

January 2022  
Graceful Greetings



**JANUARY 2022 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., January 2—Second Sunday of Christmas
- Sun., January 9—Baptism of Our Lord
- Sun., January 16—Second Sunday of Epiphany
- Sun., January 23—Third Sunday of Epiphany
- Sun., January 30—Fourth Sunday of Epiphany



**Please join us for our Annual Meeting!**



It will be held on **Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>** after a 10 am worship service; (one service that day). You will also be able to join us via zoom. (Link will be sent via email in advance with Annual Reports.) Your input is important as we discuss ministries, mission and vision, budgets, and more. We will also be voting on some changes to Grace’s constitution. Reports, including information about the constitutional changes, will be

sent via email on January 21<sup>st</sup>. If you do NOT have access to email and wish to receive a hard copy, you will need to notify the church office. Reserved copies may be picked up at the office after January 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Stephen Ministry Update:** Back in August of 2013, two of our members, Judy Lukens and Denise Starr, attended the extensive training course for Stephen Ministry Leaders. With hearts full of compassion and faith, they recruited and trained more Stephen Ministers, and together provided years of Christian care for those experiencing a difficult time. Stephen Ministry at Grace is now coming to an end, and we would like to thank those people who walked alongside of others, giving of themselves to share the love of Christ. In addition to Judy, Denise, and Connie Tracewell who joined the leadership team, we give thanks to God for our Stephen Ministers: Margie Alloway, Janet Brown, Rosalyn Capor, Phil Coath, Martha Curran, Sue Perry, Charles Plaughter, Peg Shiley, Jan Slack, Mike Starr, Susan Vukovich, and Mike Walter. Thank you, Stephen Ministers, for the caring difference you made in people’s lives.



**Pastor's Points:** It's 2022. *How are you doing?* Real question- I really want to know. As we begin a new year, we enter it with hopes and fears, dreams and plans, maybe a little trepidation and hopefully some faith in God's presence in it all. So, how are you? What are you excited about? What are you feeling anxious about? What are the things that you hope to see happen? In what ways would you like support and prayer? In what ways do you want to be able to offer support to others? Where are you noticing God, or where does it feel that God is absent from right now?



I often hear people say, "Pastor, I don't want to bother you...." Please know that your phone call, email, or visit to the office isn't a bother. (If I can't talk in the moment, I promise to tell you!) It's my privilege and it's a blessing to be able to walk with you on your journey. People of faith do that. We share the burdens and the blessings. So, I'll ask again... *How are you doing?*



***From the Deacon's Desk: Happy New Year!***

It's that time of year again where some of us make New Year's resolutions. In general, I'm not much of a resolutions maker, but I do appreciate that new years bring about ideas for new changes in our lives. So, with that in mind, I thought I'd take time to share some online resources I've found to be helpful in my prayer life and spiritual formation. You might want to check some of these out for yourself:

***Pray as You Go*** – Created by a Jesuit community in London, England, it is an online daily prayer session, designed for use on your smart phone or mp3 player, to help you pray whenever & wherever you are. Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection." There are also tools to help you learn Christian meditative practices. Here is a link: <http://pray-as-you-go.org/about/>. Pray as You Go also has an app.

***Sacred Space*** – A sister site to Pray as You Go, this site is run by the Irish Jesuits, and is a wonderful online daily prayer site. As with Pray as you Go, the prayer is built around a scripture passage. There is also helpful information on the site about centering prayer, meditation, and self-retreats. You can explore the site here: <https://www.sacredspace.ie>

***Inward/Outward Together:*** Daily Quotes and reflections from Church of the Savior in Washington, DC. You can sign up to receive via email. <https://inwardoutward.org/category/daily-quote/>

***Richard Rohr Daily Meditations:*** Rohr is probably my favorite spiritual teacher. His daily meditations are inspiring & beautiful! You can sign up here: <https://cac.org/email-sign-up/> and read a sample one here: <https://email.cac.org/t/ViewEmail/d/2B5EF403778446592540EF23F30FEDED/E489F23DC99EA1BD3D3F7F9A22A6E02E?alternativeLink=False>

And of course, you are always invited to sign up for Morning Grace, our own daily devotions.



**Did you miss Grace's Christmas Eve services  
Or the children's Christmas pageant?**

You may still access them by going to our website and clicking on our archives under our Worship tab!



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## YOUTH NEWS



Join us for G.R.A.C.E. Place from 9:30am – 10:15am, Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> & Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>.

January 2<sup>nd</sup> is G.R.A.C.E. Place for individual classes:  
kindergarten & under, 1st – 2nd & 3rd – 6th graders.

January 16<sup>th</sup> will be large group G.R.A.C.E. Place with Kelsey, learning faith through life size board games!

Kindergarten & under (with parents) will meet in the social hall.

1st – 2nd grade will meet in the welcome center and head to LO9 after everyone arrives.

3rd – 6th grade will meet and stay in the welcome center..

All classes are back inside. We ask that you wear a mask and stay socially distanced.

**We're looking for volunteers to help lead these classes.**

**Please be prayerful about this opportunity and email Kelsey if you'd like to volunteer.**

Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat is for 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders!

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>!

Registration of \$100 is due January 30<sup>th</sup> to Kelsey

(including registration forms which can be emailed to you by Kelsey).

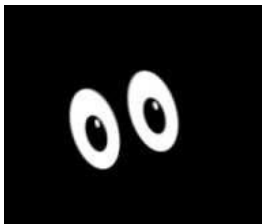
*To Attend This Year's Retreat, You Must Be Vaccinated and Send in a Copy of Your Vaccination Card Along with Your Healthcare Card apart of the Medical Form.*

Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> is a day of service!

9am – 1pm all ages are invited to create snack bags and sandwiches for Bread at Grace Lutheran Church. Lunch is provided.



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

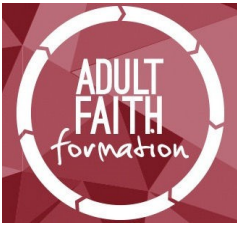


**Have you noticed?** Have you been looking for the Ledger and can't find it on the website or anywhere at worship? We've made a change and are no longer publishing a "Ledger". With our information now on our website, we thought we would be kind to the environment and save some trees & waste. We now publish a much shorter, 1/2 page version of important current information called "Weekly Announcements", which is available when you come to in-person worship. Feel

free to take a copy with you when you're here; otherwise, all of our information is available on our website and in our monthly newsletter. If you can't find what you're looking for on the website, give us a call at the Church Office and we'll help you find it!

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## Check Out These Other Great Ways to Stay Connected

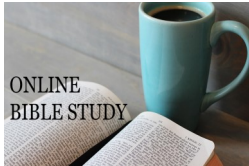


**Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation**—Richard Harshaw is leading a group for fellowship and discussion on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. You can find Richard in the choir room. Judy Stryker’s book discussion group will begin when COVID numbers go down and we can begin to meet without masks again. Stay tuned and continue to check back for a start date. (and please remember that masks are required in the building now for all gatherings).

**Other Adult Faith Formation**— If you are interested in restarting, taking part in, or leading a new gathering of the Mother’s group that met on Sunday mornings with Jan Slack, please contact Deacon Allison. Volunteers are needed to help facilitate, and Deacon Allison will help you get started!



**Deacon Allison’s Zoom Bible Study—Our study of the Gospel of John continues.** We meet at 7:00pm through Zoom on Monday evenings and at 10:00am on Thursday mornings. Both groups are studying the same material. Anyone is welcome to join us at any time. Contact [deaconallison12@gmail.com](mailto:deaconallison12@gmail.com) or the church office for a link.



We will begin a new study in February, of the Gospel of Luke, so if you’d like to wait until then, we’d love to have you!

**Facebook Live Opportunity** —Join either Pastor Kraus or Deacon Allison for prayer time on **Sundays**. **Times will fluctuate** based on what is happening with our in-person Sunday morning schedule. The regular Thursday Facebook Live has ended, but Deacon Allison will occasionally host one at various times. Check the Facebook page for updates.



**Morning Grace Daily Devotions.** You can find our Morning Grace Devotions at [allisonwilcox.com](http://allisonwilcox.com). Sign up there to receive devotions in your email box Mondays through Fridays.



**New Noon Coffee Hour & Get Real Link Info.!** 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! Please 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](http://www.gracelutheranroyersford.com)

**Email:** [gracelutrn@verizon.net](mailto:gracelutrn@verizon.net)

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

**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)

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**Worship at Grace:** Here's what Sunday mornings look like at Grace:

8:15 am: Traditional worship in the sanctuary, centered on Word & Sacrament. Inspiring music, faithful preaching, life-giving Communion. This service is immediately in need of volunteers who will click through a power point for the service; an easy job, but very important! Please contact the church office if you are willing to do this!



9:30 am: Grace Place! (Sunday School for 1<sup>st</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> grades) Every other Sunday. Confirmation classes will run from 9:15-10:15 every Sunday. Check out the details in our youth section of the newsletter.

10:30 am: Contemporary worship in the sanctuary, centered on Word & Sacrament, is less formal. Spirit-filled music by Spirit of Grace praise band, children's sermon by Kelsey & Communion. This service will be livestreamed to our Youtube channel at GraceLutheranRoyersford and is always recorded & saved to our website at [www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com](http://www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com), where you can view it at your convenience.

Grace will continue to follow local guidelines for masks and other recommendations. Currently, we are asking for all worshipers to wear a mask for their protection and the protection of children who are not eligible for vaccinations. (We're a family church – we love our kids!) Please continue to follow social distance guidelines, *especially* when you are in the buildings.

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### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



Thank you, everyone, who opened your hearts and contributed to ELCA Good Gifts! The gifts that you purchased will help fight hunger & transform lives to those in need around the world. Grace collected a total of \$3014.00. This money was collected at Grace, and from congregation members who purchased directly from the ELCA. Your gifts share God's love in Christ far and wide. Merry Christmas!

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### **Are you a Thrivent client that has Choice Dollars available?**

Don't forget! If you're an eligible Thrivent client and have Choice Dollars® available to direct, please keep our organization in mind.

For more info or to direct Choice Dollars, call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice." Or go to [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice)



