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The Rev. Dr. Stephen P. Verkouw, Pastor The Rev. Nancy L. Weiss, Visitation Pastor Kathryn H. Verkouw, Program Director Angela Smith, Assistant Program Director Murray J. Foreman, Director of Music Kathryn H. Verkouw, Director of Bell Choirs Vicki L. Mumma, Parish Secretary Dennis L. Maharg, Sexton

> Church Office-397-2748 www.GraceLutheranChurch.com

Sunrise Bible Study—Parlor ......6:30 a.m. NA Home Group—Stafford Room ......11:00 p.m.

Suzuki—Auditorium ......8:30 a.m.

Worship—Chapel ......6:00 p.m.

#### NEWSPAPER TREATMENT

To view monthly events go to our website www.aracelutheranchurch.com

click on the calendar link at the top of the page.



Like us on Facebook! Grace Lutheran Church

# **Attendance**

Worship 34 / 26 / 145 = 205

**Sunday School** 



## Lent 4

Saturday

Friday

1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23 **Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41** 

CALENDAR - March 24-30

Worship—Nave	
Kyrie Bells—Balcony	
Christian Formation	9:00 a.m.
Worship—Nave	10:30 a.m.
Matu—Chapel	1:00 p.m.
Hempfield Singers—Nave	3:00 p.m.
NA—Fellowship Hall	7:00 p.m.

### Monday

Staff Meeting—Parlor	10:00 a.m.
Dramability—Auditorium	5:00 p.m.
Gloria Bell—Balcony	6:30 p.m.
Council—Stafford Room	7:00 p.m.

# **Tuesday**

### Wednesday

Community Meal—Fellowship Hall	5:30 p.m.
Sanctus Bells—Balcony	6:30 p.m.
Pastoral Care—Parlor	7:00 p.m.

### **Thursday**

Grace Choir—Auditorium	.7:15	p.m.
Band Practice—Stafford Room		

## GreenAmerica.org

### 10 Ways to Build Community

Community relationships, when built with care and concern for the good of the commons, offer a comforting, nourishing, and collegial safety net when times get tough.

- 6) Babysitting Co-op—A more intentional community-building opportunity with other parents is to invites 5-7 families to set up a skills cooperative. Take turns making dinner for each other (or hold regular potlucks); providing child, pet, or elder care; or making simple household repairs.
- 7) After-school and Extra-curricular Events—Girl Scouts and soccer are the place to be for school-aged kids. Are you able to be a co-leader, a coach, or an assistant parent? After-school gatherings such as girl groups, boy groups, or hobby groups such as computer coding, art, or nature clubs always need adults to invest a few hours to support youth.



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# Campaign Leadership Dinner



Dear Members of Grace,

We are very excited to share the news with you of a very generous beginning to our capital campaign! Those persons who attended our Leadership Dinner this past Saturday were able to offer 34 new pledges of \$267,600 toward "Growing in Grace... generation to generation." Even before the dinner, we had already received \$76,500 for a total so far of \$344,100. We have every reason to believe that pledges from other leaders who were unable to attend the dinner will be arriving this week, and that together these early commitments will get us very close to or over the half-way point of our \$800,000 goal! We will offer another update in next week's "Grace News," meanwhile, let us give thanks to God for this very generous response in this phase of the campaign.



It was a treat and an inspiration to hear from our dinner speaker, the Rev. Dr. Louis Butcher, as he is about to retire from his life's work of pastoring Bright Side Baptist Church. He challenged us at Grace to step out in faith as they did at Brightside, trusting that God will raise up the people and resources needed for the vision and mission! We are thankful for his friendship and his example of service and leadership in Lancaster.

Finally, we are deeply grateful for our "parish chef," Carl Hartman, his wife and helper Patti, and all those who served the dinner - a healthy and delicious treat! Pastor V says Carl's are the only brussels sprouts he has ever liked!

(Sorry, Mom & Kath).

Please keep the campaign in your thoughts and prayers in preparation for Commitment Weekend, April 1-2. Every gift, no matter how large or small is important to our success. May God bless each of us with the faith to be generous stewards, in proportion to our resources!

Rosalyn Ward, Campaign Chair, and Pastor Verkouw





The next concert in our series, "Music at Grace," features three choral ensembles from Hempfield High School, all directed by Dr. Alan W. Mudrick.

Performing are: Hempfield Singers, the largest, mixed select chorus; Bel Canto, a select chorus for women; and Chamber Singers, the most select, mixed group that rehearses twice weekly beginning at 6:30 am! Earlier this year the Chamber Singers sang back-up for Kristin Chenoweth's concert at American Music Theater.

The program will include psalm settings and motets from the English and Venetian Renaissance and from the German and English Romantic eras, several spirituals, and a group of secular songs.

The director, Dr. Mudrick, is in his twenty-eighth year at Hempfield High School!

# **Reformation 500 and Spark Book Fairs!**



#### Reformation 500 Book Store Sunday March 26th in the Narthex

Books are 50% off with free shipping. A full list of available books will be available on our website and at the bookstore display. For additional information contact Angie at graceelcaapd@gmail.com

Spark Book Fair Sunday March 26th also in the Narthex All of the books are discounted with free shipping.



SPARK LAST CHANCE! GREAT BOOKS! **GREAT PRICE!** 

# Race Against Racism!



Join team "GraceLutheran" on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the "Race Against Racism"! Start/Finish: Musser Park, Lancaster City, PA

> To register for the race visit ywcalancaster.org/RaceAgainstRacism Adults \$30.00 / Children 14 and under \$12.00

Join us on the walk, cheer us on along the way or celebrate with us at the finish!! Team Grace would love your support!

# **Grace Youth Escape Room Adventure!**



Ten youth and three adults tried their skills at the Escape Room!

I'm sad to report that none of them escaped!:)

Pictured at left are: Paloma. Angie, Sam, Timo, Luc, and Kai Pictured at right are: Ellie, Trevor Kaylah, Faith, Catherine, Emma, and Danielle



### Please Keep in Your Prayers ...

Please Keep in Your Prayers For healing from illness or surgery this week: Judy Hansalik, Betty Jane Igou, Muriel Lepley, Pat Long, Bonnie Ries, Pastor Fred Shilling

Grace folks who have asked for our continued prayers: Sue Albertson, Gloria Ashby, Bonnie Beecher, Mary Bitts, Shirley Brady, John Byers, Dolores Byers, Ron Coyle, Jerri Crooms, Judy DeWitsky, Rose Fasig, Ruth Galebach, Harriet Good, Josephine Good, Jennie Hanna, George Hansalik, Dick Herr, Ellen Hines, Phyllis Jackson, Eleanor Kelley, Devin Krautsack, Chuck Long, Augusta Madenford, Betty Mahler, Jeremy Morant, Jim Morant, Barbara Music, Mike Ober, Myrna Pierson, Mark Powell, George Ries, Jean Schuam, Catherine Schnader, Dave Schober, Jay Smoker, Lorraine Steele, Harvey Stewart, Pat Stewart, Pat Suter, Judy Sweigart, Gene Tabbutt, Larry Tyger, Carolyn Wenger, Janet Wood

# **Keep Collecting!**

#### Dear "Plastic Lid Collectors" and Friends of Grace.



Let's help the women of Bergstrasse Lutheran, Ephrata who are beginning to collect caps for their own recycled

# **Grocery Cards!**



WHERE ELSE can your money earn a guaranteed 5% return these days?

Grocery cards are available every Sunday morning or by calling Duane and Kitty Weiss at 464-2536.

# **Grace Church Picnic!**

Mark your calendar! Fellowship, Food, Fun & Games for All! Saturday, June 10, 2017 4:00 p.m. Long's Park Pavilion #2



### **Easter Flowers**



Easter Flower orders are due in the office by Sunday, April 2, 2017.

### **Fountain Flowers**

Opportunities to share plants and flowers for the fountain will be available beginning Sunday, April 23 and continuing through June 4.

Families may buy plants and flowers to decorate the Fountain on the Sunday they choose, delivering them to church Saturday morning or afternoon, and following the Sunday services, take their plants home to be planted in their own garden.

Please call the church office @ 397-2748 with questions or to sign up for a Sunday.

# **Stewardship Snippets**

March 26, 2017(4<sup>th</sup>Sunday in Lent, Year A)

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." -Psalm 23:1

What a bold statement we make when we pray the first line of Psalm 23, especially in our culture that is driven by want. We are saturated in advertisements, and every advertisement you see has only one purpose – to make you want something. Our economy is based on manipulation of wants. But as God's people we boldly assert that with the Lord as our shepherd, we have all we need. That's good stewardship.