

April 2022

Graceful Greetings



APRIL 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., April 3—Fifth Sunday of Lent
Sun., April 10—Palm Sunday
Thurs., April 14—Maundy Thursday
Fri., April 15—Good Friday
Sun., April 17—Easter Sunday
Sun., April 24—Second Sunday of Easter/First Communion

Holy Week services:

Palm Sunday, April 10th (8:15 & 10:30am) Wave the palms, shout "hosanna!" and praise "the One who comes in the name of the Lord!" This will be a service of celebration!

Maundy Thursday, April 14th (7pm) Join us in an interactive service of the passion of Jesus, Holy Communion & the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday, April 15th (7 pm) The moving & powerful Seven Last Words of Christ will be read with reflections, as the church slowly darkens in anticipation of the sealing of the tomb.



Easter is Coming! Come worship our Risen Lord on Sunday, April 17th! Join us for one of three worship services...

6:30 am Outdoor Sunrise service: Celebrate Easter on the front lawn of the church, watching the sun rise! We will also have a fire pit - a reminder that the Light of Christ is alive! Bring your lawn chair (and umbrella in case of rain!).

8:15 am worship: This traditional service with your favorite Easter hymns and bell choir will celebrate our Lord on this Holy Day of Resurrection.

10:30 am worship: Worship the risen Christ on Easter with the praise band, bell choir and children's message. Holy Communion will be celebrated at all three services.

Anti-Human Trafficking 101—Please join the Royersford Churches in Action for a free & important event on Sunday, April 10th at 6:30pm, to learn about human trafficking in our area and how we can prevent it.

"Anti-Human Trafficking 101" will be presented by Carla Clanagan, Executive Director of Montgomery County Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition (MCAT), and Michele Chamburn, Education Team Leader of MCAT. You may join us in person at 6:30pm, at Royersford Baptist Church, 452 S. Lewis Rd. (Masks & social distancing recommended) or, join us via livestream at youtube.com/watch?v=OnhaAY0x8Fw.

This event is free (a free will offering is appreciated for MCAT). Help us make our community a safer place for all!



Pastor's Points:

Last month I talked about “rebuilding” at this point in the pandemic. Let’s start with this... *How are you?* How is life going for you and your loved ones in this moment? What are your places of stress, fear & disappointment? What are your places of joy, love & blessing? What are your hopes for the future? What place does your faith have in all of that? What place do you hope for the church to have in that?

Ok, that was a lot of questions. Call me on the phone. Send me an email (jkrais.gracelutrn@verizon.net). Catch me after worship. Stop by the office. This is the first step in rebuilding – checking in and figuring out where we are at. I truly want to hear from you – for your sake, and my sake, and the sake of Grace.

So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding. ~Romans 14:19



From the Deacon's Desk: Outdoor Worship Pt 2

Now that our restrictions have eased up, as life returns a little closer to what it was pre-pandemic, we enter a time that's a little bit fuzzy. While many of us are eager to return to “normal,” there are others who have good reasons to want to remain careful, whether it is due to an immunocompromised state or being unvaccinated. One opportunity for those who wished to worship in a safer space last summer was at our outdoor worship service Sunday morning. (or at our WoW service Wednesday evenings). This was a great way for both the cautious and the not-as-cautious to gather together for a casual, energetic worship experience.

By now, you hopefully have received the email blast with an attached survey regarding summer outdoor worship for 2022. If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to fill this out. Hard copies are also available during worship. You can return your written responses to the church office, put it in the offering plate, or simply email me at deaconallison12@gmail.com with your reply. Your response **by April 18th** would be greatly appreciated! Blessings!

Relief to the people of Ukraine can be sent through Lutheran World Relief. See their website at www.lwr.org, or send checks to Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061, memo: aid to Ukraine.



God's Good Garden at Grace-As we embark on our 10th year of providing fresh food to our community, the Garden Team is looking for additional volunteers to help grow the program in 2022. Your time commitment may total up to 4 hours a month from May through September and will enable those in our community to enjoy healthy, fresh produce. Please respond to kmeyers413@verizon.net if interested in joining our team. Thank You

Our Prayer List Coordinator is Becky Leonard. 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.



YOUTH NEWS



Join us for G.R.A.C.E. Place from 9:30am – 10:15am April 3rd & April 17th.

April 3rd is G.R.A.C.E. Place for individual classes:

2 year old – 1st Grade & 3rd – 6th graders.

April 17th will be large group G.R.A.C.E. Place with Kelsey in the Welcome Center, learning faith through life size board games!

2nd graders have 1st communion class every Sunday, 9:15-10:15am with Miss Judy Lukens in LO9.

1st graders & under (with parents) will meet in the social hall..

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.

April 17th will be an Easter Egg Hunt at Grace, for 2 years – 12th grade, from 9:30-10:15am!

Lent – “Life on the Margins” - Families are invited to learn & serve those who live in the margins. Each Wednesday, we invite you to put together snack bags for Daily Bread & participate in a family daily devotions, learning about those who live on the margins. Snack bags can be dropped off by Sunday's at Grace. These devotions and directions for snack bags can be found each Wednesday on Facebook or by email.

High School Youth Group (9th – 12th grade) Sunday, April 24th, worship at 10:30am service with us; afterwards, we will have a service project in the Welcome Center & then head to Handel's for ice cream!



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

During the Sundays in Lent, Grace will be collecting items for the Welcome Church, in Philadelphia. The Welcome Church is “a church with no walls” and attracts people of all walks of life, especially the homeless. Kelsey Tomlinson and crew will be helping at the Welcome Church in May. Here are the items we are collecting:

Sandwich size Ziploc bags, Water bottles, Juice boxes, Capri Suns,
Snack-size items, individually wrapped:

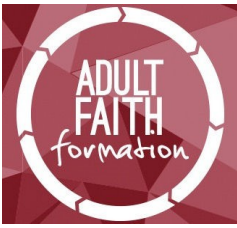
Fruit Snacks, Mini chocolates (i.e., Hershey), Raisins
Chewy granola bars, Cookies (i.e., Oreos, Chips Ahoy)
Potato chips (1 oz.), Peanut butter crackers/cheese crackers,
Mini Slim Jim's

Please place your donations on the table in the 6th Avenue foyer!

For I was hungry,
and you gave Me
something to eat; I
was thirsty, and you
gave Me something
to drink; I was a
stranger, and you
invited Me in.

Matthew 25:35

Check Out These Other Great Ways to Stay Connected



Richard Harshaw is leading a group for fellowship & discussion, Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. You can find Richard in the choir room.

Judy Stryker's book discussion group will begin again in September.

Plans are underway to resume the mother's bible study group on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in joining, see either Sue Ibach, Karen Thomson, or Deacon Allison. Indicate whether you prefer to meet in person or by Zoom.

If you have an idea about an adult group you'd like to see on Sunday mornings, please let Deacon Allison know.

A new study of the Gospel of Luke began a few weeks ago. You can still join us! No experience necessary! Come find out how exciting scripture is. On Sunday mornings we get only a taste. One of the things this group has discovered is just how different the gospels are for each other. 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.



New Member Classes—Grace has been blessed during the past two years to have had a number of first-time worshippers join us, despite the pandemic. So we will be offering a Membership Information Class this Spring. Those interested in learning more about membership at Grace can join Deacon Allison via Zoom on either May 4th or 19th at 7:00 pm. Contact her at deaconallison12@gmail.com or the church office for a link or if you would like

more information.

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)



“Life on the Margins” will be this year’s theme for Wednesday evenings in Lent. This zoom series will be hosted by Grace Lutheran Church, Royersford Baptist Church, Royersford United Methodist Church, and 1st United Church of Christ. Each Wednesday evening, we will have prayer & devotions, along with a presentation & discussion about those who live on the margins of society & how people of faith can respond. Our guest presenters will be speaking on topics such as homelessness, affordable housing, immigration, and mental health. Join us from 7 -8pm for the final presentations on 3/30 & 4/6. Call the church office for the Zoom link.

Part-time Paid Substitute Secretary Position Available. After nine years of wonderful service as our Parish Administrator’s fill-in, Diane Harshaw has given notice that she is no longer able to do this. We thank Diane for her weeks of work and diligence in this position.

We are now looking for someone who would be interested in being trained to fill in as Parish Administrator, when Phyllis goes on vacations. This position would be needed for 3 weeks a year, Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-2:30pm, mostly during the summer months, but occasionally at other times throughout the year & usually for a week at a time. Some experience with computers helpful, but not required. If interested, please contact the church office at 610-948-3684.



Volunteers needed for Altar Guild. You will be partnered with one or more people & assigned only 2 months/year. Duties include weekly refilling of candles, making communion kits, and changing colors & sign boards, as per church calendar. Pastor Krais guides & reminds us of what’s needed for the month. It’s a great way to share & minister with other members of the congregation. Training & support are provided. Please call the church office-610-948-3684, if interested/would like more info. Thank you, Tammy Jordan

Save the Date for a Lorraine's Hearing Fund Fundraiser—This fund provides financial assistance to individuals diagnosed with hearing impairment.

WHEN: Thursday, May 8, 2022 HOURS: 10am-9:30pm

WHERE: Giovanni's Pizza & Restaurant, 466 Main St. Royersford, PA

Why cook when you can have lunch, a date night or a meal out with family and friends. Have someone else cook and clean up, while helping raise money for a great cause. A portion of the day's proceeds will be donated to Lorraine's Hearing Fund.



Fellowship

Fellowship Zoom Gathering—Please join me on Thur., April 21st at 7pm for our “3rd Thurs Fellowship Zoom”. We have a topic or theme to organize our discussion/ sharing each month. In Feb., it was hobbies/things we do for fun. In March, we shared our favorite mugs, wore green & learned facts about Ireland. For April, the theme is “What brings me joy”. You may show & tell what brings you joy. Feel free to share a photo or other item along with your words. I pray that you find some joy each week and remember that at Grace, we are here for each other, you just need to reach out. Contact myself or the church office to receive an email with Fellowship Zoom link. Peace, Brenda Johnson



1. Hard workers/International Fun at Work Day
2. Math Teachers/Mathematics Education Month
3. Colors/Find A Rainbow Day
4. Gardens/National Garden Month
5. Flowers/National Dandelion Day
6. Travelers/National Read A Road Map Day
7. Homemakers/No Housework Day
8. Wellness/World Health Day
9. Birds/Draw A Picture Of A Bird Day
10. Palm Sunday Holy Week begins with Jesus triumphant entry into Jerusalem
11. Singers/BarberShop Quartet Day
12. Inner strength/Walk On Your Wild Side Day
13. Young Writers/Encourage A Young Writer Day
14. Uplifting Humor/National Humor Month
15. Good Friday/Jesus dies on the cross for us
16. God's Comfort In Disaster/The Titanic Hits Iceberg
17. Easter Sunday/Resurrection of Jesus Christ
18. Good Food/National Cheeseball Day
19. Poets/National Poetry Month
20. Guitar Players/International Guitar Month
21. All Kindergartens
22. Earth Day/Look around and Thank God
23. Fresh Produce/National Zucchini Bread Day
24. Pig in a Blanket Day/Enjoying different food
25. Enjoyment of Saturday
26. Conversation/National Telephone Day
27. Librarians/School Librarian Day
28. German Heritage/National Pretzel Day
29. Trees/ Arbor Day
30. Truth Telling/National Honesty Day

*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Reverend Janelle L. Kraus, Pastor
Deacon Allison Wilcox
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594 Church Street - 1st Fl. (Office & Mailing)
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**DEADLINE FOR THE MAY 2022
ISSUE OF GRACEFUL GREETINGS
IS Friday, April 15th**

Visit us on the web at www.gracelutheranroyersford.com
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