

Grace Notes



March 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

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

Website: www.graceandglory.church

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

By now, you have probably heard the news that I have accepted a new call. That makes this Lent a bittersweet time in my life. I look forward to the new challenges and ministries, but I look at our time together here so fondly. Lent seems to be about looking back at our past, and forward to the future. As we prepare our hearts for Easter and the celebration of the Resurrection, it is a time to reflect. It is time to open our hearts to the new life God has prepared for us.

Several of you have started asking questions like, "Will we survive this?" "What are we gonna do now?" "Will Grace and Glory still be here in a few years?" As I have reflected on this time in our lives, this is what I know; I have complete faith that God has plans for Grace and Glory! I know that Grace and Glory is more than just the pastor, it is more than any one household or member. Grace and Glory is a family of faith, and family does not dissolve when one or two move away and take up other callings. Being a family of faith is about choosing to love God and one another. It is about disagreeing about ideas or priorities and still choosing to be family together. It is about putting aside what divides us and choosing to be family. This congregation has survived so much, even in the past 3 1/2 years. This family is solid and can stand strong through this transition.

Lent is a time of preparation, and this is what we are living right now. We are preparing to celebrate what God has planned for us. We are preparing our hearts to be open. We are preparing our eyes to see God at work in new life around us. We are preparing to say, "thank you and goodbye." We are preparing for a new calling to show itself to us like spring flowers pushing through the ground. There will be tears and it will be hard work, as there are with most transitions of this nature. But God will get us through it.

My prayer for us all, is that we allow God to work in us, preparing us for growth. Preparing us for new life, and re-birth, and joy. I pray that we will work hard to open our hearts and minds to God's will. I pray that we all receive grace and peace.

In Christ,

Pastor Meredith Williams

Build Us Up Lord

Build us up Lord, build us up; set in us a strong foundation. Lead us to do your holy will; form and shape your new creation. Build us up Lord, build us up; as we guide and teach each other, help us to share your love with the world; every sister, every brother. Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom; we follow is faith what's begun! Lord set in our hearts the power of your word to spread the news of your Son!

Build us up Lord, build us up; let our lives reflect your glory. Cast away all our doubts and fears; help us tell the world your story. Build us up Lord, build us up; help us bear good fruit for you. Lord, give us vision and keep us sure. Grant us faith that's steadfast and true. Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom; we follow is faith what's begun! Lord set in our hearts the power of your word to spread the news of your Son. ELW Hymn # 670

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Music is such a part of our worship life and as I sit to contemplate my words to you this month the hymn *Build Us Up Lord* kept popping into my mind. Sometimes I find the words of our hymns as powerful as words of scripture.

When I wrote my article last month, I said that I felt our goal for this year was to grow both spiritually and in numbers. In other words, I feel we need to look to God to build us up. While this might not be a Lenten hymn, I feel that Lent is a most appropriate time to contemplate and pray, asking God to build us up – to build and strengthen our relationship with God and with one another. Sin tears us down and breaks those relationships. I believe that if we take this time during Lent to focus on our relationships, recognizing what is breaking down and pulling us away from God and each other, truly repenting and asking God for help and strength to build us up, we will become stronger in our faith and in our relationships with one another. It is in nurturing our current relationships and being open to developing new relationships that we grow stronger as the church - body of Christ. So, I challenge you this Lenten season to give up whatever is hindering your relationships, your doubts, fears and inhibitions, and to ask God for wisdom and vision; to strengthen us and build us up so we may share God's love with the world.

In Christ,

Pam Hokanson
Congregation President

Easter Lily



Grace and Glory will be accepting Easter Lily orders to decorate the church for Easter Sunday on April 9. The cost will be \$15 for each lily ordered. Please make checks payable to Grace and Glory with Easter Lily written on the memo line.

Order forms will be in the church bulletins. All completed order forms need to be turned in by Sunday, March 19. The order forms may be placed in with your Sunday offering or leave in the office's mailbox.

If there are any questions, you may contact Linda Candea @ 434-960-7336.

Thank you for sharing your lily with the congregation on Easter Sunday. But do remember to take it home after the 10:00 service.

Submitted by *Linda Candea*

Leadership Team Meeting Summary

The Leadership Team (LT) met on February 15, 2023. After devotions and prayer, the following items were discussed:

PASTOR'S REPORT/ PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: Pastor highlighted some information contained in her report. She also announced plans for parts of Lent and Easter to be shared with Cunningham UMC, Salem, UMC and Palmyra UMC. Lastly, Pastor expressed a desire for our church to host an Easter Breakfast, possibly something after the sunrise service and served under the pavilion. It was also mentioned that this Sunday's coffee hour would be given in recognition of our IT ministry team. Pastor agreed to use the announcements to mention their many contributions to our worship.

TREASURY AND FINANCE TEAM REPORTS: The Finance Team recommended that the audit for 2021 and 2022 be completed as soon as possible. Paula is heading the audit team and plans to finish by mid-March. Paul moved to approve the Treasury Reports. Paula seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: Kevin Davidson agreed to serve as Vice President. Lynn Wirth will serve as Secretary. Roseann Hill has agreed to fill the third vacant LT position. Paula moved to accept the slate of officers, Paul seconded and the motion carried.

The consensus was to set the LT zoom meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm. Due to a conflict, the March LT meeting will occur on Mon., March 20th.

Paula moved that the LT purchase a \$250.00 gift card with a Thank You note to be presented to Mr. James Keller for his work refurbishing and repairing our church computers. Paul seconded and the motion carried. Pam offered to get the card and instruct Louise to draw the check.

Paula updated the LT on the 2 audits to be done by the March LT meeting. Paula will meet with Christine and review vendor invoices. Paul will review teller reports (other than his own). Pat McCloud will conduct interviews and Chris Sterner will review bank accounts and insurances.

NEW BUSINESS: Lynn asked the LT to consider adding approximately 20 vendors and/or crafters to our Feeding Fluvanna Campaign in the Fall. The idea would be that more people would be drawn to the event and an entrance fee of cash or food could be charged. Parking will need to be addressed as well.

Pam reported that the Stewardship for all Seasons Team will concentrate on learning how to energize volunteers this year. Examples include clearer job descriptions as well as testimonials from someone who has already volunteered.

Due to Bob Candea's family's current unavailability, it was decided to postpone the chili cook-off and plan to do it later in the year.

Pastor mentioned that Carol Parsons has offered to plan the Lenten supper which will be hosted at our church.

The tentative dates for the LT retreat will be Saturday, June 3 or June 17. The final decision will be made at the March 20th LT meeting. Pam mentioned her idea to have the LT members learn how to become better witnesses by comfortably telling their own faith stories to each other.

Dinner Groups Are Forming

It has been quite awhile since we got together in small groups for dinner. The goal is to meet with other members, or prospective members, to get to know each other better than just during the ten minutes we meet before or after church. It provides some time to relax and enjoy each others' company -- something that is all too often in short supply! The plan is to get together three times during April, May, and June to mid-July, and then in another group of three times from mid-July, August, September, and October. Please sign up to participate -- remember the more people that participate, the more fun it is. We shall not have any groups meeting over the holidays in November and December, nor during snow time in January and February (what snow time you may ask! this was an unusual year!) The groups can be composed of five or six people, meeting at three different homes or restaurants for dinner, or lunch if that is preferred by some in the group. Please e-mail me at ducky5oaks@gmail.com or call me at 434-293-5543. Try to let me know as soon as possible since I would like to be able to set the groups up during this month in March. Thanks!

Submitted by Helen Ida Moyer

Celebrating Richard and Mary Louise Rognlie

They arrived here in the midst of the pandemic in February 2021 from the Northern Virginia area. Richard works from home and spends a lot of time on Zoom as he helps companies implement security products for their email and internet systems. Mary Louise works in Charlottesville for Lee Construction in their accounts payable department. They both grew up in the Northern Virginia area and met in their sophomore year at a Halloween party when Richard was studying at Virginia Tech and Mary Louise was not far away at Radford College. They married in 1986 and then spent four years in Germany (1988-1992) while Richard was a contractor for the US Army doing systems programming. They have four children: Stephen 32 in advertising, Jamie 31 in accounting, and twins John 22, who is in the Marines stationed at Quantico, and Matthew studying at Longwood College. Richard enjoys a good game of poker at Wahoo Poker, collects board games and runs a server that makes it possible for folks to play quite a variety of games on the internet using e-mail. In her spare time Mary Louise is often immersed in reading a good novel. Weekends you may find them exploring some of our local breweries. Sundays Richard adds his strong voice to our choir and often serves as assisting minister while Mary Louise serves on the Leadership Team. In case you may be wondering, the name Rognlie is of Norwegian origin and is pronounced like "rung'-lee" (although there is a running joke that it is often said "wrongly").



March Birthdays

Gabriele Ford03/01	Rob Milstead03/18	Dennis Wolf 03/29
Mike Montgomery03/05	Matthew Farist.....03/25	Pam Hokanson..... 03/29
Barbara Haas.....03/07	Melanie Brooks 03/26	Gert Barton 03/31

OWLS Gathering



The Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) enjoyed lunch and fellowship at The Pub on February 7th.

The Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) Out to Lunch Bunch will gather for lunch and fellowship on Tuesday, March 7th, at 12 PM, at East Garden Restaurant, 120 River Bend Drive, Charlottesville (west end of Pantops, just north of Food. Lion). Their Chinese buffet is \$11.55. We can also order off the menu. They can do separate checks.

An RSVP is needed by Wednesday, March 1st to Linda Beaudoin at lmbeaudoin@aol.com or 434-589-2654.

GRACE & GLORY FINANCIAL REPORT

JANUARY 2023

INCOME:

General	\$25,572
Building	\$11,602
Memorial	\$0
Designated	\$340
<u>Total Donations</u>	\$37,514
Other	\$98
<u>Total</u>	\$37,612

EXPENSES:

General	\$18,182
Building	\$2,659
Memorial	\$0
Designated	\$295
<u>Total</u>	\$21,136

GENERAL CHANGE	\$7,488
BUILDING CHANGE	\$8,943

YTD JANUARY 2023

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General	\$25,572
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<u>Total Donations*</u>	\$37,514
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GENERAL CHANGE	\$7,488
BUILDING CHANGE	\$8,943

* \$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 March 24.**

	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26	April 2 Palm Sunday
Minister	Meredith Williams	Meredith Williams	Meredith Williams	Meredith Williams	Meredith Williams
Assisting Minister	Davidson	Tomko	Rognlie	Parsons	Weimer
Usher	Linda Bolling	Louise Jargowsky	Paul & Jan Crowther	Gabi Ford	Carol Parsons Louise Jargowsky
Altar Guild	Carol Parsons	Terry Weese	Julie Dwyer	Carol Parsons	Janet Rockafellow
Tellers	Paula Tomko Keith Weimer	Vikki McCloud	Pat McCloud	Jan Crowther Terry Weese	Paula Tomko Vikki McCloud

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.

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm Devotion and Light Supper 3/1 at Palmyra UMC	2 9am Pastor Meredith in Office 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Hybrid Bible Study	3 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	4 9am Women's Breakfast – Moose's by the Creek
5 Second Sunday in Lent 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 in the Church Office 11am OWLS Monthly meeting (East Garden) 6:30pm AA Meeting	8 Church Cleaning Today 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm Devotion and Light Supper 3/8 at Salem UMC	9 9am Pastor Meredith in Office 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Hybrid Bible Study	10 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	11 9am Men's monthly breakfast Croby's Urban Viddles
12 Third Sunday in Lent 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	13 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Finance Meeting (Zoom) 11am LWR Quilters 7pm Evening Bible Study Zoom	14 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal	15 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm Devotion and Light Supper 3/15 at Cunningham UMC	16 9am Pastor Meredith in Office 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Hybrid Bible Study	17 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	18
19 Fourth Sunday in Lent 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 Leadership Team No 7pm Evening Bible Study	21 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal	22 Church Cleaning Today 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm Devotion and Light Supper 3/22 at Grace and Glory Lutheran Church	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 in the Church Office 6:30pm AA Meeting	25
26 Fifth Sunday in Lent 10am WORSHIP - Sanctuary, FB Live 11:30am Choir Rehearsal	27 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 11am LWR Quilters 7pm Evening Bible Study Zoom	28 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm Handbell Rehearsal	29 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 6:30pm Devotion and Light Supper 3/29 at Palmyra UMC	30 9am Pastor Meredith in Office 9am Christine Miles in the Church Office 10am Hybrid Bible Study	31 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 **March 24, 2023**
to LeRoy Moyer at
Lee_Helen@embarqmail.com



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