

February 2022
Graceful Greetings



FEBRUARY 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., February 6—Fifth Sunday of Epiphany/Annual Meeting
One Worship Service at 10AM w/ meeting to follow
- Sun., February 13—Sixth Sunday of Epiphany
- Sun., February 20—Seventh Sunday of Epiphany
- Sun., February 27—Transfiguration Sunday



Please join us for our Annual Meeting!



It will be held on **Sunday, February 6th** after a 10am 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 21st. 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 21st.



Join us on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd to begin the season of Lent.

There are 2 opportunities:
Drive-through Prayer & Ashes will be available in the church parking lot from noon – 2pm.
 (Pastor Kraus will pray with you while you may mark your own forehead with ashes provided.)
Also, worship will be held in person in the sanctuary at 7pm. This service will also be available online. You will be invited to place ashes onto your own forehead (or the forehead of someone from your household whom you came to worship with). These ashes will be provided similar to the communion kits. For those worshipping online, you may use ashes from your own fireplace, or contact us to receive a container of ashes in advance. The online link for the evening service will be provided in an email, or you may contact the church office.



Pastor's Points: *"Unprecedented"*. This word- "unprecedented"-sure got a lot of use in 2021. (Who would have thought after 2020, that there was anything left that could be unprecedented?) And yet, we heard it again and again. Every week, something *unprecedented* was happening. And now, only a full month into 2022... well, you know.



I'm going to jump on the bandwagon and throw the word around now too. I'd like to share some things that I think were unprecedented in the last year...

Unprecedented- the amount of contributions (over \$4500) Grace made through the Christmas "Good Gifts" tree. Chicks, schools supplies & fees, honey bees, vaccinations, support for food kitchens & so much more!

Unprecedented- the number of people Grace reached through technology. Worship services, bible studies, newsletters for families packed with faith activities, small groups, fb prayers...

Unprecedented- the heartfelt gratitude Grace received from Golden Age Manor & the Southeastern PA Veteran's Center for the bags of necessities and goodies given to their residents by this congregation. Bags that helped people feel loved and remembered.

Unprecedented- the number of times the people of Grace did shopping, ran errands, made a meal, transported others to doctor and vaccine appointments.

Unprecedented – the love of God reaching into this world... showing itself in so many ways through you. Thank you all for an unprecedented year.



From the Deacon's Desk: Small Groups

A congregation is a community of followers of Jesus who walk the journey of faith together – supporting each other, learning from each other, growing together, serving with each other, and loving each other (you could say, "growing, loving, serving by grace through faith")! One of the ways many congregations have found to make this faith journey together is through small groups. Small groups can be centered on many things: a weekly bible study, a prayer group, a book discussion group, a service group, or meeting together over a shared interest.

We currently have and have had such groups at Grace over the years: the Sunday morning forums, Get Real, the Caring Crafters, Bible studies, Stephen ministry, and others. Now, in this time of pandemic, finding space for each other is extra important. We would like to hear from you about what kind of group would be meaningful to you. It can be a group that meets weekly or monthly. It can be a group that meets for an extended time or a short time. That's up to you! You have a leadership team that is ready to help you in any way to get a group going.

If you have some ideas or some questions, please contact me at deaconallison12@gmail.com. You can also let Pastor Kraiss or any of our council members know your thoughts as well.

Blessings!

YOUTH NEWS



Join us for G.R.A.C.E. Place from 9:30am – 10:15am, Feb. 6th and Feb. 20th.

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

February 20th 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.

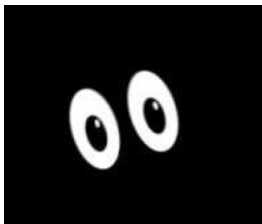
Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat is for 6th – 12th graders!

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 25th – Sunday, March 27th!

This retreat is being evaluated based on covid numbers and may become virtual. Virtual Tuscarora will be Saturday, March 26th at Grace Lutheran Church, lunch provided. Check your emails for updates.



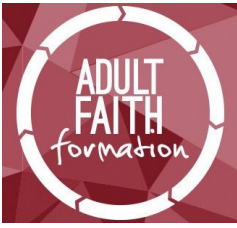
**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Grace Lutheran Youth Group
“Like” us to see recent news & events**



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!

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— We are still looking for one or two moms willing to help facilitate the Sunday morning gathering of the mother's group that previously met with Jan Slack. No facilitation experience necessary, just a willingness to gather with other mothers! Contact Deacon Allison to answer any questions and to help you get started! If you aren't sure you want to take this on yourself, get a friend & share the duties!



Deacon Allison's Zoom Bible Study—Our study of the Gospel of John will finish up this month and a new study on the Gospel of Luke will begin the week of February 28th. This would be a great time to start if you've been thinking about joining us. No experience necessary! Come find out how exciting scripture is! On Sunday mornings we get only a taste. We meet via Zoom at 7:00 pm on Monday evenings and at 10:00 am on Thursday mornings. Both groups study the same material. Anyone is welcome to join us at any time. Contact deaconallison12@gmail.com or the church office for a link.

Facebook Live Opportunity —Join either Pastor Kraiss or Deacon Allison for prayer time on **Sundays**. **Times will fluctuate** based on what is happening with our in-person Sunday morning schedule. The 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. Sign up there to receive devotions in your email box Mondays through Fridays.

Healing Service—If you are interested in the Healing Service starting up again via Zoom (at least for now until numbers go back down), please let Deacon Allison know! (deaconallison12@gmail.com)



Noon Coffee Hour & Get Real Link Info.! Miss 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

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)

Worship at Grace:

Here's what a typical Sunday morning looks 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 1st- 6th 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, 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.



CORRECTION

A correction to the list of Stephen Ministers in the January newsletter!

Joe Curran also served faithfully and well for many years as a Stephen Minister. We give thanks to God for his service!

If inclement weather is predicted for a Sunday, please check your email! A mass email will be sent with the zoom link and other details, if it is determined that worship is best held online. (Don't forget to check your spam also - sometimes mass emails end up there!) What a blessing to have worship options - even in snow and ice!



