deductible under 501(c)(3) of the IRS tax code. No goods or services of material value were given in return for your contribution.

Presently, because of the schools closing, we are not packing food. We look forward to starting up again when schools open. Thank you



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

June 10, 2020

Thank You

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

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$611.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God (Romans 5:1-2).

As a church, we believe that God's grace is freely given to us. This brings us peace and hope. It makes a difference in our lives. Through your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, you are sharing this amazing grace with others. You are helping people near and far feel the transformational power of God's love.

Your Spirit-filled generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods now and far into the future.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God is shining through you.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robin Brown
Mission Funding Director, Congregations

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



WAYNESBORO AREA REFUGE MINISTRY




June 10, 2020

To the kind members of
Grace Lutheran,


WARM once again
thanks you for your
generosity, kindness
and support of our
organization. We so
greatly appreciate it!

Thanks again,
Jill Koppel

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p>Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word via You Tube</i></p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>7:00 p.m. <i>Bible Study via Zoom</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>Holiday</p>  <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> 
<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word via You Tube</i></p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>7:00 p.m. <i>Round Tables via Zoom</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>7:00 p.m. <i>Bible Study via Zoom</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word via You Tube</i></p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>7:00 p.m. <i>Bible Study via Zoom</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p>

July

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <p>Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word via You Tube</i></p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>	20	<p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Church Council</i></p> </div> <p>7:00 p.m. Council via Zoom</p>	22	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Bible Study via Zoom</p>	24	25
<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word via You Tube</i></p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>	27	28	29	<p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Bible Study via Zoom</p>	31	1



Sunday July 5	Sunday July 12	Sunday July 19	Sunday July 26
Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel
Assisting Minister Kathy Bump	Assisting Minister Brian Lundstrom	Assisting Minister Donna Gum	Assisting Minister Donna Gum
Communion Assistants	Communion Assistants	Communion Assistants	Communion Assistants
Ushers	Ushers	Ushers	Ushers
Offering Stewards Pat Brady	Offering Stewards Pat Brady	Offering Stewards Pat Brady	Offering Stewards Pat Brady
Acolytes	Acolytes	Acolytes	Acolytes
Altar Guild Jean Morgan	Altar Guild Jean Morgan	Altar Guild Jean Morgan	Altar Guild Jean Morgan
Nursery Assistants	Nursery Assistants	Nursery Assistants	Nursery Assistants
Altar Flowers Jean Morgan	Altar Flowers Open	Altar Flowers Pete & Pat Giesen	Altar Flowers Open
Council Member of the Week Holly Carper	Council Member of the Week Robin Crowder	Council Member of the Week Kim Hull	Council Member of the Week Gail Johnson



Birthdays

We give thanks for you at Grace and wish you a Happy Birthday!

7/1 Tyler Wertman	7/6 Joan Ranzini	7/7 Zander Bandy
7/9 Maribeth Faivre	7/9 Zoey Mahoney	7/11 Cindy Glenn
7/14 Carolyn Shields	7/16 Zanny Bandy	7/17 Sandra Brady
7/19 Ethan Lynch	7/21 Bill Lucas	7/22 Kelly Rankin
7/22 Al McKechnie	7/23 Bobby Hite	7/23 Diane Lundstrom
7/24 Cindy Trauscht	7/26 Sherry Helsel	7/27 Sloane Franklin
7/30 Gail Johnson		

Baptisms

7/11 Todd Knicely



Nursing Home, Assisted Living and Homebound Members

<p>Genevieve Arneson 220 Adventure Trail Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>	<p>LizAnn Binns The Legacy 1410 A N. Augusta Street Apt. 2026 Staunton, VA 24401</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 and Carol Knemoller Summit Square 501 Oak Avenue Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>	<p>Janet Lunger Summit Square 501 Oak Avenue Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>
<p>Glen & Flossie Myers 104 Patton Farm Road Apartment 361 Stuarts Draft, VA 24477</p>	<p>Pete Rufe Summit Square Healthcare 501 Oak Avenue Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>



Budget Barometer—May 2020

For the year, actual receipts are below budget and actual disbursements are below budget **resulting in a surplus of \$8,809.**

2020 receipts are significantly ahead of 2019 receipts, 2020 disbursements are slightly below 2019.

Comparison to Prior Year: Financial Barometer	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Difference
Total Budget Receipts YTD	\$119,558	\$125,957	\$6,398.43
Total Budget Disbursed YTD	\$118,885	\$117,148	-\$1,737.21
	\$673	\$8,809	\$8,136

As of the end of May, Grace worship services have been in person half the time and virtual (internet or phone) half the time. Members have dealt with the uncertainty associated with Covid-19 as well as the social unrest and the time for moral searching in this country. Despite the many concerns and frustrations that have engulfed everyone, Grace has been blessed by the generosity, commitment, and stewardship of its members. Contributions have continued to keep pace (or exceed) expenditures the last 2 1/2 months. In the midst of these uncertain times, Grace has been blessed to not have to make difficult financial decisions. It is a wonderful statement to the strength of this congregation. During a Zoom session with Pastor John Wertz of the Virginia Synod regarding finances during a pandemic, it was suggested that we share good news stories with the congregation. This certainly qualifies as a good news story and I want to personally thank everyone for their parts in assisting Grace through these difficult times.

Ron Almarode
Treasurer



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, Anne Putnam

Hannah Pingel, Youth Representative
 Deloris Wertman, Secretary
 Ron Almarode, Treasurer
 Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer
 Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

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 Marlene Shaw Robin Crowder (SUB)
Senior High	Lower Level	Linda Meyer Antoinette Eckstrom
Adult	Upper Level	Gordon Putnam






THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

500 South Wayne Avenue
Waynesboro, VA 22980

LABEL



-  facebook.com/gelc.elca
-  twitter.com/gelc_elca
-  instagram.com/gelc.waynesboro
-  flickr.com/gracewaynesboro
-  [youtube.com/
GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro](https://youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro)

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