

July 2021

Graceful Greetings



JULY 2021 WORSHIP SERVICES

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



Sun., July 4—6th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun., July 11—7th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun., July 18—8th Sunday after Pentecost
Sun., July 25—9th Sunday after Pentecost

Summer Worship is in full swing! Join us on Sunday mornings at 9 am in the sanctuary or at 10:15am on the office lawn. (Bring a lawn chair!) Our summer/fall sermon series is taking us from Genesis through Revelation in “The Story of God” – a focus on scripture... what it is, how to read it and how it changes our lives. (Check out the link to the sermon series topics on the worship page of our website!)

On Wednesday evenings, join us for WoW (Worship on Wednesday) at 6:30 pm on the office lawn. This casual, 30 minute service invites you to share your own thoughts (or simply listen!) and enjoy the fellowship as we worship outside.

Or, join us on our Sunday morning livestream at 9 am at Grace’s youtube channel GraceLutheranRoyersford. Don’t forget to leave some comments! This livestream is saved to our website at www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com to view at anytime.

We invite you to wear a mask at our in-person services to help protect our children who are not yet vaccinated. Thank you!!!!



There are some changes coming and some opportunities!

In an effort to keep you up to date with changes which are occurring at Grace, two of our employees have notified us of their decision to retire. Our Property Manager, John Nimmerichter, will be retiring after a replacement has been found and Flossie Schell, our custodian, has already commenced a well-deserved retirement. We thank them for their service to our Grace family and wish them all the best in this next chapter of their lives.

A formal search has begun for their replacements, but whenever opportunities such as these emerge, we want to inform our congregational first, in the event that one of our members is looking for just such an opportunity. Both of these positions are part time and provide flexibility in how the work hours are structured. Should you be interested in either opportunity, please call the church office and we can provide additional details and answer any of your questions.

Thank you, John F. Perry—Chairman, Mutual Ministry Committee

Pastor's Points: For over a year, our worship was restricted almost entirely to online. I am thankful that the technology existed to help us do that, and I am SO VERY thankful to the people who were patient as we learned how to worship in new ways. We will continue to livestream and record for those who cannot physically be present. And.... I'm thankful that we now have the option to be in-person again! It warms my heart every Sunday to greet people in person and have a conversation. (even if its quick!) I was reminded by a council member this week, that these Sunday am conversations with our church family stay with us all week long- bringing encouragement and support. (Did you realize your words had that effect on others? They do!)



It's time. It's time to come back and reconnect to the ones who have worshiped and prayed alongside of you. It's time to return to Grace to hear the word of grace and to experience the amazing gift of grace in the fellowship of believers. We learned this past year that the Body of Christ is not dependent upon a building, but we have also learned the deep and beautiful value of coming together as we can, to BE the hands... the feet...the heart of Christ. I hope to see you soon. It's time.

From the Deacon's Desk: Being a Hybrid Church



Two months ago, in my column I suggested that we ask ourselves who we are now as a church -now that the pandemic has altered some much of our lives, including our church life. One answer to that question that came out of this past year and a half is “hybrid church.” We are no longer simply a church that meets in a building, but a church that meets online and beyond into the community. What does that mean for us?

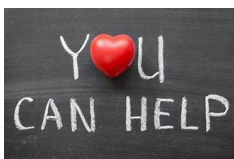
Part of what that means is that while we begin to return to how some things were before last March, some of how we have been doing ministry during the pandemic will continue. The Bible studies that meet on Mondays and Thursdays will continue, by choice, to meet online. So what does that mean for those who don't wish to meet online? That's going to be an ongoing conversation. So I pose another question to follow up with “Who are we now?”

That question is: “What do we need now to be who we are now?” I am eager to hear from you. What do you need? What ministries do you want to continue or begin? What ways of growing, loving, and serving do you want to take part in?

New Prayer List Coordinator—We are excited to announce that Becky Leonard will be stepping up, as our new Prayer List Coordinator. Becky is a wonderful addition to our volunteers, who help keep our church family connected and growing. Please send any prayer requests to Becky at bellpn@aol.com or you can call the church office at 610-948-3684 and leave a message. Thank you for sharing your joys & concerns and praying for others.



CALLING ALL GARDENERS.....Grace's flower gardens need a little love! If you can occasionally help pull weeds and water the flowers, please contact the Grace office. Your help is needed to keep the church beautiful! Thank you!!!



Looking for a way to support the ministries at Grace? We are in need of 9 am ushers, counters & people who can assist at the 9 am tech desk. You will not need to serve more than once every 2 months, but your support is vital to worship. Our current volunteers have been incredibly faithful, but they can't do it alone- your help is needed! Please inform the office if you can provide this important worship support. Thank you!!!!

Important Notice: The date for our next blood drive has been changed.

Miller-Keystone is facing some staffing shortages, like many other businesses right now, so they needed to change the date of our next blood drive. **The new date is Thursday July 22 from 2 -7pm**, it will be inside the building. Sign up as usual on the web site at Giveapint.org. Thank you for giving the gift of life!



On June 13th, we celebrated the joyous rite of confirmation for 4 young people! We give thanks to God for these parents who have raised their children in the promises made at baptism & we thank God for this year's faithful confirmation teachers. Congratulations and God's blessings to our 2021 Confirmands: Cole Stephen Traynor, Christian Michael Ruiz, Abigail Kathryn Delp & Caroline Therese McMullan.

Prayers and Blessings to our Confirmation Class of 2021

YOUTH NEWS

Weekly Family Newsletters: For continued Faith Formation via email.

VBS – Who's Your Neighbor: *Prek-6th grade*—Outdoors @ Grace, July 11th – 15th. Register as a family group on Grace's website

Leadership Camp: *6th – 12th grade*—8-week on Sunday OR 1-week daily opportunity to learn about your leadership skills, advocacy, and how God is working amidst it all. Dates To-Be-Determined

Tie-Dye Day: August 22nd—More information to come in July.



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

Check Out These Other Great Ways to Stay Connected

Conversation & Community—Conversation & Community will be taking a break for the summer. Contact Deacon Allison at deaconallison12@gmail.com if you'd like to be on a list of ongoing participants for the fall.



Deacon Allison's Zoom Bible Study—Our Zoom study of the Gospel of John continues. It is never too late to join in! We have two great groups who would love to have more people to converse with. We continue to meet at 7:00 pm through Zoom on Monday evenings and at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings. Both groups will be studying the same material. We'd love to have you join us at one of these times! And if your schedule is fluid, you can join whichever group meets your weekly needs. Contact deaconallison12@gmail.com or the church office for a link.

Both groups have elected to continue meeting via Zoom for the rest of the year. If you are missing an in-person gathering for faith formation, please let Deacon Allison know. We would love to offer some other programming – perhaps a Bible Study or book study – for those who wish to gather together in person.

Coffee Hour 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 —Join Deacon Allison on **Thursdays at noon** for a deeper dive into one of the week's devotionals. Also, either Pastor Kraiss or Deacon Allison will return to leading Facebook Live prayer time on **Sunday mornings at 11am.**

Daily Devotions written by Deacon Allison. (*Note About Morning Grace Devotional*)

Morning Grace devotions have returned. The new web address is allisonwilcox.com. You can access the devotions there, or sign up on the front page to receive them in your email box each morning. You will need to sign up again if you've been receiving them from the other blog site.



New Noon Coffee Hour & Get Real Link Info.! There is a new link we will use for Sunday Coffee Hour (Noon) and Get Real going forward. Please check your email for the details and new link or call Angela Feist or the church office at 610-948-3684 for the new link or more info.

Stay “connected” wherever you go! We're all over social media!!

Website: www.gracelutheranroyersford.com

Email: gracelutrn@verizon.net

YouTube Channel: [gracelutheranroyersford](https://www.youtube.com/gracelutheranroyersford)

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

Facebook search: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

JULY Prayer Focus



1. Having humor in your life/International Joke Day
2. Our memory/ I Forgot Day
3. Equality for all/Civil Rights Act 1964
4. The brave men and women who fought for our freedom/Independence Day
5. Monday continue Independence Day Celebration rest/Work-A-holics Day
6. Love/ International Kissing Day
7. Pleasures of God's world/Chocolate Day
8. Blueberries/National Blueberry Day
9. Participation of Christian activities/Anti-boredom Month
10. Summer picnics/Teddy Bear Picnic Day
11. All those who are suffering loneliness / Cheer Up the Lonely Day
12. Vision/Different Colored Eyes Day
13. Intelligence/ Embrace your Geekness Day
14. Sharks/Shark Awareness Day
15. Animals/Cow Appreciation Day
16. Giving hugs / Hug Week
17. Our uniqueness/Fingerprints first used as ID in 1858
18. Floral beauty / Chrysanthemum Day
19. Memories/Ice Cream Soda Day
20. God's creation of the moon/1st Moonwalk, Neil Armstrong 1969
21. Enjoying God's creation
22. Parents/National Parent's Day
23. Those who feel forgotten by God
24. Cousins / Cousins' Day
25. Those who lack hope
26. Finding a happy medium/All or Nothing Day
27. Korean war veterans/Korean War Veterans' Armistice Day 1953
28. Accountants at Grace/Accountants' Day
29. God's creation/International Tiger Day
30. Our father-in-law's/Father-in-law Day
31. Inventors/First US patent 1790

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Reverend Janelle L. Kraiss, Pastor
Deacon Allison Wilcox
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• **DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST 2021** •
• **ISSUE OF GRACEFUL GREETINGS** •
• **IS Thursday, July 15th** •
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