

Pastor's Points: For the better part of a year now, the world has talked of how unprepared we were for this microscopic virus. We were caught off-guard in so many ways, leaving us scrambling for answers (still), and trying hard to figure out how to "do life" in the midst of Corona. Personally, I have found myself often thinking, *I was so unprepared for this.*



Unprepared for Zoom. (Isn't that a car noise we make for children?) Unprepared for restricting the number of people in a sanctuary. (Who would have EVER thought the Church would be trying to do THAT?!?!?) Unprepared for recording a sermon in an empty room. (How am I supposed to know what you're thinking?) Yup, I was unprepared for many of these logistics.

And yet, I feel very prepared in the core of my being- right where faith resides. Don't get me wrong – I've had days of discouragement and frustration and deep sadness. But deeper than any of those has been the collective stories formed throughout my life of a God who always finds a way. It may not be the way I would have chosen or imagined, but God ALWAYS shows up in an act of grace, a whisper of hope, a new dream, a nudge of resilience, unknown strength... (Ok, this could go on for quite a while. You get the point.)

People of faith, we were caught by surprise in so many ways, but we aren't unprepared when it comes to faith. Remember your stories. Retell God's goodness. Sing those steadfast hymns. And on

Deacon Allison will be offering a second Zoom Bible Study.

Join in on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am. Like Monday's group at 7:30pm, we'll be engaging in the Book of Ecclesiastes. Call the church office for the link, if you would like to take part. If you don't have access to a computer with a webcam, you can still join by phone.



Zoom Pub Theology—Pub Theology—Come talk about matters of faith (with or without your favorite beverage!) in a relaxed & "real" way. This group meets via zoom with Deacon Allison on the 4th (or 5th) Thursday of every month. Next Pub Theology is on Oct. 29th at 7:30pm. Call church office for zoom link.



Crafters October 2020 Version

Starting October, Crafters will meet in the All Purpose Room on Wednesdays at 10AM. Park on 6th Ave. and enter via the Welcome Center door only (elevator is available). Things to remember: wear a mask; bring your own water, coffee, tea; bring your own craft from home in your own bag. Join us for conversation, mailing of monthly post cards & prayer. Email me with thoughts or concerns. Pass along to those without email if you are meeting with them.



Love, Sue Perry srperry19@me.com or 610-310-4915

"God's work. Our hands."

Sunday, September 13, 2020

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.



Grace will be participating with our synod in this day of service. **On Sunday, September 13, we kicked off our warm clothing drive** to support our neighbor, Open Door Ministry. Colder months are ahead of us and the clients at Open Door need specific items of clothing to help keep them warm.

Grace will be collecting **NEW (purchased or handmade):**
Hats, Gloves, Scarves, Socks & Blankets/throws

If you attend either church service on Sundays, bring your donations. For the 9:00am in-person service, there will be black bins in the 6th Ave. entrance for the collection. A donation bin will also be at the outside communion service. Stop by with your donations. Church service donations will run through **October 11.**

We'll also be taking **CURBSIDE DONATIONS** on Fridays (10:30am to noon) & Saturdays (3:00pm to 4:30pm), **ending Sat., Oct. 10.** Collections will be at the 6th Ave. entrance to the church. Adhering to the social distancing guidelines, load your donations in the trunk of your car. Pull up at the curb and pop your trunk. Volunteers will unload your donations; no need to get out of your car!

G.R.A.C.E. Place Newsletters:

We are going to continue online G.R.A.C.E. Place for the fall in the form of weekly Newsletters!

They will be sent via email so please let Kelsey know if you do not receive a newsletter! These newsletters will contain activities for youth and families with topics such as mental health and screen time. These topics will include faith formation pieces.



Along with these newsletters, **we'll also have zoom check-in on Sunday's at 9:00am with Kelsey for all ages** & once a month at the beginning of every month, Kelsey will be at Grace with a supply bag for the month that can include supplies for any activities in the newsletters or supplies to create a sacred space in your home! The newsletters and the emails will remind you of these dates! You can stop by the church parking lot at 9:00am for a bag or just to say hello (all while being safe with masks and social distancing). So, the schedule of events looks like this:

October 4th, 11th, & 18th are going to be zooms at 9:00am.

And Oct. 25th, you can come to church to meet me & pick up a supply bag for the next month.

Confirmation: Confirmation students will be getting an email and letter about what fall looks like this year.

High School: Bring a cup of coffee, hot cocoa or apple cider and join Kelsey & other high school youth in the parking lot of Grace Lutheran

Stay “connected” wherever you go!

We're all over social media!! Here's how to find us at Grace:

Website: www.gracelutheranroyersford.com

Email: gracelutrn@verizon.net

Facebook search: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Instagram search: [grace.lutheran.royersford](https://www.instagram.com/grace.lutheran.royersford)

Twitter search: [@gracelutheran12](https://twitter.com/gracelutheran12)



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

From The Deacon's Desk:

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were called—that you might inherit a blessing.
~ 1 Peter 3:6-9



This year our Consecration theme is “blessed to be a blessing.” The idea dates to God telling Abraham that not only would he bless him and his descendants, but that also that they were meant to be a blessing to the nations. It's what we are called to be, as Peter reminds us: a blessing. As we prepare for next year's ministries, here are some questions to ponder about this idea: how do we at Grace live out being a blessing? How can we be good stewards of what we have been blessed with and use it as a blessing for others and as a blessing for our



Coffee Hour with Deacon Allison on Sundays at noon. Missing seeing your Grace friends? You don't have to! Join this zoom meeting just to chat and check in with one another. You'll be glad you did! Call church office for zoom link.

2 Facebook Live Opportunities —On Fridays, at 10:00AM, join Deacon Allison to spend some time with one of the **devotional readings from the week.** See our Facebook page for more details.

Join either Pastor Kraiss or Deacon Allison on the Grace Facebook page for live prayer on Sunday mornings at 11 am. Bring your prayer requests or simply pray with us.



Deacon's Book Club—Please contact Deacon Allison at 610-948-3684 and let her know if you'd like to continue our book (or a new book) via Zoom or through Facebook

Daily Devotions written by Deacon Allison. These are a beautiful and faithful way to begin your day with God. Find them on the Grace fb

SEPTEMBER 2020 WORSHIP SERVICES

If you prefer to worship online, our services can be found on our website under the “Worship” tab & on our facebook page.



Sun., October 4—18th Sunday of Pentecost
Sun., October 11—19th Sunday of Pentecost
Sun., October 18—20th Sunday of Pentecost
Consecration Sunday
Sun., October 25—21st Sunday of Pentecost

OCTOBER Prayer Focus

- 1: Older Lutherans (International Day of Older Persons)
- 2: People of German ancestry (German American Heritage Month)
- 3: God’s creation (US National Apple Month)
- 4: Animals (World Animal Day)
- 5: Teachers (World Teacher’s Day)
- 6: Good health for all of our children (National Child Health Day)
- 7: Smiles (World Smile Day)
- 8: People with aids (Aids awareness month)
- 9: Brave, adventuresome people (Columbus Day)
- 10: Newspaper carriers (National News Carrier Month)
- 11: Pastor Kraus (Clergy Appreciation Day)
- 12: Indigenous People (Columbus Day)
- 13: Skeptics (International Skeptic Day)
- 14: Bald people (Be Bald and Free Day)
- 15: Parents (National Take Your Parents to Lunch Day)
- 16: Bosses (Bosses Day)
- 17: The Poor (International Day for the Eradication of Poverty)
- 18: Readers (Reading Week)
- 19: Evaluate Your Life Day
- 20: Those suffering from alcoholism (Alcohol Awareness Week)
- 21: Inventors ((Thomas Edison invents light bulb)
- 22: Neighbors (Make A Difference Day)
- 23: Peaceful Autumn Day
- 24: United Nation’s Day
- 25: Mothers –in-law (Day)
- 26: Peace, friendship, and goodwill (P., F., and G. Week)
- 27: Cats (Black Cat Day)
- 28: Garment workers (Eli Whitney invents cotton gin in 1793)
- 29: Pennsylvania (William Penn lands in Chester, PA 1682)
- 30: Eating healthy (Vegetarian Month and Candy Corn Day!)
31. Lutherans (Reformation Day)



Lorraine's Hearing Fund (created to provide financial assistance to members of Grace who have a hearing impairment), will take applications for those needing equipment/devices, education, or technology. Awards up to \$2,500 each will be considered for applicants. To apply, email Roxanne Troiano (rmtroiano@verizon.net) and she will either email or mail you an application (whichever is best for the applicant). All applications are due by October 31, 2020. Applicants will be notified in November of eligibility and the amount of the award. Please direct questions to committee members: Roxanne Troiano or Pastor Kraus



New Member Gathering—The New Member Gathering meetings will be rescheduled as soon as we are able to. Please contact the church office at gracelutrn@verizon.net or 610-948-3684, if you have any questions, or if you’re interested in taking part in our New Member gathering. Let us also know if you are interested in meeting via Zoom or another online platform.

Healing Service is returning! News will be forthcoming on a healing service in mid-October or early November. Modifications will be made for social distancing & safety concerns. Contact Deacon Allison if you have any questions or are interested in taking part.



Thank you Strunk Fund Committee!

Thank you so much for choosing me to be a recipient of the Strunk Fund Scholarship. I have gained so many friendships over the years with members of the congregation and will always be thankful for that. Thank you so much for watching out for my family. I look forward to the next chapter of my life and will continue to grow in my faith.

Sam



I am honored to be accepting the Strunk Fund Scholarship. I am certain that my time at Virginia Tech will benefit from this generosity. I plan to use the money on textbooks & miscellaneous living expenses;