

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, Dec. 30, 2018/First Sunday of Christmas

7:30 A.M.— Choir Rehearsal

8:00 A.M.—Traditional Service & 10:45 A.M. - Contemporary Service

No Sunday School

TUESDAY, January 1, 2019 New Year's Day—Office Closed

WEDNESDAY, January 2, 2019 *Council Reports Due*

9:30-11:30 A.M.—Caring Crafters/Fun Days: All Purpose Room

7:00 P.M. —AA Meeting: Parlor

THURSDAY, January 3, 2018

9:30 A.M.—“Old Testament” Study: Parlor

7:00 P.M.—BS Troop #406: Social Hall

SUNDAY, Jan. 6, 2019/Epiphany of Our Lord

7:30 A.M.— Choir Rehearsal

8:00 A.M.—Traditional Service & 10:45 A.M. - Contemporary Service

9:30 A.M.— Sunday school for all ages

Noon - Hearing Committee: Parlor



Luther's Ledger

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

594 Church Street, First Fl.; Royersford, PA 19468

Church Office: (610) 948-3684 Fax: (610) 948-3304

*Church Facility: (610) 948-3682

*(Director of Music, Sacristy, Church Parlor, Kitchen)

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri.: 8:30 - 12:00 & 12:30 - 2:30pm

Website: www.gracelutheranroyersford.com

Email: gracelutr@verizon.net

Deacon Allison: deaconallison12@gmail.com

Southeastern PA Synod website: www.ministrylink.org

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America website: www.elca.org

December 30, 2018 — First Sunday of Christmas

Staff: The Rev. Janelle L. Kraus, Pastor;

Deacon Allison Wilcox - Evangelism & Adult Education Ministries

Kelsey Hlavac - Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministries

Phyllis Conroy - Parish Administrator; Ken Slack - Property Manager

Joyce Berner - Dir. of Music;

Flossie Schell - Sexton; Ellen Jones - Childcare Supervisor

Missionaries - Stephen & Marta Deal family;

Ministers: All People of Grace

Our Monthly Healing Service—The Healing Services will continue in 2019, with our first meeting being on Tuesday, January 8th. They will resume on the first Tuesday of the month, beginning in February. All are welcome to join us at 7:00pm for this service. This worship service is open to all who are seeking comfort or even simply peaceful respite from a chaotic world.



Don't forget, you can now sign up for Daily Devotions from our Deacon. You can visit the website or have them come into your email box each morning: <https://gracemorningdevotion.blogspot.com>

WEEKLY GIVING UPDATE:

Given Week of 12/23/18: \$ 7,493.00

Weekly Giving Budgeted: \$ 6,750.00



WARM CHRISTIAN GREETINGS

It's with pleasure that we welcome all worshippers to God's house. Visitors are especially welcomed. Please introduce yourself to those near you and also to the Pastor.



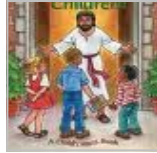
The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated during our services today. We welcome all who are worshipping with us to participate and simply ask that you realize Lutherans believe that Christ is here and by worshipping with Him, we receive forgiveness of our sins. Children are welcomed and encouraged to come forward, with their parents, to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and we will come to your pew to administer communion. We also have Gluten/Dairy free wafers. Please ask the Pastor for one, if you have these dietary restrictions.

IMPORTANT VISITOR & GUEST INFORMATION



WELCOME! If you are visiting Grace for the first time today, please take a WELCOME BAG on the table near the main front doors. Also, please be sure to fill out the "Sharing God's Grace" insert in the Ledger and place it in the offering plate. We hope today's worship service helps you to know & experience God's amazing grace! Please come again soon!

Children are welcome in all of our worship services at Grace! Tot Spot hours, are in affect for both worship services! (Mrs. Ellen Jones is our Sunday morning childcare director; she lovingly supervises children birth to age 5 while parents worship). Stop by room E08 in the Education Building, meet Ellen, check out this ministry to little ones, or even volunteer!



Children's Church located in rooms L08 & L09, is for children KG-2nd grade, during the 10:45 worship service; it's run by volunteers who do stories, games & crafts during the lessons & sermon time. Interested children go with the volunteer waiting in the narthex, after the children's sermon and are returned to parents in the sanctuary during the prayers.
Parents – please make sure your child is in the age-appropriate place!



Need Prayer? Stephen Ministers are available during communion for prayer. Just go to a prayer station (in the narthex & at the side doors) and wait for a Stephen Minister, who'll pray with you. Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care & are specially trained to meet your emotional & spiritual needs. If you or someone you know is hurting, talk with our Stephen Leader: *[Judy Lukens]*.

If you miss the opportunity to stop by one of the prayer stations, there's a "prayer box" located in the narthex. Complete a prayer request slip, put it in the box & the Stephen Ministers will pray for you. They can be anonymous or you can include your name. Everything with & through the Stephen Ministry is confidential. We're here for you! In Christ's great love.

There are a limited number of large-print copies of the worship service available for the visually impaired. You can find them on the Narthex windowsill.



Adult Learning and Faith Growth Opportunities

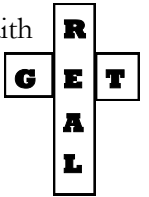
Faith First: Would you like to be with a group of people who start their mornings with God? Join us Wednesday mornings at 7am, at The Main St Café. Questions? Contact Joe Curran at 610-948-4508 (answering machine available, leave a message).



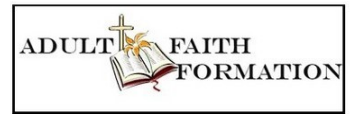
Holy Grounds: Come join us in January on Thursday mornings to study the Old Testament and explore the history of God's love. Why do that? Because it helps us to understand God's love today! We meet on Thursdays at 9:30 in the parlor (lower level of church, room 5). All are welcome!



Get REAL! Join us Monday, Jan. 7th at 6:30pm, for dinner & faith discussion, at Giovanni's in Royersford. This monthly group enjoys great conversation about topics that matter most in our lives. The topic this month: "2018 Reflections/2019 Spiritual Growth". If interested, **please RSVP to Angela Feist by, Jan. 6th**, at 570-498-5986 or anchoredinhope@aol.com.



Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation
Sunday school is at 9:30 am., join us for one of our faith engagement opportunities:



The Faith Club: Our class is reading and discussing a book titled The Faith Club. The setting is New York City after 9/11; an American Muslim woman was confronted with questions by her children about Islam & God. She reached out to two other mothers, a Christian & a Jew, to help her understand not only her religion, but theirs. Join Dr. Judy Stryker in the parlor, at 9:30, as we read and discuss these three religions.

PRISM: Led by Mr. Richard Harshaw. We will be discussing the book, "Who Moved My Cheese" and what it says about change. We meet in the choir room, lower level of church, rm. 4

Mothers and their Cake with Jan Slack meets in the Kitchen.

What is the Bible? Book discussion with Deacon Allison will begin on January 17th at 7pm. **See the insert to sign up!**



Youth News at Grace

Check out our website at www.gracelutheranroyersford.com, & watch facebook or see Kelsey for details on upcoming events.



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Grace Lutheran Youth Group
"Like" us to see recent news & events

All young people ages 2 years - High School, are invited to join us at 9:15 for Grace Place Sunday School. 2 year olds—Kindergarten in Room E08 (Tot Spot Room); Elementary, Middle & High School in lower level of the church (rooms are marked). Any ??? See Kelsey.



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP High School Youth Group—meets from 9:30-10:30am in the youth room. The first half of the year we will be diving into "For The Life of the World" film series & explore how God's purposes are woven into every area of our lives! Join us for community, study, fun, snacks, learning & asking questions.

7th - 12th graders: Box City is a service event that raises money and awareness for those who are homeless. You sleep in boxes outside to experience for a night, what those who are homeless go through. There are speakers & small group discussions, as well as free time. Box City is at St. James Lutheran Church in Limerick, Sat., March 23rd (3pm) through Sun., March 24th (noon). **Registration is open & include a \$30 fee & the registration form. Turn in your registration fee & form BY Jan. 6th to Kelsey.** *You will need to find your own box for box city*

6th - 12th graders: Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat (formerly know as Harvey Cedars) registrations are available on the youth table in the narthex! Our spring retreat is Fri., April 5th (4pm) - Sun., April 7th (2pm). This retreat is a fun weekend away with other youth from our synod, at Tuscarora Inn & Conference center near the Delaware water gap.

Registration price is \$115 per youth. **If you need a scholarship, please fill out a form & return it to Kelsey or Pastor Kraus NO LATER than Jan. 20th & submit the paperwork for Tuscarora to Kelsey.** Scholarship forms can be found on the youth table in the narthex. **Registration for this retreat is due Feb. 3rd** to Kelsey, 3 copies of the signed covenant, the medical form, & copies of your insurance card plus the \$115 registration fee.

SPONSORSHIPS TODAY

The Flowers are given to the Glory of God.
The Bulletins are sponsored by George & Helen Schad in memory of loved ones.
The Window is sponsored by Judy Major in loving memory of Lawrence "Bud" Major.
The Lamp is given to the Glory of God.
The Coffee is given to the Glory of God.
The Children's Bulletins for December are given to the Glory of God.

Worship Assistants - - December 30, 2018

Counting: Team H, Fraunfelter **Children's Church:** Karen Thomson

Tot Spot: 8:00 OPEN 10:45 OPEN

Usher Teams and Captains: Team 1, Pennypacker

8:00: Richard Harshaw, Gene Capor, Mark Rehrer & Marie James

10:45: Greg Granato, Dan Feist, Danny Gonzalez, Karen & Darrell Lewis

8:00	Greeters	10:45
Murray & Elaine O'Cain		Darrell & Karen Lewis
Wilma Ries		Marianne Claypotch
8:00	Communion Assistants	10:45
Debbie Moore, Susan & Dave		Danielle Lau, Shawn Alloway,
Firering, Joe & Deb Kamertz		Steph. McMullan, Deb & Mac Fritz
8:00	Acolytes & Crucifers	10:45
Abby C./Pooja A.		Kenny B./Gavin S.

Children's Sermon: 8:00 Pastor Kraus 10:45 Stephanie McMullan

Readers: 8:00 Gladys Pouchan 10:45 Tyler Lau

Tech Table 8:00 John 10:45 David Mull

THANKS TO... Darrell Lewis - Trustee and Patty Esslinger & Debbie Fritz - Altar Guild Servers & to the volunteer, Richard & Diane Harshaw, who helped in the office this week.

Important Contributions Note: Contributions received in the office by **TODAY**, Sun., Dec. 30th will be credited to 2018. If a check/funds are received after today's deposit, they will NOT be credited to their 2018 contributions.





PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: May God bring his healing upon & send comfort to: Spenser Port; Harry (father of Karen Brown) & Lucy Cleet (his caretaker); Jim Wack (friend of Bev & Skip Meitzler), Bob Kerr, Judy Shafer, Cynthia Astheimer; Lynn Golden. Our military personnel & our missionaries Stephen & Marta Deal. We thank God for His healing.

Worship Assistants - Mark Your Calendars - January 6, 2019

Counting: Team G, Meyers **Children's Church:** Marchesani's
Tot Spot: 8:00 OPEN 10:45 OPEN

Usher Teams and Captains: Team 2
8:00: Glenn Peak, Ken Slack, Danielle, Eli, Tyler & Tobias Lau
10:45: Bud Meredith, Shawn Alloway, Frank & Laura Gunson

8:00	<u>Greeters</u>	10:45
Sally Weber/Judy Stryker	Team 1, Tom Sheehan Sarah & Shaun Nye	

8:00	<u>Communion Assistants</u>	10:45
Marie James, Rose Nixon, Glenn Peak & Judy Stryker	Will Moyer, Karen Brown, Danny & Mandy Gonzalez	

8:00	<u>Acolytes & Crucifers & Torchbearers</u>	10:45
Ashley R./Ava R. TB: Alaina M./Pooja A.	Connor F./Gavin S. Lily G./Grace B.	

Children's Sermon: 8:00 TBD 10:45 Judy Lukens
Readers: 8:00 Trish McGarry 10:45 Jack Claypotch
Tech Table 8:00 John 10:45 David Mull

PRAYER FOCUS - Week of 12/30/2018

Sun., 12/30 Wisdom in making our New Year resolutions.
Mon., 12/31 Friendship & safety in our New Year's Eve celebrations.
Tues., 1/1 A peaceful, happy New Year.
Wed., 1/2 Commitment to adhering to our resolutions.
Thurs., 1/3 Sleep/Festival of Sleep Day.
Fri., 1/4 The blind/Braille Day.
Sat., 1/5 Our wonderful, abundant lives/Celebration of Life Week.

WHAT'S NEW!!



Miller/Keystone Blood Drive: Bloodmobile
1/8/2019, 2-7PM; Grace Lutheran Parking Lot. Come on out & give the gift that gives life. See Susan Firing for more info.

Start the new year off right by giving a gift to St. Mary's Franciscan Shelter in Phoenixville. They are in need of grocery store gift cards, to help keep their kitchen stocked & allow them to continue serving the homeless women, children & families in our neighboring community. Please consider purchasing a grocery store gift card each time you buy groceries. You may give the gift cards directly to Dr. Janet Brown, or mail them in or drop them off at the church office. We'll get them to the Shelter.



Thank you to all who so generously contributed to the Good Samaritan Fund, The Pastor's Discretionary Fund, and the Paul Neff Scholarship Fund at this time of year. Your kind hearts are helping those in need in our community. You have shared God's love at Christmas so beautifully!

Veterans Day Donations Update: Our drive for new donated items to the veterans at the SE PA veterans center in Spring City was quite successful. Our congregational family contributed 6 large boxes of items which were delivered on 11/20. That delivery included many units of food containers, body soap and deodorant, several craft items and writing supplies. Also donated were 12 pairs of reading glasses, 6 packages of hearing aid batteries and several sweatshirts, pants, winter caps and many socks. There were also 2 portable shavers, a few gift cards and a check to their chaplain's fund. I suspect some of you also sent checks of support directly to the SE PA center. Relaying the gratitude and appreciation that we received from their volunteer office, thank you for your great level of support for this drive! As part of the above list of items, there was a generous \$250 contribution from Thrivent Financial thanks to Jack Claypotch's efforts. Again, a big "THANK YOU" for such great participation in sharing.

Mark Rehrer and Terry Piersol

