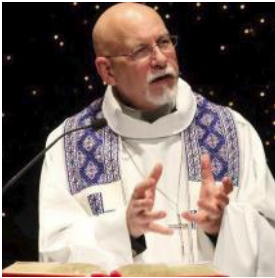


June 2022

GraceNotes

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE

From the Pastor



Pastor's Page

As this congregation joins with Westminster Presbyterian Church and

Church World Service to welcome the Mmeswa/Madawa family, some verses from the Letter to the Hebrews suggest themselves as a foundation for the ministry of refugee resettlement. The apostle exhorts the faithful in these words: "Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:1-2)

Those two sentences form a pair. The writer exhorts the members of the community of faith to care for and about one another ("Let mutual love continue") and then adds a word of caution – don't stop there: "Do not neglect to show

hospitality to strangers." Do not fail, that is, to expand your circle of love and concern beyond those already encompassed by that circle.

That word "hospitality" deserves a closer look. For most of us, hospitality means social entertaining, being a good and gracious host when we invite friends and acquaintances to our place. There is, of course, nothing wrong and much that's right about that. In fact, we could probably use a bit more of it in a world wearied by COVID-imposed isolation.

For people of biblical times, however, the word hospitality meant something quite different. It had to do not primarily with friends and acquaintances, but with reaching out a hand of welcome to strangers. The Greek word for hospitality is *philoxenos* – literally, the love of strangers. Not coincidentally, it is the exact opposite of *xenophobia* – the fear of strangers.

And so the parallel thought of those opening verses becomes even clearer in the original Greek: let *philadelphia* (sibling love) continue, but not at the expense of *philoxenos*, love of strangers.

As we welcome and come to know the Mmeswa/Madawa family, strangers from the Democratic Republic of Congo along with our collaborators from other local congregations become strangers no more. In the magnificent economy of God, they and we become what we always were: children of our loving God and therefore siblings of one another.

In the community of faith, no one is a stranger, for all are encircled by the arms of the crucified and risen Lord stretched out in love's welcoming embrace that gathers us not only to God, but in that process also to one another.

Pastor Mark Wm. Radecke

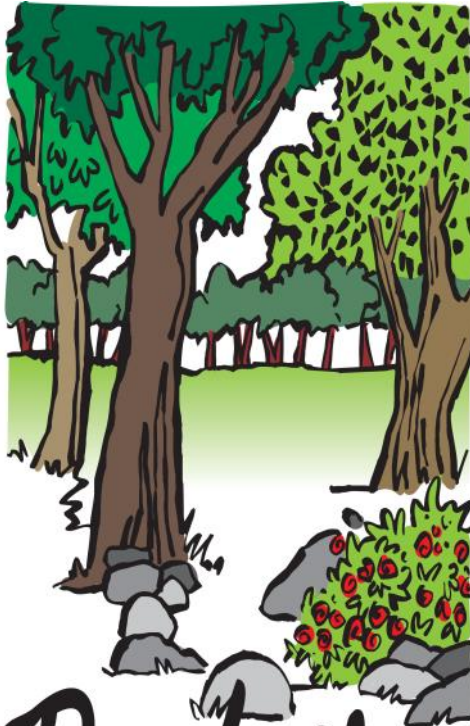


Highlights of Congregation Council

May 17, 2022

- ◆ Pastor's Report – Pastor is especially grateful for the sabbatical support and financial help from Grace. He plans on visiting Germany and Czechia. Also plans a visit to Montgomery, Alabama to meet with the pastor of the Lutheran Church there. In August, Pastor will travel to a spiritual retreat.
- ◆ Our financial deficit is improving with the prepaid amount of \$49,500. Ron will divide this equally until end of the year.
- ◆ The council voted to remove the pew tape, begin passing offering plates and returning visitor & communion cards and pencils. However, with the Augusta Health announcement that we are once again in “code orange”, the Executive Committee has decided to temporarily retain the tape on the pews.
- ◆ Our refugee family is moved in. It took them 48 hours and 12,000 miles to get here from the camp in Tanzania. They were in the camp since 1998. All speak Swahili.
- ◆ Roundtable meetings in April addressed Strategic Planning, Sabbatical update, Congregational Engagement, and Community Engagement.
- ◆ Grace will be providing a bagged breakfast for Disciples Kitchen on Saturday, May 28th.
- ◆ Flowers – we need a person to take over responsibility for our flowers, as Carol is retiring after many years of service.
- ◆ We need 1050 meals for the week of June 5-11
- ◆ On May 29th we will install our council members for 2022-2023. We will also welcome four (4) new members to our church family. Also that day, we will bit a prayerful sending of Pastor Pingle until August 14.
- ◆ There were 10 requests for grants. All but one were approved.

Vivian Proctor, Secretary



Pastor's SABBATICAL

As Pastor Pingel embarks on a Sabbath Leave (sabbatical) time on May 30 – August 5, the Sabbatical Committee is sharing information on the practice of Sabbath Leave at Grace and how life at Grace will commence during that time.

Since 1990, Grace Church congregation has adopted a policy of granting periodic Sabbath Leave time (or sabbatical) to our pastors for the purposes of:

1. Sabbath Study Leaves are intended for renewal and revitalization of both pastor and congregation. The Sabbath Study Leave may include in depth educational experience or special program/projects that will benefit the congregation or the church at large. Sabbath Study Leave must include time for personal and familial rest and recreation.
2. Sabbath Study Leaves are normally granted for a period of three to six months and will occur after every five to seven years of service at Grace Church.

(from Grace ELC Sabbath Leave Policy)

We are delighted to welcome Pastor Karen Van Stee and Pastor Mark Radecke who will be serving in the Pastoral role at Grace during the Sabbath Leave (sabbatical). Pastor Van Stee will serve June 5, June 12, July 3, July 10, July 17, July 24, July 31, August 14 and August 21. Pastor Radecke will serve June 19, June 26 and August 7.

Continued

During the ten (10) weeks of the Sabbath Leave, Pastor Van Stee and Pastor Radecke will serve our congregation in a limited, part-time capacity. They will preach and lead worship on a regular basis, take Holy Communion to our homebound members and offer some home visits to those who are ill or shut in, and be available for emergency pastoral care at the request of our members or leaders. They will also act as consultants to our Congregation Council and other church leaders.

The Sabbath Study Leave will not only be a time of reflection and renewal for Pastor Pingel, but also for all of us here at home. This will be a time for our congregation to reflect on our purpose and our future. If you have ideas, suggestions, or questions about the Leave during this time, please contact any member of Council (Robin Crowder, President).

Since this agreement is between the Pastor and Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, it is only right that certain things be expected of the members and leaders of Grace Church. Therefore, **it is expected that Grace Church will: (from the Grace ELC Sabbath Leave Policy)**

1. Pray for Pastor Pingel that he may return refreshed and invigorated to continue his ministry. We will also pray for Jill, that this experience is renewing for her also.
2. Pray for each other that the Holy Spirit will enable all of us to do ministry.
3. Pray for the Sabbath Study Leave Pastors that they may speak God's Word and inspire the members to do ministry.
4. Provide appropriate compensation to the Sabbath Study Leave Pastors.
5. Realize that the Sabbath Study Leave Pastors are available in only a limited role and that the lay leaders and members of Grace Church will need to assume the primary roles of leadership and servanthood in the absence of the regularly called pastor.

At the end of the sabbatical time, we will gather together to hear of Pastor Pingel's experiences and findings from his study time and share our own experiences as we move forward together.



The Shenandoah Valley Vocal Institute is pleased to be back in session this summer! Programs for children, ages 3rd - 8th grades and high school students through adults are offered! This week-long choral camp runs from June 20th - June 25th, ending the week with a concert at First Baptist Church on Wayne Ave. (The adult choir is conducted by Adam Phillips, Director of Music at First Baptist Church, Waynesboro. The children's choir is conducted by Lisa Albert, a graduate of Westminster Choir College.) - this portion could be left out of the weekly bulletin. Deadline for registration is June 19, 2022. For a complete schedule and a list of fees, check out more information at: www.svvi.org.



The Renewed Debate Over Abortion - You have, no doubt, seen the news stories about a leaked draft from the Supreme Court indicating a reversal of Roe vs. Wade. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, many years ago, put out a Social Statement about Abortion. You can find it at: www.elca.org by typing "abortion" in the "Search ELCA" box at the top of the page. In its opening page, the Statement says: "As ELCA social teaching [the Statement] draws upon this community's faith tradition that understands God's life-giving purposes as pressing "beyond the usual 'pro-life' versus 'pro-choice' language." Take a look at the ELCA document, and keep our Supreme Court, nation and women in your prayers.



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 **twenty-six deliveries** thus far, twelve to Main Street United Methodist, and fourteen to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully received in the midst of great need. **Overall, we have given well over 2610 pounds of food!** If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



A Gathering of Neighbors to **create quilts to benefit Ukrainian Refugees** will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1148 Ladd Road, Saturday June 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Bring a bag lunch and the family to help put together quilts for Lutheran World Services in response to their appeal for them. Supplies will be furnished. The quilts will be blessed during worship at Bethlehem during the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 12. If you have questions, etc., please contact Judy Humphrey at andiamojeep@yahoo.com or Pastor Taylor at krtaylor2010@gmail.com or 540-414-1075.

Strategic Planning Committee Update-We met on Tuesday, May 24th to review the responses to the Congregational survey questions:

1. “What could we do to create & maintain the vibrant congregation?”
2. “What would your picture of Grace look like in 2025?”

The SPC members would like to thank the 60-70 members of Grace who responded to the Vision Statement questions.

Our review of your response to the first question, “What could we be doing?” resulted in five (5) reoccurring themes:

1. Supporting the development of small group ministries
2. Focusing on family and youth services and needs
3. Adding contemporary worship styles and options
4. Increasing outreach services to those in need
5. Attracting and be welcoming to new members

Your responses to the second question align with our existing Strategic Priorities and will be used to develop Priority Planning Teams during the summer months. Our Priorities include:

1. Celebrating worship that is Christ-centered, creative, and accessible in ways that inspire people as they are sent forth into the world.
2. Developing a supportive congregational life for both new people and long-term members.
3. Equipping and encouraging people for living their faith in daily life.
4. Supporting children and their families - both in congregational life and in the neighborhoods around us.
5. Embracing and assist people living with social and economic needs.

The absolute best answer to the question “What we could do?” was from our youngest member, **“Bless God, and pray and pray and pray and say: He’s our King”**.



Budget Barometer

April 2022

For the year, actual receipts are below budget and actual disbursements are at budget resulting in a deficit of \$4,534

Comparison to Prior Year: Financial Barometer	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	Difference
Total Budget Receipts YTD	\$95,083	\$93,821	(\$1,262)
Total Budget Disbursed YTD	\$95,67	\$98,355	\$2,589
	(\$684)	(\$4,534)	(\$3,851)



*I thank you so much
for the delicious food and so
many different dishes you
prepared for Ty's lunch.*

*It was very thoughtful
of you to remember her
in this way.*

*In Christ Love,
Janette Gordon*



FAITHFUL + BOLD + SERVING
Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Since, then, we have such a hope
[through Christ Jesus], we act with
great boldness
(2 Corinthians 3:12 NRSV)



- Home
- About
- Ministries
- Call Process
- Resources
- Events
- Youth Ministry
- News and Publications
- Give
- Contact
- Q

Virginia Synod Gathering and Celebration of Service

July 15 @ 11:00 am - July 16 @ 12:00 pm

We look forward to **gathering in-person as the Virginia Synod on July 15-16 in conjunction with Power in the Spirit** to celebrate ministries of service from around the Virginia Synod, to gather together for worship, and to learn from one another.

Everyone can attend. Unlike an Assembly where the number of participants is limited, anyone in the Virginia Synod can attend the Synodical Gathering. Congregations are encouraged to send at least two

Details

Start:

July 15 @ 11:00 am

End:

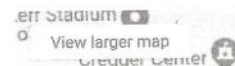
July 16 @ 12:00 pm

Venue

Roanoke College

221 College Lane
Salem, VA United States

+ Google Map



leaders,
but
anyone
who is



**Virginia Synod Gathering &
Celebration of Service**
July 15-16, 2022

interested can register.

There are two options for Registration:

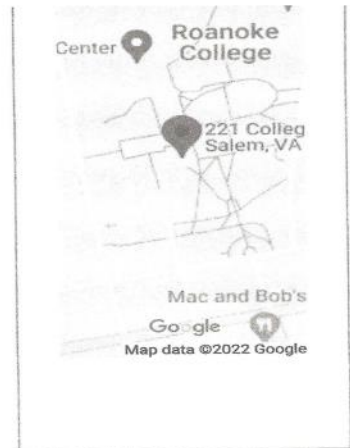
- **On-Campus Housing** which includes the event, one night lodging on the campus of Roanoke College plus Friday lunch, Friday dinner, and Saturday breakfast. **The cost will be \$140.**
- **Commuter** which includes the event including Friday lunch, Friday dinner, and Saturday breakfast. **The cost will be \$100.**

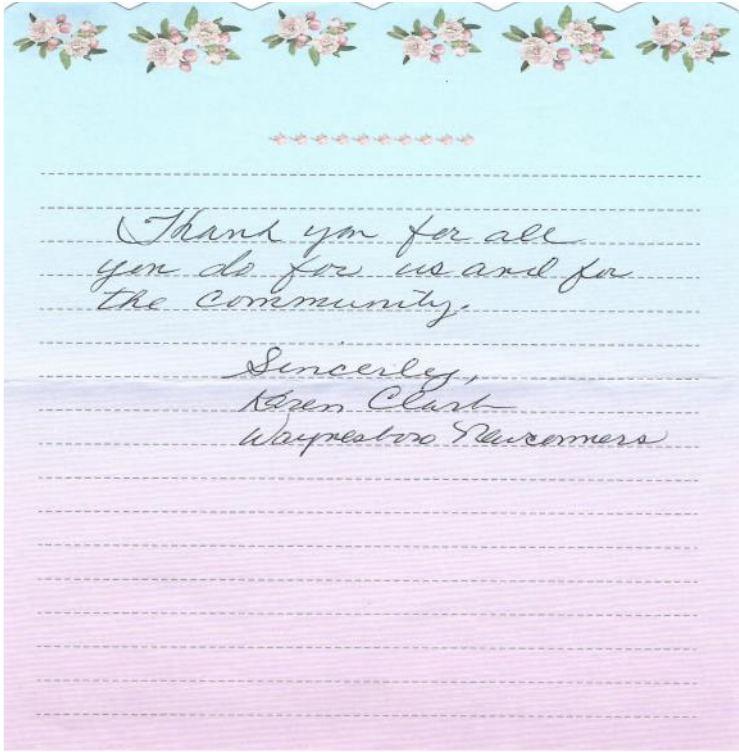
If you attend Power in the Spirit, you are automatically registered for the Synodical Gathering. Since the Synodical Gathering will be happening in conjunction with Power in the Spirit and the schedules will overlap, everyone registered for Power in the Spirit (which begins on July 14) will be registered for the Synodical Gathering.

Even if you can't attend the whole gathering, you are invited to be a part of a Festival Worship

**Service at College Lutheran on Friday, July 15 at
7:00 PM.**

**Download the latest draft of the schedule: 2022
Synodical Gathering Celebration of Service with Power
in the Spirit Updated May 4 2022**





To
the Glory
of God
and in Honor of

Contribution from
your Super Bowl

Date: May 17, 2022

A gift has been presented
to Main Street United
Methodist Church

\$25.00

Food Pantry
by

Grace Evangelical
Lutheran Church

Dear Pastor and
Grace Church,

There are no words
that can describe
how much you mean
to us and the gratitude
we feel.

The visits from
Pastor, Linda and Ron
giving us communion
and keeping us so form-
ed and what is going
on in the lives of others.
Floppie always loved
Friday's with Linda's
dog and hoping to see
them at our new place.

We appreciate the
cards, phone calls
and prayers from
Grace members.

We are back in
Stavros Pratt where
we can be together
and love being with
our friends again.

The people here
make us feel like we
are home and their
love and caring words
help us get through
the tough times.

Blessings to all,
Linda and Floppie Myers



Thank You





Wow! You ladies can
really cook! The feast
for the Elliott funeral,
as well as the beautiful
smiling, caring faces, really
lifted my day! Thank you

Dorothy Ford



JUNE 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p><i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School (Seminar Room)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion</p> <p>Welcome New Members</p> <p><i>Council Installation</i></p> <p><i>Farewell & Godspeed to Kathy Johnson</i></p> <p><i>Sabbatical Send Off</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>Pastor—Sabbatical</p>   <p style="text-align: center;">Memorial Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Prayer Group (Chapel)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. CCE&J Group Zoom Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Gathering Of Neighbors (Bethlehem Lutheran)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Yoga (Fellowship Hall)</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> <p><i>Day of Pentecost</i></p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion Pastor Karen Van Stee</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>7:00 p.m. All God's Children Book Study (Conference Room)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Prayer Group (Chapel)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. CCE&J Group Zoom Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Yoga (Fellowship Hall)</p>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>12</p> <p>The Holy Trinity</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion Pastor Karen Van Stee</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p> FLAG DAY</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Prayer Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. CCE&J Group Zoom Meeting</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Yoga (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Prayer Vigil for Racial Reconcil. North Park</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Second Sunday of Pentecost</p> <p>HAPPY <i>Father's Day</i></p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion Pastor Mark Radecke</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p> <p>3:00 p.m. Book Group for Women via Zoom</p>	<p>20</p> <p> CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED</p> <p> JUNETEENTH</p> <p>7:00 p.m. All God's Children Book Study (Conference Room)</p>	<p>21</p> <p> <i>Church Council</i></p> <p>7:00 p.m. Council (Conference Room and Zoom)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Prayer Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. CCE&J Group Zoom Meeting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Yoga (Fellowship Hall)</p>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p>Third Sunday of Pentecost</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of the Word and Holy Communion Pastor Mark Radecke</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p>	27	28	29	30	1	2
			<p>10:00 a.m. Prayer Group (Chapel)</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. CCE&J Group Zoom Meeting</p>		<p>11:00 a.m. Yoga (Fellowship Hall)</p>



Worship Assistants

<i>June 5</i>	<i>June 12</i>	<i>June 19</i>	<i>June 26</i>
Preaching & Presiding Pastor Karen Van Stee	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Karen Van Stee	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Mark Radecke	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Mark Radecke
Altar Flowers Linda Meyer	Altar Flowers Open	Altar Flowers Gail Johnson	Altar Flowers David & Nancy Schwiesow
Altar Guild Jane Stein Cathy Firkin	Altar Guild	Altar Guild Kathy Meicke	Altar Guild
Assisting Minister Linda Meyer	Assisting Minister Donna Gum	Assisting Minister Ashley Stollings	Assisting Minister Gloria Nelson
Communion Assistants Ron Almarode Karen Walck	Communion Assistants Marsha Howard Susan Myers	Communion Assistants Jerry Kite Mike Trauscht	Communion Assistants Jerry Kite Jim Nelson
Council Person of the Week Bob Barrette	Council Person of the Week Fred Biggers	Council Person of the Week Jack Eckstrom	Council Person of the Week Bob Barrette
Covid Monitor Holly Carper	Covid Monitor Jean Morgan	Covid Monitor Gail Johnson	Covid Monitor Karen Walck
Offering Stewards Pat Brady Robin Crowder	Offering Stewards Jean Morgan David Proctor	Offering Stewards Pat Brady Robin Crowder	Offering Stewards Pat Brady David Proctor
Ushers Pat Brady	Ushers Karen Walck	Ushers Ron Almarode	Ushers Fred Biggers



JUNE Birthdays

06/01	June Stiehl	06/02	Susie Driskill	06/05	E. G. Rankin
06/06	Jan McCombs	06/07	Brian Lundstrom	06/13	Sandy Knicely
06/20	Jessi Blosser	06/21	Gwen Kite	06/21	Libby Caister
06/22	Kara Glover				



JUNE Baptisms

06/04	Sharon Vorel	06/06	Amelia Jones	06/06	Charlotte Jones
06/09	Zoey Mahoney	06/16	Sandra Hoy	06/18	Ron Knicely
06/19	Ryan Blosser	06/20	Marge Cloutier	06/20	Beth Ann Brady
06/21	Trotter Franklin	06/22	Sylvia Almarode	06/26	Bob Moyer
06/26	Easton Carper	06/29	Karley Hull	06/30	Raegen Van Bremen
06/30	Laura Shaw				



Remember
Our Homebound Members

*Nursing Home,
Assisted Living and
Homebound Members*

<p>Genevieve Arneson 220 Adventure Trail Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>	<p>LizAnn Binns The Legacy 1410a North Augusta Street Apartment 3027 Staunton, VA 24401</p>
<p>Maribeth Faivre Summit Square 501 Oak Avenue, Apt. 130 Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>	<p>Sandra Hoy Choice Healthcare, Room 210 1221 Rosser Avenue Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>
<p>Imogene Hull Regency Senior Living 43 Pinnacle Drive, Room 101 Fishersville, VA 22939</p>	<p>Phyllis Kite Summit Square 501 Oak Avenue, Room 9 Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>
<p>Bob Knemoller Summit Square 501 Oak Avenue, Apt. AL-13 Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>	<p>Glenn and Flossie Myers 144 Patton Farm Road, Apt. E107 Stuarts Draft, VA 24477</p>
<p>Pete Rufe Summit Square Healthcare 501 Oak Avenue, Room 7 Waynesboro, VA 22980</p>	<p>Carolyn Shields Brightview 21 Woodlee Road, Apt. 331 Staunton, VA 24401</p>



Members of Grace

Congregational Council

Robin Crowder, President
Nancy Schwiesow, Vice-President

Bob Barrette

Fred Biggers

Jack Eckstrom

Jean Morgan

Susan Myers

Andrew Sell

Stephen Van Stee

Karen Walck

Ron Almarode, Treasurer

Vivian Proctor, Secretary

Donna Marshall, Assistant Treasurer

Charles Goodrich, Financial Secretary

Rev. Paul Pingel, Pastor—Email: pastorpingel@gmail.com

Mike Myers, Organist, Director of Music

Email: mickhdking@aol.com

Nancy Dowdy, Administrative Secretary

Email: Grace.lc@comcast.net

Office Hours: 8:00—11:30 a.m. and 12:30—2:30 p.m.,

Monday-Thursday Closed Friday

facebook.com/gelc.elca twitter.com/gelc_elca

youtube.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro

Internet: www.gracewaynesboro.org

Telephone: 540.949.6171



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

www.gracewaynesboro.org

E: Grace.lc@comcast.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: 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
(Lunch 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.)
Friday: CLOSED