



May 2023  
*Graceful Greetings*



## MAY 2023 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., May 7, Church Music Sunday—One Service at 10AM

Sun., May 14, Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sun., May 21, Seventh Sunday in Easter

Sun., May 28, Pentecost Sunday

### Rev. Wayne R. Shelor

[wshelor.gracelutrn@gmail.com](mailto:wshelor.gracelutrn@gmail.com)

571-550-3229



Grace to you and peace in the name of our Lord Jesus the Christ.

I am Pastor Wayne Shelor (pronounced “SHEE – lor”). I most often go by Pastor Wayne. I am looking forward to beginning my service with you in May.

I am a native of Virginia, having been born and raised in the small town of Christiansburg, which is southwest of Roanoke. After high school I attended Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in Richmond, VA intending to become a Medical Technologist, but the Lord had other plans, so in the middle of my fourth year I changed to a Religious Studies major and graduated in 1981.

That fall I entered Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (LTSS) for my studies leading to a Master of Divinity degree and being ordained in the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) in August of 1986.

In 1983 my wife Vikki and I were married. We have had a wonderful life together that includes three adult children: Becca, and twins Ray and Joshua. We treasure whatever time we get to share with them and continue to learn how best to parent millennial children.

Previously I have served as a settled pastor in three congregations in Virginia, as well as serving as the Executive Director of Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp & Retreat Center (an outdoor ministry site of the ELCA). In 2013 I began serving as an Intentional Interim, this will be the ninth congregation I have served in this way.

I have special training in conflict resolution, youth ministry, systems theory, stewardship, and intentional interim ministry. Over the course of my ministry, I have been actively engaged in evangelism, hospitality, stewardship growth, organizational goal-setting and synodical level youth ministry. My personal interests include reading, travel, gardening, “off the beaten path restaurants,” live theater, the sharing of stories and signs of the amazing generosity of our Lord.

I am looking forward to meeting you and hearing your personal story.



## *From the Deacon's Desk: "Emotions"*

...that's what's on my mind. Lots and lots of emotions!

First, gratitude and joy. The celebration you all gave me on March 26th for my 10th Ordination Anniversary gave me such an overwhelming sense of love from and for you! I am so fortunate to be serving you here at Grace. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for such a special day!

Next, gratitude and sadness...and happiness. I don't need to tell you what Pastor Kraus has meant to this congregation. As you read this newsletter, she will already have had her last day. I am sad for us - and for me personally - to see her leave. She has left an indelible mark on my life as a rostered minister, and I am so grateful to all I have learned from her and shared with her. I am also, however, happy for her as she begins some well-earned rest and time with her family. I am sure many adventures await her and John!

And finally, gratitude & anticipation. I am grateful that Grace is in a healthy place to continue ministry in Royersford and beyond. Post pandemic, many churches are still struggling. I am also feeling anticipation and excitement for this next phase of our life as a congregation and for getting to know Pastor Shelor and whomever our next pastor will be.

Adventure awaits us as well!

Thank you, thank you to all who participated in our Rise Against Hunger event by providing us with the resources for the food packets, as well as the packing itself. It was a wonderful, successful event - we were able to pack 23,000 meals. Hopefully, we will be able to do this again in the future!



A huge and heartfelt thank you to the people of Grace for your kindness, generosity & grace shown to me, not just in my farewell, but throughout my time here at Grace. I have been incredibly blessed and am thankful to God for this ministry and for YOU! Blessings to you all in the journey ahead!

*Pastor Kraus*

**Lorraine's Hearing Fund (LHF)** was created to provide financial assistance to members of Grace who have a hearing impairment. LHF will begin taking applications for those needing equipment/devices, education or technology. Awards of up to \$2,500/applicant will be considered. To apply, please submit to the church the following information (marked Lorraine's Hearing Fund): member's name & contact information, description of what the award will be used for (i.e. purchase of hearing aid), amount of funding requested & supporting documentation (proof of payment and/or supporting documentation for direct vendor payment). Insurance coverage must be used first, if eligible. Please verify your insurance coverage. **All applications are due May 31, 2023.** Please direct questions to Roxanne Troiano at [rmtroiano@verizon.net](mailto:rmtroiano@verizon.net) or 610-574-0559.



**Additionally, Grace will also sponsor a LHF fundraising event at Giovanni's & Sons Pizzeria located at 466 Main Street, Royersford on Thursday, May 11, 2023.** A portion of the day's proceeds will be donated to Lorraine's Hearing Fund. Please consider supporting this fund by enjoying some food/drink at Giovanni's.



**Fellowship Zoom Gathering**—Please join me on **Thur., May 18th at 7pm** for our “3rd Thursday Fellowship Zoom”. We have a topic or theme to organize our discussion/sharing each month. . Contact myself or the church office to receive an email with Fellowship Zoom link.

Peace, Brenda Johnson

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## STRUNK FUND APPLICATIONS

Letters of application are being accepted now through the end of May for scholarships for 2 or 4 year colleges or trade schools. You must be enrolled as a full-time student, in an undergraduate degree program. You may only be eligible for this scholarship for a maximum of four (4) years. Awards will be given in July/

August. The committee will announce the recipients in June. All applicants must be a baptized/confirmed member of Grace Lutheran Church and new applicants are required to write a letter of application which includes the following information:



1. Your service and manner of attendance to Sunday School & church. If you worship online at Grace, submit a selfie that shows you worshipping online OR a screenshot of the service.
2. List youth group activities, which must include service projects (i.e. work camps, work days, national youth gathering, etc.).
3. Your high school scholastic record if you are to start college, or past college records if you are in college presently. Copies of official transcripts must be included.
4. 4. Name of school, course selections & whether you will be a resident or commuter student.
5. Civic organizations and high school activities in which you participate.
6. **If you previously received a grant from the Strunk Fund, the following information is required:** an official school transcript and list of your activities since your last application. College transcripts, must have a minimum 2.0 average to be eligible for consideration.
  - A. Participation in a service project either at college, in the community or the church and a letter from the organization, stating your involvement.
  - B. Regular worship attendance at a church or chapel, while at college. Worship may be:
    - 1- In-person (Submit bulletin or picture from worship service)
    - 2- Online (Submit selfie that shows you worshipping online OR screenshot of online service)
    - 3-Campus bible study group (Submit selfie that shows you with group)
  - C. Regular worship attendance at Grace, while home for breaks.

**Applications are to be received by the church office by May 31st and be clearly marked as Strunk Fund Application. No applications will be accepted after May 31st. A submitted application does not guarantee a scholarship.**

...The Strunk Fund Committee - Debbie Armstrong , Joy Fraunfelter, Kelsey Hlavac & Glenn Peak

All requirements must be met (all carry equal value) to receive a scholarship.

Content & Revisions approved by Church Council 10/13/2020



**Our Prayer List Coordinator is Becky Leonard.** Becky helps keep our church family connected & growing, through her willingness to take your prayer requests. Please contact Becky or send any prayer requests to her at [bellpn@aol.com](mailto:bellpn@aol.com) or you can call the church office at 610-948-3684 and leave a message. Thanks for sharing your joys & concerns and praying for others.

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## YOUTH NEWS

**G.R.A.C.E. Place**—Join us May 21st for graces place: 2-year-olds - sixth graders! 9:30 a.m. exploring God working in the world. Mark your calendars for June 4th, the last day of Grace place! This will be our end of the year party in the social hall at 9:30am. Everyone is welcome!



**ELCA Youth Gathering New Orleans 2024!** There will be a youth gathering in 2024 for high school AND young adults who want to attend! Join us for information meetings Sundays May 28th, June 11th, July 23rd, and August 27th at 9:30 a.m. in the welcome center, and September 10th at 11:30 a.m. in the welcome center!

**Stellar VBS 2023: July 23rd - 27th** - 3 year olds - 6th graders are invited to join us in a Stellar VBS, exploring God's Out of this World Love!

We are also looking for volunteers for our PreK & elementary ages from crew leaders to Bible adventures and kidvid! Please see Kelsey or Julie Boyer (Buckwalter) if you are interested in volunteering! REGISTER HERE: [vbspro.events/p/a51128](https://vbspro.events/p/a51128)

**Youth Leadership Camp: August 13th - 18th, 2023**—6th grade -12th graders are invited to join Kelsey for a week of learning about leadership. This leadership camp would help the youth define their leadership styles with Myers-Briggs test, strength finder, and enneagram test. We'd help them find their strengths and weaknesses and then find their passion for advocacy whether it be youth or race or LGBTQIA or other things like homelessness. The last part of this camp then goes into the faith aspect: Where's God? How is God calling you do advocate? Where is the Lutheran theology leading us, how do we walk alongside people we are advocating and fighting for with God? Register on Grace's website at: <https://www.gracelutheranroyersford.com/leadership-camp/>

**Youth-led Worship July 30th!** All youth mark your calendars for July 30th! Kelsey will be sending emails define volunteers and leaders to help lead and plan the youthful and worship service!

**Young Adult Bible Study** - Join other young adults in a weekly Bible study. We are studying scripture and how the church responds (or does not respond) to God's word through Nadia Bolz-Weber's book, Pastrix. We meet on Wednesday nights at 8:00pm via google meet. Room code is hjw-kymn-tti

**Rent-a-Youth** - Do you have any spring cleaning that needs to be done including yard cleanup or washing windows? And do you need help doing all of this or would like to pay somebody else to do this because these tasks don't seem appealing? Well, look no further! Our two youth attending this Summer's mission trip are available for rent for any tasks you need help with! Please reach out to Kelsey to rent a youth for your projects! All proceeds will go to fund this Summer's mission trip to Appalachia service project!

**Mother and Father's Day** - This year the Christian education team is donating \$300, \$150 in honor of Mother's Day and \$150 in honor of Father's Day, to the apartment here at Grace above the office to help with any needs to prepare it for our new tenants.



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

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## Check Out These Other Great Ways to Stay Connected



### *Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation & Fellowship*

- Richard Harshaw's group meets at 9:15 in the choir room for fellowship and lively discussion on different topics each week .
- Judy Stryker's book discussion group meets in the parlor, also at 9:15 am. They are reading together the book, "*Traveling Mercies*", by Anne Lamott
- If you have an idea about an adult group you'd like to see, let Deacon Allison know.

**Our study of the Gospel of Matthew continues.** One group meets via Zoom at 7pm on Monday evenings. Our other group meets in person on Thursday mornings at 10am in the parlor. We no longer are able to do both Zoom and in person on Thursdays. Both groups study 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.



**Facebook Live Opportunity** —Join Deacon Allison on **Sundays** on our Facebook page. **Times will fluctuate** based on what is happening with our in-person Sunday morning schedule.

**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 Members:** If you're interested in learning more about membership at Grace, contact Deacon Allison at [deaconallison12@gmail.com](mailto:deaconallison12@gmail.com). A membership information class will happen again soon.



**Noon Coffee Hour**—Miss seeing your Grace friends? You don't have to! Join this zoom meeting just to chat & 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:** [gracelutr@verizon.net](mailto:gracelutr@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)

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**Think Spring! Are You Thinking Spring Baseball?** Join other Lutherans in supporting the Phillies while providing funds for SEPA Synod Youth Programs by buying tickets to Lutheran Night at the Phillies, Sat. May 20th at 4:05 p.m. against the Chicago Cubs.

Ordering your tickets is simple: go to [www.phillies.com/lutheran](http://www.phillies.com/lutheran);

Use the password: LUTHERAN

Then select from available tickets. Please contact Shannon Profy in Phillies Sales Office at (215) 218-5465 with any questions. Grab your crew & reserve your seats. Go Phils!



## MAY Prayer Focus

1. Thanking God for this beautiful spring / May Day
2. Healthy Bodies / National Fitness Day
3. Happiness / World Laughter Day
4. Prayer/National Day of Prayer
5. Our Mexican neighbors / Cinco de Mayo
6. Nurses / National RN Recognition Day
7. Tourists/National Tourism Day
8. People with addictions / Gambler's Week
9. Those suffering from Lupus / Lupus Awareness Month
10. Sleeplessness / National Sleepover Day
11. Hunger / Eat What You Want Day
12. Poetry / Limerick Day
13. Our shut-ins in nursing homes / National Nursing Home Week
14. Mothers / Mother's Day
15. Families / International Day of Families
16. Our servicemen & women / Armed Forces Day
17. Our country / I Am An American Day
18. Relatives / Visit Your Relative Day (Facetime)
19. Older Americans / Older American's Month
20. Bees / World Bee Day
21. Emergency medical technicians / Emergency Medical Services Week
22. Restful sleep / Better Sleep Month
23. Boaters / Safe Boating Week
24. Delicacies / National Escargot Day
25. Missing Children/National Missing Children's Day
26. Greens / National Salad Month
27. Our hospital employees / Hospital Week
28. Favorite Sandwiches / National Hamburger Day
29. Memorial Day / Remember a service man or woman
30. Garden replenishing / Learn About Composting Day
31. Quietness / Save Your Hearing Day



*Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
*The Reverend Wayne Shelor, Interim Pastor*  
*Deacon Allison Wilcox*  
*Located at 6th Avenue & Main Street*  
*594 Church Street - 1st Fl. (Office & Mailing)*  
*Royersford, PA 19468*

**DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE 2023  
ISSUE OF GRACEFUL GREETINGS  
IS Monday, May 15th**

Visit us on the web at [www.gracelutheranroyersford.com](http://www.gracelutheranroyersford.com)  
Email: [GraceLutrn@verizon.net](mailto:GraceLutrn@verizon.net) Church Office: 610.948.3684 Fax: 610.948.3304