

# Grace Notes



## September 2023 Newsletter of Grace and Glory Lutheran Church



Sunday Worship at 10:00 AM

Grace & Glory Sanctuary

Facebook Live

683 Thomas Jefferson Parkway

Palmyra, VA 22963

Vice Pastor Viktoria Parvin

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*He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven." Matthew 16: 15-17*

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

These verses were part of the Gospel lesson this past Sunday. If you worshipped with us, you are aware that Pastor Tom Frost challenged us with the question, "Who do you say Jesus is? Who is Jesus Christ for you today?" My first response was very "Lutheran" as I thought simply put: Jesus is my Lord and Savior. But I knew this challenge went well beyond this simple answer. So, I pondered my response and broke it into two thoughts: What does Lord mean to me and what does Savior mean to me?

Lord means to me: Supreme Being, ruler of all, one being with the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Son of God, someone who is worshipped and adored. But when I ponder the word Savior; that is when it becomes really personal. Jesus gives me the assurance that I am loved, accepted, and forgiven - unconditionally. Jesus is the source of my comfort, my peace, my hope, and my strength. What a gift! This is a gift that we all share, a gift revealed to us by God through faith. I find the words of the hymn, *Blessed Assurance*, sum up what it means to be a child of God – a follower of Jesus:

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

As we go forth with this assurance, let us remember our calling as God's servants. Let us joyfully share this assurance with others.

In Christ,  
*Pam Hokanson*  
Congregation President

## **Leadership Team Ministry Meeting**

The Leadership Team met via Zoom on August 18, 2023

Devotions: Led by Paula Tomko reflection on encouragement and building others up. This is important all the time but especially for the congregation at the current time.

Pastors Report: Pastor Viktoria continues to visit members at Our Lady Of Peace. She will visit others upon request. Pastor will be meeting with Paul Crowther and Pam Hokanson on August 18th to discuss the home ministry program.

Presidents Report: Pam reported that with the exception of the first Sunday in October there are supply pastors scheduled through the end of October. She also reflected on Pastor Handleson's sermon that reminded congregations they cannot look inward only but must be friendly, welcoming and look for ways to serve the community.

### ***Old Business:***

Open Leadership Positions - Chris Sterner has agreed to fill the open Leadership Team position until the end of the year. Mary-Louise Ragnlie has agreed to be the Office Administration Team Ministry Leader.

The duties of the Property Team Ministry need to be filled.

Offering procedure - The Worship, Music and Arts Team ministry recommends the offering plate be placed on a small table in front of the Baptismal Font on most Sundays and passing the plate during services such as Christmas and Easter. At this time, they feel the elements should be placed on the altar before the service while we have visiting pastors.

Advertisement - Placement of a ½ page ad in the Lake Monticello address book was approved.

Leadership Fellowship - Pam will host a picnic for the Leadership Team and Committee Leaders at her home on August 19th.

Picture Directory - Cindy continues to work on this.

Introduction - Cindy will be formally welcomed at the August 20th service, a fellowship time will follow the service.

### ***New Business:***

Card Ministry - Paula Tomko suggested we have cards in the Narthex to be filled out and mailed to home bound members and/or to those on our prayer list. She will look into this further.

Pastor Viktoria closed the meeting with prayer.

Submitted by Lynn Wirth, Secretary

**Church Potluck Picnic & Ice Cream Social – Please join us this Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:45 at the Pavilion. If you haven't yet signed up, please contact Lynn Wirth at 540-832-6942 of [lynnrworth@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnrworth@hotmail.com).**

*As you know the Stewardship Team is working with a program hosted by our synod office called Stewardship for All Seasons. As a part of this program, our overall goal for our congregation is to build a culture of generosity. We have so many wonderful stories of generosity right here in our own community and we are so grateful that Carol Parsons was willing to share her story. Also, if you would like to share your generosity story please contact Pat McCloud at [jpmccloud1@gmail.com](mailto:jpmccloud1@gmail.com).*

### ***Generosity Story of Carol Parsons***

As some of you know, I was born into a Jewish family – actually, according to my DNA, I’m 98.2% Ashkenazi Jewish ... the other 1.8% is Neanderthal (but nobody’s perfect). We were what’s known as ‘cultural’ Jews, in that traditions were mentioned but not practiced. I was introduced to Christianity at the age of 8 when I went to a Catholic mass with a friend and I saw some Dominican nuns, and I was hooked: I came home and announced I wanted to be a nun – to which my father replied “When you’re 18 and you still want to be a nun, you have my blessing” .... but in the interim, I discovered boys.

Growing up in my family in the 50’s, there was no giving anywhere; nor was there any community service, so contributing anything was not in my line of sight. I didn’t begin to contribute to anything until I was in my early 20’s, when my first husband and I were baptized and joined the Episcopal church, 3 weeks before our daughter was born. We didn’t have much, but we gave something every week, and week by week it got easier.

When I married Jim, my second husband, things became a little problematic because he had had many run-ins with pastors with their hands out, even while his first wife was dying. But because it was important to me, I just gave as I saw fit despite his reaction.

After attending and contributing to my previous church, one day I received a letter from an insurance company. In it, it said that when I was working for MCI, too much money was withheld for my policy, and they were returning the overage. We were driving to DC at the time – and as I looked at the enclosed check, I burst out laughing: just like a “Chance” card in Monopoly, it was more money than I had ever given to any church. Reading it out loud to him, I was just giggling – and he never again said I was giving too much to anyone or anything.

For me, that insurance check made me think of water sitting in your cupped palm: the tighter you squeeze it, the more you lose, keeping your palm open, the water goes nowhere. Money is like that too – give it away and it comes back to you in ways it’s hard to imagine.

### ***Now here are some of my answers to the generosity questions we were asked:***

What were you looking for when you came to our church/community?

I wanted a church where the Eucharist was a central part of worship and a church where all were welcome, even if that sometimes made me feel uncomfortable.

What is your first memory of feeling like our church/community was your home?

When I was asked how Grace & Glory could become like Trinity Ecumenical, down at Smith Mtn Lake

What do you appreciate most about the ministry of our church/community?

The music, of course

Why do I choose to support our church/community with your financial gifts?

Because without it, like any other enterprise, we die. It’s nice to think at money isn’t important, but as someone who’s served on a couple church councils, no money = no church - - you can’t pay the electric bill when there’s no money in the bank

What is your greatest hope for our church/community and the next generation that calls it their home?

That we will grow

## Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors (OWLS)

The Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) Out to Lunch Bunch will gather for lunch and fellowship at The Pub on Tuesday, September 5th, at 12:00 noon. The Pub is at the Lake Monticello Golf Course, at 51 Bunker Blvd. If you are not a lake resident, enter through the main gate, and ask directions to the Pub. RSVP to Linda Beaudoin at 434-589-2654, or at lmbaudoin@aol.com.



### September Birthdays

Rachael Huddle	1	Ned Long	14
Carol Sanders	3	JoAnn Fawley	23
Tamara Brown	9	Emma Pittman	26
Sammy Brown	14		

### GRACE & GLORY FINANCIAL REPORT

#### JULY 2023

##### **INCOME:**

General	\$16,239
Building	\$1,235
Memorial	\$90
Designated	\$235
<u>Total Donations</u>	\$17,799
Other	\$118
<u>Total</u>	\$17,917

##### **EXPENSES:**

General	\$7,533
Building	\$2,659
Memorial	\$0
Designated	\$0
<u>Total</u>	\$10,192

**GENERAL CHANGE**    \$8,824

**BUILDING CHANGE**    -\$1,424

#### YTD JULY 2023

##### **INCOME:**

General	\$106,037
Building	\$22,735
Memorial	\$1,090
Designated	\$2,370
<u>Total Donations*</u>	\$132,232
Other	\$1,833
<u>Total</u>	\$134,065

##### **EXPENSES:**

General	\$97,332
Building	\$18,613
Memorial	\$0
Designated	\$497
<u>Total</u>	\$116,442

**GENERAL CHANGE**    \$10,538

**BUILDING CHANGE**    \$4,122

\* \$17,500 of donations were received in 2022 for the 2023 year.

Without this 2023 annual donation being booked in January, the General and Building Funds would have decreased.

#### **Grace Notes Newsletter Input**

If you have any information that should be placed in the newsletter, please submit the material to LeRoy Moyer at Lee\_Helen@embarqmail.com. **The next newsletter deadline is September 24.**

## Women at Grace & Glory Bible Study

The Bible Study group of Women at Grace & Glory (**WAGG**) will be meeting again starting this September! We shall be using the Bible Studies from *Gather*, the Christian Women's Magazine published by the ELCA. The three-session summer one is about "Salvation Now" and is free to download. If you are not able to download it, please let Helen Ida know that you are coming, and she will have a copy ready for you. New subscribers can get the magazine for just \$9.95, six issues a year. Helen Ida can be called at 293-5543 or e-mailed at [ducky5oaks@gmail.com](mailto:ducky5oaks@gmail.com). We shall meet this month on the third Monday of September, the 18th, from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Please do join us!

Submitted by Helen Ida Moyer

**Celebration of Life** - A celebration of life for Joe Shaver will be held on Wednesday, September 6th at 1:00 PM at Tabor Presbyterian Church located at 5804 Tabor Street in Crozet.

**Men's Breakfast** - Saturday, September 9th at 9:00 a.m. at the Crescent Inn  
Please RSVP to Denny Avers at [denny@avers.net](mailto:denny@avers.net) or 434-989-9273.

**Women's Breakfast** - Saturday, September 16th at 9:00 a.m. at Croby's.  
Please RSVP to Louise Jargowsky at [loujsky@gmail.com](mailto:loujsky@gmail.com) or 434-589-3826.

## Dining Together Groups

We shall be setting up new Dining Together Groups for this fall during **September, October and November**. Hope that you enjoyed getting together a couple of times with your group, whether for lunch or for supper, during May, June, July or August. The host prepares the main dish and guests bring appetizer, salad and dessert. The relaxed, unhurried setting of being at home or at a restaurant is ideal for getting to know each other better so that, as Bob Candea put it, "we are more like a family." Please do not miss out on all the fun -- let Helen Ida know if you would like to participate again or be newly added into one of the groups. She can be reached by phone at 293-5543 or by e-mail at [ducky5oaks@gmail.com](mailto:ducky5oaks@gmail.com)

Submitted by Helen Ida Moyer

## Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church (CRLC)

The 2022 Churchwide Assembly voted to form the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church (CRLC), which will recommend how to restructure the ELCA's governing process. The new group of 35 rostered ministers and laypeople from across the church will conduct an investigation, examining "statements of purpose" and "principles of organization" for all three expressions and conducting nationwide research and listening forums. Ten synods sent memorials to the 2022 Churchwide Assembly requesting the commission. "The governing documents, constitutions, bylaws, and continuing resolutions of the ELCA do not allow congregations, synods and the churchwide organization to reorganize quickly to meet the changing realities for effective mission in today's world," wrote the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod in language that was echoed by the other nine.

When the next churchwide assembly convenes, in summer 2025, the CRLC will present its findings and recommend whether the church should then mount a special reconstituting convention without delay.

	<b>September 3</b>	<b>September 10</b>	<b>September 17</b>	<b>September 24</b>
<b>Minister</b>	Tom Frost	Tom Frost	Pat Handlson	Pat Handlson
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Paula Tomko	Kevin Weimer	R. Rognlie	Carol Parsons
<b>Usher</b>	Carol Parsons	Louise Jargowsky	Paul Crowther	Linda Bolling
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Terry Weese	Mary Louise Rognlie	Carol Parsons	Julie Dwyer
<b>Tellers</b>	Paula Tomko Mary Louise Rognlie	Paula Tomko Kevin Weimer	Paul Crowther Vikki McCloud	Jan Crowther Terry Weese

### Sunday Helpers

We all give thanks to our faithful Sunday helpers who provide our music, set up the altar and other worship aids, provide our sound system and count our offerings and to those who organize and secure our readers and worship assistants, greeters and ushers, hospitality providers, sound system providers and tellers. Please volunteer to help with the service.

Ushers/Greeters

Carol Parsons – (434) 589-6068

Lectors and Assisting Ministers

Paula Tomko – (434) 326-5533

Altar Guild

TBD

Tellers

Paula Tomko – (434) 960-2983

If you have signed up for a duty and find that you cannot make it for some reason, please arrange to find a replacement.

### Bulletin, Office and Calendar Requests

E-mail Cindy Anderson in the church office at [admin@graceandglory.org](mailto:admin@graceandglory.org), or call her at (434) 589-2217 to:

1. Have an announcement included in the Sunday bulletin
2. Schedule the office meeting spaces
3. Have an activity or meeting included on the church calendar. The calendar is posted on our website ([www.graceandglory.church](http://www.graceandglory.church)).

### Prayer List Requests

You may submit prayer requests to Cindy Anderson at [admin@graceandglory.org](mailto:admin@graceandglory.org). They will be included on the list for 4 weeks. You may resubmit a request to keep them on for an additional 4 weeks.

### Grace and Glory Website

The present website [www.graceandglory.church](http://www.graceandglory.church) includes a great deal of information that is updated regularly.

# September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 9am Cindy in Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	2
3 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11:30am Choir Rehearsal 11:45 – Church Picnic & Ice Cream Social	4 9am Cindy in Office	5 12pm OWLS Out to Lunch Bunch – The Pub 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal	6 Church Cleaning Today 9am Cindy in Office	7	8 9am Cindy in Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	9 9am Men's monthly breakfast – Crescent Inn 6:00 PM Wedding Ceremony at the Pavilion
10 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	11 9am Cindy in Office 11am LWR Quilters	12 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal	13 9am Cindy in Office	14	15 9am Cindy in Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	16 9am Women's Breakfast – Croby's
17 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11am Coffee and Social Hour after service 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	18 9am Cindy in Office 11am WAGG	19 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal	20 Church Cleaning Today 9am Cindy in Office 7pm Leadership Team	21	22 9am Cindy in Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	23
24 Grace Notes Submissions Due Today 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	25 9am Cindy in Office 11am LWR Quilters	26 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal	27 9am Cindy in Office	28	29 9am Cindy in Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	30

**Indoor services: Masks and social distancing are optional.** Remember: The most up-to-date information and details about events listed is available on our website calendar at [www.graceandglory.church](http://www.graceandglory.church) . If you have a need for the office or additional information that should be included on the calendar, please send the information to the church office at [admin@graceandglory.org](mailto:admin@graceandglory.org), or call and leave a message at 434-589-2217.



# Grace & Glory

LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Sunday Worship at 10 AM**  
**Grace & Glory Sanctuary**  
**on Facebook Live**

683 Thomas Jefferson Parkway  
Palmyra, VA 22963



Newsletter Deadline is **September 24, 2023**  
to LeRoy Moyer at  
[Lee\\_Helen@embarqmail.com](mailto:Lee_Helen@embarqmail.com)



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