



Grace Notes

April 2022 Newsletter of Grace and Glory Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship at 10:00 AM
Grace & Glory Sanctuary*,
on Facebook Live & Drive-In Service
683 Thomas Jefferson Parkway
Palmyra, VA 22963

Pastor Meredith Williams

Home Phone: 1-434-510-7435

Cell Phone: 1-434-334-8536

Email: pastor@graceandglory.org

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G&G E-mail: admin@graceandglory.org

Website: www.graceandglory.church

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!

I am looking forward to Easter Day with Longing and excitement this year. This is going to be my first Easter Day here at Grace and Glory both in the sanctuary and with you all! The last 2 Easters we were either in the Pavilion or online only/Parking lot only. This year it feels like there is new life to be celebrated!

I cannot deny the signs of new life are everywhere. Tulips are coming up in my yard, in spite of my black thumb. Trees are sending out buds and flowering, the grass is turning green, and even my dogs are showing signs of life and wanting to stay outside in the sunshine. Things are looking up. It is not just these yearly signs of the changing of the seasons that proclaim new life is coming. It is the church that is gathering to proclaim new life.

The choir is practicing, the handbells are ringing, people are thinking about things they would like to do together in the church. The congregation is thinking about building up new ministries in fellowship, How about more potlucks, and meals together? What about getting a cup of coffee and having discussion after the service? What if we got more involved with MACCA and the food bank? Maybe we could get a group to sign up to volunteer at Habitat for Humanity?

Easter Day is about celebration! What are we all celebrating this year? Too often we find ourselves mired down in the negative, the tragedy, the unmet needs, what we don't have or no longer have. But Easter asks us to look instead at the Joy we have been given. What makes you say Alleluia? What are you excited about? Is it the music you hear in worship? Is it the meal we share at the altar, or the one with family after worship? Is it the tradition of dressing up in something new, or the simple joy of gathering with all of the ages present in the family to sit together and listen to the gospel?

As we move into the season of Easter, let us hold onto that joy and celebration. As we work together to grow in faith and ministry let us keep the excitement going. As we seek to find our purpose and vision for God's ministry in this place, let us focus on the Gifts God has already given to us.

In Christ,

Pastor Meredith Williams

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you. Psalm 33:22

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I love the springtime because to me it is full of hope. As we see the flowers poking their heads out of the ground and springing back to life with new color, as the trees show forth their blossoms and new leaves, as the days lengthen and temperatures rise, it points to rebirth and new life.

As I look around the congregation, I also see signs of hope and new life. Hopefully we are coming out of this pandemic and can begin to gather again and resume our ministry together. It has been a struggle but there are signs of hope. Worship attendance is picking up, our choir and bell choir are resuming, and our fellowship and ministry groups are beginning to meet again. The Leadership Team has decided to participate in Stewardship for all Seasons, (a 2 year grant program,) along with working with the bishop's assistant Pastor John Wertz to help us develop a clear vision of who we are as a congregation and where we want our ministry focus to be. Hopefully this will help instill new life and vitality into our congregation and our ministry together.

The season of Lent is coming to a close and soon we will be celebrating Easter and Christ's resurrection. It is the Resurrection that gives us hope and the promise of everlasting life. May the Holy Spirit fill each of us with joy and hope as we go forward to share Christ's love with one another and with our community and the world.

In Christ,

Pam Hokanson
Congregation President



Lilies for Easter

Grace and Glory is accepting Easter Lily orders to help decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday (April 17th). Each lily costs \$15.00. Please make checks payable to "Grace and Glory" and note "Easter Lily" in the memo line. Please provide the information listed below with an optional dedication, which will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletins. Please collect your plant(s) immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Easter Service.

Orders need to be in by Sunday, April 10th. You can turn in your order form with your Sunday offering. If you miss the deadline, please call Liz at the church office no later than Tuesday, April 12th to place your order.

If you have any questions, please speak with Linda Candea at (434) 960-7336.

- Name:
- Number of lilies ordered:
- Total cost: \$
- Dedication (optional) for bulletin:
(example: given in memory of...or in honor of...)

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 April 24.

Leadership Team Meeting Summary

The Leadership Team (LT) met on March 17, 2022. After devotions and prayer, the following items were discussed:

Covid 19 Update: After some discussion, the members present agreed that it was time to consider relaxing the Covid restrictions. Everyone was receptive to the choir resuming with masks. Pastor asked that she be able to ask the worship staff to voice any concerns and then to get back to the LT by email for a final ok.

Check-in Phone Calls: In the interest of improved communication among our members, Pam and Pastor agreed to work together to institute a phone tree which would better serve those without dependable computer access.

Entry Floor Mats: Pam reported that Bob Hill has ordered the mats and is waiting for them to be delivered.

2021 Annual Staff Reviews Update: Pam reported that she is working with Pat McCloud to complete the process of reviewing the church staff.

Blood Drive: Paula is in the process of contacting people to learn if our church can assist their efforts.

Stewardship for all Seasons: The LT chose to participate in the 2-year grant program while simultaneously working with Pastor Wertz to develop a clear vision of who we are and where we want to be as a congregation. It was announced that someone generously offered to pay the first year fee of \$500.00 for the church. Pam and Pastor will work together to develop a team of volunteers to work with the consultants. Both Pam and Paula expressed some interest.

HVAC Issue: The LT approved having Pam instruct Bob Hill to do what was necessary to repair the HVAC as long as it remains within budget.

Prayer List: The LT discussed the need to update the prayer list. Pastor will talk to Carol about beginning a new policy for the prayer list where names will remain there for a month and be removed automatically, unless a further request is made. In this manner, Pastor will be updated on peoples' related needs.

Attendance Books: A question was raised about our use of the red sign-in books. Pastor and Liz are working together to develop an easier way to keep track of our attendance. One thought was to use a guest book with one page listing our members who could then just check-off their names upon entering. Pastor will announce any changes decided on.

Early Service: The LT discussed the need for the worship and music committee to look into how the changes brought about by Covid (namely going to one service) has affected our members who enjoyed attending an earlier and more informal setting. It was suggested that the worship planners might incorporate some of those features from time to time into our present service, especially if there is some interest in doing so.

County Fair: The LT decided to reserve a booth at the Fluvanna County Fair. After some discussion, the LT agreed it would be good exposure, but wanted to hold off any further investment of money until we met with the synod experts as part of the grant.

Colleen Sterner, Secretary

**** We will be starting over with the prayer list beginning on Easter. ****

If you would like to have your name on the congregation's prayer list, please submit it to Liz in the office. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks. If you desire to continue to have your name on the prayer list, please submit your request to Liz again.

Finance Team Monthly Summary

In February, we received total donations of \$18,269 and other income of \$370. The donations were \$15,191 General Fund, \$2,615 Building Fund, \$200 Memorial Fund and \$263 Designated funds. Since our general expenses and mortgage expenses were \$14,892 and \$2,659, respectively, the General Fund increased \$668 and the Building Fund decreased \$47. Since January 1, 2022, the General Fund and Building Fund increased \$5,671 and \$8,815, respectively. However, \$21,100 of the January donations were received in 2021 for the 2022 year. Without this 2022 annual donation being booked in January, the General and Building Funds would have decreased.

Chris Sterner

American Red Cross Blood Drive

The Leadership Team of Grace & Glory would like to consider being a local blood-drive location for Fluvanna County. In order to get on their schedule, we need to be able to demonstrate we have about 30 people who would commit to participate. They are currently scheduling for August 2022. We know that obviously until a specific date and time are identified it would be difficult to commit to a specific drive, but if you would be willing to participate if you are available or know friends or relatives who may also be interested in helping out with blood donations, please call or text Paula Tomko at [434-960-2983](tel:434-960-2983).

Paula A. Tomko

April Birthdays

Wyatt Wills 04/02	Linda Beaudoin 04/11
Mason Brennan 04/05	Linda Candea 04/11
Rowen Wills..... 04/09	Robert Wilson Jr. 04/13
Annemarie Maki 04/10	Paul Hokanson 04/27

Save the Date

Power in the Spirit is scheduled to be held at Roanoke College on July 14-16, 2022. In addition to the usual wonderful program, a Synodical Gathering will take place at the same time. The Gathering will celebrate ministries of service from around the Virginia Synod, to gather together for worship, and to learn from one another.

An Interfaith Call to Peace for Ukraine

Though we have been anxious about the recent growing tensions between Ukraine and Russia and between Russia and the NATO countries in recent weeks, we remain deeply concerned, as we have been since 2014, for the impact of this ongoing conflict on innocent civilians throughout Ukraine. All parties to the conflict must take every measure possible to protect civilians. All parties and the international community must renew efforts to de-escalate this threat to international peace and security.

All our religious traditions call us to pray and work for peace. We join our voices and hands together. We must open our eyes to those who are suffering, and we cannot remain indifferent to the injustice this conflict has brought on the people of Ukraine and may bring on people of neighboring countries.

We call on all those involved—whether governments, movements or individuals—to repent of aggression and violence, and turn instead to the way of peace through dialogue. We also call upon the faithful people of our congregations and communities to pray for wisdom, peace and justice to prevail in Ukraine.

Join us as we pray:

Oh Divine, most mighty, most merciful, our sacred stories tell us that you help and save your people. You are the fortress: may there be no more war. You are the harvest: may there be no more hunger. You are the light: may no one die alone or in despair. Oh Divine, most majestic, most motherly, grant us your life. Amen.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
residing Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Relief for Ukraine

Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine on Feb. 24, it is estimated that 3.5 million people have fled the country and are seeking refuge in neighboring countries including Hungary, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Slovakia. Internally it is estimated that another 2 million are displaced. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees. Many of these Ukrainians fleeing their homes need shelter and such basic necessities as food, water and toiletries. Care for people also includes pastoral and psychological support to address the trauma they've endured.

Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. **Your gifts will support people impacted by this crisis. Gifts designated to "Eastern Europe Crisis" will be used in full (100%) for direct response to assist those affected.** More than \$2.5 million has already been given. Gifts can be made on line at the ELCA Web site or by calling 800-638-3522.

	April 3	April 10 Palm Sunday	April 17 Easter	April 24	May 1
Minister	Meredith Williams	Meredith Williams	Meredith Williams	Sandy Wisco	Meredith Williams
Assisting Minister	Kevin Davidson				
Usher	Carol Parsons	Louise Jargowsky	Carol Parsons Paul Crowther	Jan Crowther	Carol Parsons
Altar Guild	Janet Rockafellow	Janet Rockafellow	Janet Rockafellow	Janet Rockafellow	Janet Rockafellow
Teller	Vikki McCloud Paula Tomko				

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

Janet Rockafellow – (434) 589-9608

Tellers

Paula Tomko – (434) 960-2983

Audio Visual System

Dennis Wolf – (434) 249-6510 (Administrator)

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 Liz Layne at admin@graceandglory.org, or call her at 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).

Prayer List Requests

E-mail Carol Parsons at carolarson1@hotmail.com or call her at 434-589-6068 to add or delete a Prayer List concern.

Grace and Glory Website

The present website www.graceandglory.church includes a great deal of information that is updated regularly.

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10am –Sanctuary, FB Live and Drive-in Service 11:15am – Choir Practice	28 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne online 10am-12pm – LWR Quilters 7pm – Evening Bible Study Zoom	29 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne -office 6:30pm – AA 7:30pm – Handbell Rehearsals	30 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne online 7pm – Lenten Study Zoom	31 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne in office 10am – Hybrid Bible Study	1 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne online 6:30pm – AA	2 9am – Women’s Breakfast 6:30pm – AA
3 10am –Sanctuary, FB Live and Drive-in Service 11:15am – Choir Practice	4 Liz Layne on Vacation 7pm – Evening Bible Study Zoom	5 Liz Layne on Vacation 11am – OWLS Meeting 6:30pm – AA 7:30pm – Handbell Rehearsals	6 Church Cleaning Liz Layne on Vacation 7pm – Lenten Study Zoom	7 Liz Layne on Vacation 10am – Hybrid Bible Study	8 Liz Layne on Vacation 6:30pm – AA	9 9am – Men’s Breakfast 6:30pm – AA
10 10am –Sanctuary, FB Live and Drive-in Service 11:15am – Choir Practice	11 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne online 10am-12pm – LWR Quilters 11am – Finance Team Meeting 7pm – Evening Bible Study Zoom	12 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne -office 6:30pm – AA 7:30pm – Handbell Rehearsals	13 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne online	14 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne in office 10am – Hybrid Bible Study 7pm – Maundy Thursday Service at Grace & Glory	15 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne online 7:00pm - Good Friday Service at Grace & Glory	16 6:30pm – AA
17 Easter Sunday 6:30am – Community Sunrise Service at Pleasant Grove Dog Park 10am –Sanctuary, FB Live and Drive-in Service 11:15am – Choir Practice	18 Pastor Meredith on Vacation 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne online	19 Pastor Meredith on Vacation 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne -office 6:30pm – AA 7:30pm – Handbell Rehearsals	20 Pastor Meredith on Vacation Church Cleaning 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne online 7pm – LT Meeting	21 Pastor Meredith on Vacation 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne in office	22 Pastor Meredith on Vacation 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne online 6:30pm – AA	23 Pastor Meredith on Vacation 6:30pm – AA
24 Sandy Wisco Preaching 10am –Sanctuary, FB Live and Drive-in Service 11:15am – Choir Practice Grace Notes Newsletter due	25 Pastor Meredith on Vacation 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne online 10am-12pm – LWR Quilters	26 9 – 12pm –Liz Layne -office 6:30pm – AA 7:30pm – Handbell Rehearsals	27 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne online	28 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne in office 10am – Hybrid Bible Study	29 9am – 12pm –Liz Layne online 6:30pm – AA	30 6:30pm – AA

***Indoor services: Masks and social distancing are required.** Remember: The most up-to-date information and details about events listed is available on our website calendar at 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 Liz Layne at admin@graceandglory.org, or call her at 434-589-2217.



Grace & Glory

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship at 10 AM
Grace & Glory Sanctuary*
on Facebook Live and Drive-In Service

683 Thomas Jefferson Parkway
Palmyra, VA 22963



Newsletter Deadline is **April 24, 2022**
to LeRoy Moyer at
Lee_Helen@embarqmail.com



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