

Grace Notes



February 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

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 Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Last year, we talked about several marks of the church that are important to us at Grace and Glory. They are Grace, Faith, Generosity, Welcome, and Spiritual Maturity. As we are in the season of Epiphany, and as I have been pondering Spiritual Maturity, it strikes me that part of both is coming to new insight about God and living as God's people. During the time after the Epiphany all our lessons read in worship have something to do with revealing the nature of God through Christ to the world. Also, when we grow deeper in relationship with God, we gain some insight into who God is and therefore whose we are.

This month, February, I ask that we all think about the insights, revelations, and epiphanies we have had about God over the course of our lives. What things have you learned? What lessons have stood the test of time? What did you learn that shocked you? What did you have to learn the hard way?

The kiosk in the narthex will have a place for you to share these insights with your family of faith. You don't have to put your name on it unless you want to. Let us gather our collective wisdom as the family of Grace and Glory and share with one another what God has taught us. Maybe we can learn from one another. Maybe we will find that someone else has the same insight as us. Maybe we will find that we have some very wise, spiritually mature family members here. Maybe we will find that God uses a sense of humor to teach us.

There is so much possibility out there. We all hold in our hearts those lessons that shape our identities. Those things that tell us, who am I and whose am I. Let's share these things with one another this month. Be sure to add your insight to our list.

In Christ,

Pastor Meredith

The Gift of the Holy Spirit

So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostle's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
Acts 2:41-42

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I look forward to this coming year with hope and excitement. We are finally coming out of the pandemic and our generosity as a congregation has once again come through. It is time for us to focus on growing as a congregation – both in numbers and spiritually. We have some money in the new spending plan designated for new ministries to help us begin to grow.

I am always amazed by the Pentecost story and the work of the Holy Spirit. While I do not even dream of growing by 3000, it is my hope that we as a congregation may share our message and add to our numbers in the coming year. While our charter members have dwindled to just a few, I hope to look at what they did to help Grace and Glory get started and grow. I hope to get new and enthusiastic ideas from you to begin new ministries and even reinstate some of those ministries, which we found to be successful. I am asking each and every one of you to help us grow. We need your time and talents, and faith stories. It is in sharing our faith stories with others and our acts of kindness and compassion that will speak volumes to our neighbors and our community. I am hopeful that we can step out of our comfort zone a little, and act with boldness trusting that the Holy Spirit will guide and strengthen us and our efforts. In the coming months, please pray for our congregation and pray to be bold. Consider your talents and gifts and how you can use them to help Grace and Glory grow.

In Christ,

Pam Hokanson
Congregation President

GRACE & GLORY FINANCIAL REPORT

DECEMBER 2022

INCOME:

General	\$18,261
Building	\$2,140
Memorial	\$0
Designated	\$422
<u>Total Donations</u>	\$20,823
Other	\$91
<u>Total</u>	\$20,914

EXPENSES:

General	\$16,493
Building	\$2,659
Memorial	\$0
Designated	\$489
<u>Total</u>	\$19,641

GENERAL CHANGE	\$1,859
BUILDING CHANGE	-\$519

YTD DECEMBER 2022

INCOME:

General	\$174,850
Building	\$42,440
Memorial	\$860
Designated	\$9,112
<u>Total Donations</u>	\$227,262
Other	\$942
<u>Total</u>	\$228,204

EXPENSES:

General	\$182,010
Building	\$31,908
Memorial	\$334
Designated	\$6,376
<u>Total</u>	\$220,628

GENERAL CHANGE	-\$6,218
BUILDING CHANGE	\$10,532

Leadership Team Meeting Summary

The Leadership Team (LT) met on January 18, 2023. After devotions and prayer, the following items were discussed:

PASTOR'S REPORT/ PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: Pastor submitted a written report listing her monthly pastoral visitations with both members and nonmembers. She also discussed the various plans underway for Lent and a possible 2024 trip to the Holy Land. She commented that it was good to see the Church and community bouncing back from the long Covid times. Pam commented on the planning for 2023 that is covered below.

TREASURY AND FINANCE TEAM REPORTS: The Finance Team recommended that the audit for 2021 and 2022 be started as soon as possible. Paula volunteered to head the audit committee and Chris agreed to serve as a member. Paula will recruit additional members, with the goal of completing the audits within a few months.

Paula moved to approve the Treasury Reports. Lynn seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

Spending Plan: Chris provided another draft of the 2023 Spending Plan that reflected the changes agreed to at the last meeting. Pam reviewed the changes with the LT. She also mentioned that, after talking with John Wertz about Synod expectations, the Synod Tithes could be reduced to \$2300 since the Church members' pledges represented approximately \$23,000 in new donations. After considerable discussion, it was then decided to increase salaries in 2023 for the Music Director, the Handbell Director, and the Vocalist. By subsequent email voting on January 19, 2023, the LT unanimously approved raises of approximately 5% for the Music Director, Handbell Director, and Vocalist. Pastor will also be provided an additional Sunday off (5 total).

It was also decided to include \$4,500 under New Ministries in the plan to provide seed funds for expanding our current ministries as had been mentioned in the stewardship drive.

Chris agreed to revise the spending plan to reflect these decisions and provide it to Pam for review.

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Meeting and Reports: Pam discussed plans for the upcoming annual meeting on January 29th and reminded everyone that their annual reports should be provided to Christine as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS:

LT Retreat: Lynn suggested that there be an LT retreat with the new members in February.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Join us for a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at 6 PM on February 21 at the IHOP at 137 Wood Ridge Terrace in Zion Crossroads. There is a signup sheet posted near the flower chart in the narthex for you to RSVP or contact Christine Miles in the church office at 434-589-2217 or admin@graceandglory.org or Lynn Wirth at 540-832-6942.

February Birthdays

Joyce Hanson..... 02/02	Sabrina Ford02/14
Denny Avers 02/03	Colleen Sterner02/18
Lois Holeywell..... 02/08	

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 February 24.**

	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26	March 5
Assisting Minister	Paula Tomko	Richard Rognlie	Carol Parsons	Keith Weimer	Kevin Davidson
Usher	Linda Bolling	Louise Jargowsky	Carol Parsons	Paul & Jan Crowther	Linda Bolling
Altar Guild	Janet Rockafellow	Carol Parsons	Terry Weese	Terry Weese	Carol Parsons
Tellers	Paula Tomko Keith Weimer	Paula Tomko Keith Weimer	Paul Crowther Vikki McCloud	Jan Crowther Terry Weese	Paula Tomko Mary Louise Rognlie

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

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 Christine Miles in the church office at 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).

Prayer List Requests

You may submit prayer requests to Christine Miles at 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 includes a great deal of information that is updated regularly.

February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office	2 9am Pastor Meredith in Office 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Hybrid Bible Study	3 9am Christine Miles Online 6:30pm AA Meeting	4 9am Women's Breakfast – Moose's by the Creek
5 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	6 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 7pm Evening Bible Study (Zoom)	7 9am Christine Miles Online 12pm OWLS Monthly meeting at The Pub (Lake Monticello) 6:30pm AA Meeting	8 Church Cleaning Today 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office	9 9am Pastor Meredith in Office 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Hybrid Bible Study	10 9am Christine Miles Online 6:30pm AA Meeting	11 9am Men's monthly breakfast – Local Eats
12 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	13 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 11am LWR Quilters 7pm Evening Bible Study Zoom	14 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 11am Finance Committee Meeting 6:30pm AA Meeting	15 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 7pm Leadership Team	16 9am Pastor Meredith in Office 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Hybrid Bible Study	17 9am Christine Miles Online 6:30pm AA Meeting	18
19 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11am Coffee and Social Hour after service 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	20 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 7pm Evening Bible Study Zoom	21 9am Christine Miles Online 6pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at IHOP (Zion Xroads) 6:30pm AA Meeting	22 Christine Miles-in the Church Office 12 PM Ash Wednesday Service at Salem UMC 7pm Ash Wednesday Service at Salem UMC Church Cleaning Today	23 9am Pastor Meredith in Office 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Hybrid Bible Study	24 Grace Notes Submissions Due Today 9am Christine Miles Online 6:30pm AA Meeting	25
26 First Sunday in Lent 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	27 9am Christine Miles Online 11am LWR Quilters 7pm Evening Bible Study Zoom	28 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm AA Meeting				

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 . 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, 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 **February 24, 2023**
to LeRoy Moyer at
Lee_Helen@embarqmail.com



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