

January 2021

Grace *No + es*

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE

From the Pastor

By Paul H. Pingel



Pastor's Page

Our name is Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. I don't know how the name was selected when the congregation organized

in 1893. Maybe someone thought "we are organized by God's Grace through faith in Jesus Christ," taking the apostle Paul's amazing observation from Romans 3:28 – that was also at the heart of Martin Luther's conversion – to heart.

And they would be right. God's Grace is undeserved love, it is freely given, and it is given to you and me.

Think about the worship space we have not been in for awhile, that you may have wandered through like some members have when they have picked up a poinsettia, or a bag of communion chalices for worship via You Tube or Zoom, or after dropping off a bag of food in our Food Pantry bin. The most prominent thing in that space is the cross. Front and center.

We know God's Grace most richly through the One who carried that cross, was nailed to that cross. We know God's Grace through Jesus.

The cross lines us up (justifies you) with God. You'll notice that the cross has one long line, bottom to top. And the cross lines us up (justifies you) with each other, and with our neighbor. That's the line of the cross that goes from left to right.

Every day, Jesus lines me up with God. I start each day, knowing who I am, knowing I am loved, knowing that Jesus' Spirit will guide me. That Grace is simply given to me. So that, when my life:

- lines up with my spouse,
- or lines up with my family,
- or with a member of Grace,
- or with the homeless couple that comes into the church,
- or with a Grace Council meeting
- or in an encounter with a member of Christ Tabernacle

(Continued on page 2)

- or when I am shopping
- or when I am doing chores
- or when someone is angry with me, or I am tempted to be angry with someone
- or when I have an opportunity to be a blessing to a stranger
- or when I am relaxing with a book or TV, or hobby...

In other words, when my life lines up with whoever I see, or whatever I do, Jesus and his Spirit are there to make possible life that really is life.

Pastor Aaron Fuller, a military chaplain who served in Virginia for many years, wrote recently in the Living Lutheran magazine: “Sometimes I think it is better for me to know what Jesus does for me rather than to reflect too much on what need to accomplish.” I love this statement most of all because it reminds us, to begin this New Year, of something vitally important: God’s Grace in Jesus Christ is present tense. Grace is what is happening now.

The beginnings of a New Year, especially 2021 and what we have all experienced in 2020, may uniquely tempt us to unleash a torrent of activity and accomplishment – not realizing that we have already experienced a torrent of thought and emotions (and a lot of *very different activity!*) in 2020! So – in our life together as God’s people at Grace, or as individuals who make up the people of Grace – before we *resolve* anything in

2021, we remember our name: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church: God’s Grace that lines us up with Jesus, first, then lines us up with our neighbor, and everyone and everything that is a part of daily life. This is what Jesus does first. Then, life unfolds from there.

A blessed New Year to each and every one of you!



Highlights of Congregation Council Meetings December 8 & 15, 2020

A special Church Council meeting was held on **December 8, 2020** to consider the final budget recommendations of the Church Finance Committee for the year 2021. The Church Council passed the recommended budget for 2021 unanimously, to be presented to the congregation for approval on December 20, 2020.

The Church Council met again on **December 15, 2020** to conduct its regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

A mixture of good news and bad news was reported concerning Covid-19 virus. As of December 15, 4,450 new cases of Covid-19 had been reported in the SAW reporting area with 50 new deaths. The good news is that the Augusta Medical Center has been approved to receive shipments of Covid-19 anti-virus vaccines. However, until Covid-19 numbers “come down” resumption of in-person worship services have been postponed indefinitely.

Christmas Eve services will be conducted in the parking lot at 4:00 p.m. Twenty two (22) spaces have been allocated for attendees on a first come, first serve basis. As of December 15, 18 spaces have been reserved. At 7:00 p.m., there will be a virtual indoor service. The entire Christmas offering will be donated this year to the Blue Ridge Food Bank.

Even as improvements to the parking lot are continuing, the new parking lot will be dedicated during the December 20th virtual service. At the conclusion of which, the proposed financial budget for 2021 will be presented to the congregation for approval.

The YMCA day care is up and operational at Grace. The installation of the four A/C roof top units will be delayed until sometime in the Spring.

Anne Putnam's resignation from the Church Council was accepted with regrets. A replacement for Anne for either a 6 month term or a 6 month and one (1) year term to run from June 2020 to June 2021, is needed. The Council also approved the membership transfers of the Rev, Gordon and Anne Putnam from Grace ELC to St. James Lutheran Church in Fishersville, VA.



Stand Up and Be Heard—Each of those in our reading group has committed “to study, prayer and action to become an anti-racist individual in an anti-racist church.” Throughout the year, we will act to bring stories, activities, and thoughts to encourage others to make a similar commitment. We invite you to become a part of this journey of love, justice, and equality in Jesus' name.

2020 has been a difficult year with our isolation from one another - especially from our families and our faith families. However, we have not been alone, Jesus has walked with us in the garden, on the roads we have traveled, at our jobs, and in our homes.

or those of us who have come together on Zoom to discuss the books we have read and to share our thoughts with African-American members of Christ Tabernacle, we have heard the Lord's spirit and words urging us - to stand up and be heard in order to advocate for a better world - one without racism.

We continually ask ourselves how we can do this, what can we as individuals and as a congregation do to improve our little corner of the world. We prayed, read and talked together, explored resources available, spoke to the congregation in temple talks and forums this summer, and shared with all the 1993 ELCA Statement on Race.

Jesus was a revolutionary figure in his day. He came to change the world, to do away with favoritism as he told us to love one another unconditionally and to love our neighbors as ourselves. He taught peace and love and gave us the tools to achieve them and the Spirit to guide us. It is God's Work, Our Hands that must work to achieve the peace and love we desire.

As children, we sang that we should let our light shine, not hide it under a bushel. As adults, that light still burns as we stand up for the truths of our faith. So in this new year we ask the Lord to help and guide our congregation to examine our individual and collective biases and make a difference in our community.

For more information about racial unity please go to our Web Page at gracewaynesboro.weebly.com At the top of the Web Page click on More. Scroll down to and click on Anti-Racism!

Bob Barrette
Caroline Biggers
Rick Bump
Linda Meyer
Gordon Putnam
Joe Ranzini
Nancy Schwiesow

Carolyn Barrette
Kathy Bump
Beth Ann Doerring
Pastor Pingel
Joan Ranzini
David Schwiesow



Budget Barometer November 2020

For the year, actual receipts are below budget and actual

disbursements are below budget resulting in a surplus of \$5,907

For November, receipts exceeded spending resulting in a surplus for the month of \$12,532

R100 - Pledge + Giving of Record is \$8,171 below budget
Total Budgeted Disbursements are \$13,244 below budget

Comparison to Prior Year: Financial Barometer	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Difference
Total Budget Receipts YTD	\$268,735	\$270,480	\$1,745
Total Budget Disbursed YTD	\$267,051	\$264,573	-\$2,478
	\$1,684	\$5,907	\$4,223



Announcements



WARM Cold Weather Shelter

The past few years Grace has hosted the WARM Cold Weather Shelter in the fellowship hall for a week. Due to COVID, the shelter has been housed at the Day's Inn and will continue there for the foreseeable future. The guests are provided a hot meal each evening, but we have been asked to provide breakfast and lunch each day beginning January 25 thru 31st. There are funds from the Virginia Synod grant to help with the cost of the meals, however Grace needs volunteers to prepare breakfast and lunch and to deliver them to the Day's Inn. If you would be willing to take a day or partner with someone to help, please let Jerry or Gwen Kite know (540-910-0508). Both meals can be delivered in the morning. Breakfast can consist of frozen breakfast biscuits or individual boxes of cereal and milk and fruit. Each guest has access to a microwave to heat their meal. Lunch could be sandwiches or a bowl of chili, mac and cheese, or anything that can be reheated in the microwave. At this time there are 40 guests.



New Trees Need Water - We need three or four volunteers to water our new trees once per week. You could take the first week, for example, and water if there's no rain or snow scheduled (no need to water if it rains or snows, like this past week!). Let the Church Office or Pastor Paul know if you are interested.



DISCIPLES' KITCHEN

Disciples Kitchen Collection Update—Thank you for the generous response of socks, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Enough socks were donated that each gift bag for Disciples Kitchen could receive 2 pairs of socks, plus we gave some to the WARM House to be given to the ladies. There were enough toothbrushes to be given to Disciples Kitchen and to the Cold Weather Shelter. There were a number of hats and gloves to be shared with Disciples Kitchen and the WARM House.



Epiphany of our Lord on January 6th - The festival day remembering the arrival of the Wise Men to offer their gifts to the infant Jesus is Epiphany. We will have a service via You Tube and Zoom on that evening, at 7pm. Come and Worship, Come and Worship, Worship Christ the Newborn King!

Announcements Continued



Dear Friends in Christ: Since March of this year, we have experienced "church" in a very different way. In the midst of this, you have supported our ministry together at Grace in many ways; with time, with yourselves, and with your resources. And now, at the end of this year, you have gifted me and my family most generously. I am grateful to God for you! 2021 will be a New Year for us in many ways. I am convinced that our Risen Christ continues to have a Mission for us. May God continue to reveal his purposes in and

through us, with Grace, through Grace!
In Christ,
Pr. Paul

We are Blessed at Grace! Many thanks to so many that have contributed to the Advent and Christmas Celebrations and Observances at Grace:

- Advent Wreath Assemblers
- Christmas Decorators in the Worship Space
- Christmas Eve Outdoor Worship Platform (which will be used for other outdoor events!)
Workers
- Take Down Crews for all of the above
- Musicians and Soloists for Christmas Eve and Advent Wednesday Services
- As well as all of our regular planners for Altar Guild, Flowers, Property, Technology

So may gifts and talents shared! **THANKYOU** for being a blessing in and through Grace!



Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers for 2021—The flower chart is up for 2021. If you would like to sign up for a Sunday next year, please give Nancy at the Church Office a call and she will be glad to sign you up.



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 twelve deliveries thus far, six to Main Street United Methodist, and six to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft, with the donations gratefully

received in the midst of great need. If you can help, please donate to our box set inside the office door for you to drop off.



Friends and Family at Grace,

Thank you so much for the Care package you all sent to me for finals! I just finished mine this morning, and the snacks sure did help throughout all of them! The hot chocolate especially helped keep me warm and focused over the last few snowy days.

I'm wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year full of health and blessings, and hope to see you all soon!

With lots of love,
Katelyn Morrison





COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

MARY CLARE SMITH, MD
DIRECTOR/CEO

JONATHAN ANDERSON, MD
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

WESTERN STATE HOSPITAL
P.O. BOX 2500
103 VALLEY CENTER DRIVE
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA 24402-2500
(540) 332-8000 FAX# 332-8197
TDD 332-8002

December 3, 2020

Grace Lutheran Church
The Rev. Paul H. Pingel & Dr. Linda Meyer
500 S Wayne Ave
Waynesboro, VA 22980

Dear Rev. Pingel, Dr. Meyer and Church Members,

Thank you for making a positive impact on the lives of WSH clients with your recent in-kind donation of Small Catechism and Beginner's Bibles to the hospital's Chaplaincy Services. It is extremely meaningful to receive gifts from the community.

Having extra religious materials on hand for clients to enjoy is extremely helpful, especially during these uncertain times. Not only does your contribution make hospitalization a little more enjoyable for everyone, it also shows the real caring spirit of area residents. Because of your kindness, our clients will be able to cope better with their circumstances along with experiencing a little comfort and peace.

All contributions, regardless of size, type or amount, help the hospital provide excellent quality care for the hundreds of men and women that come through our doors. Thank you again for investing in our clients' recovery and for doing your part to make WSH an outstanding mental health treatment center.

With much gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Tina'.

Tina T. Kincaid
Director, Volunteer Services

*Your support is greatly
appreciated!*



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 and Carol Knemoller 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>	



JANUARY

Birthdays

01/01	Beth Brady	01/01	Carol Wolf	01/04	Easton Carper
01/04	Carrie Jones	01/08	Linda Meyer	01/08	Vivian Proctor
01/09	Andrew Sell	01/10	Gene McCombs	01/12	Genevieve Arneson
01/13	Ron Knicely	01/16	Karla Rankin	01/16	Phyllis Kite
01/18	Donna Gum	01/22	Jane McGehee	01/22	Janet Parmer
01/22	Rudy Yobs	01/22	Emily Almarode	01/22	Amy Myers
01/23	Susan Myers	01/24	Amaya Cooper	01/26	Joe Ranzini
01/26	Lily Pingel	01/27	Dennis Barnes	01/31	Linda Owens



JANUARY


Baptisms

01/09	Lily Skelton	01/12	Steve Jones	01/15	Kathy Meicke
01/19	Pat Brady	01/19	Amy Warren	01/20	David Glover
01/28	Beth Ann Doerring				

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
<p>27</p> <p>First Sunday of Christmas</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of the Word via YouTube</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 p.m. White Fragility Book Study Via Zoom</p>	<p>31</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p> <p>Nancy Dowdy Off—Carolyn Hite in Church Office</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p> 	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Baptism of Our Lord</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of the Word via YouTube</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Round Tables via Zoom</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>7:00 p.m. White Fragility Book Study Via Zoom</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Discussion with Christ Tabernacle Via Zoom</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Second Sunday of Epiphany</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of the Word via YouTube</p> <p>10:50 a.m. Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>7:00 p.m. White Fragility Book Study Via Zoom</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Discussion with Christ Tabernacle Via Zoom</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Student Care</p>	<p>16</p>

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
<p>17</p> <p>Second Sunday of Epiphany</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word via YouTube</i></p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>	<p>18</p> <p>MLK Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Church Council</p>  <p>7:00 p.m. Council Meeting via Zoom</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:00 p.m. White Fragility Book Study Via Zoom</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:30 p.m. <i>Discussion with Christ Tabernacle Via Zoom</i></p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Third Sunday of Epiphany</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word via YouTube</i></p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00 p.m. White Fragility Book Study Via Zoom</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:30 p.m. <i>Discussion with Christ Tabernacle Via Zoom</i></p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Epiphany</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Service of the Word via YouTube</i></p> <p>10:50 a.m. <i>Coffee Fellowship via Zoom</i></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00 p.m. White Fragility Book Study Via Zoom</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30 p.m. <i>Discussion with Christ Tabernacle Via Zoom</i></p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>



January 2021

Sunday January 3	Sunday January 10	Sunday January 17	Thursday January 24	Sunday January 31
Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel	Preaching & Presiding Pastor Paul Pingel
Assisting Minister Ron Almarode	Assisting Minister Kathy Bump	Assisting Minister Mike Trauscht	Assisting Minister Ashley Stollings	Assisting Minister Tripp Franklin
Children's Sermon Bokelman Family	Children's Sermon Jones Family	Children's Sermon Van Bremen Family	Children's Sermon Stollings/Cooper Family	Children's Sermon Bokelman Family
Offering Stewards Pat Brady	Offering Stewards Pat Brady	Offering Stewards Pat Brady	Offering Stewards Pat Brady	Offering Stewards Pat Brady
Altar Flowers Linda Meyer	Altar Flowers OPEN	Altar Flowers Jean Morgan	Altar Flowers Ingrid Sevigny	Altar Flowers OPEN
Council Member of the Week Linda Meyer	Council Member of the Week TBD	Council Member of the Week Bob Barrette	Council Member of the Week Kathy Bump	Council Member of the Week Holly Carper



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

Hannah Pingel, Youth Representative
 David Proctor, 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



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



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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