

November 2023 Graceful Greetings



NOVEMBER 2023 WORSHIP SERVICES

If you are unable to worship with us in person, our worship services can also be found on our website under the "Worship" tab & on our Facebook page or YouTube channel.

Sun., November 5, All Saints' Sunday Sun., November 12, 24th Sunday After Pentecost Sun., November 19, 25th Sunday After Pentecost Sun., November 26, Christ the King Sunday



Thank you to all for participating in a wonderful Blessed to be a Blessing Sunday! Our guest



speaker, Tammy Epprecht, was an inspiration & the brunch was delicious!! We do have so much to be grateful for here at Grace and your support of this community of faith is a huge blessing! To date, we have received 46 Estimate of Giving cards totaling \$172,466 for 2024. THANK YOU! Our early budget estimate indicates a need for \$275,500 of congregational giving, so we are well on our way! Please return your estimate of giving

card today, if you have not done so and help Grace be confident in pursuing the ministries that God is calling us into! Your estimate is a huge blessing to us in our faithful planning.

Holiday Craft Fair - Grace Lutheran will host a Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 4th, from 9am-3pm, in the Social Hall. Come on out and cross some holiday shopping off your list and help our Youth raise money for their 2024 Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Thanks for your interest in our event & support of our youth.





On Sunday, November 5th at the 8:00 & 10:30am services, we will remember not only the departed members of our congregation, but other loved ones as well.

You are invited to submit the name(s) of those people to the church office for inclusion in the weekly announcements & as part of this special service that will commemorate the faithful departed. Please join us for worship, prayer and the naming of all saints, including those especially beloved to us. If you worship with

us virtually, you may wish to light a candle to remember & honor your own loved ones.

November 1st is All Saints Day, a day commemorating all the saints of the church, both known and unknown, who have attained heaven. In medieval



England the festival was known as All Hallows, thus the evening before is All Hallows Eve (aka. Halloween).

Frequently when we speak of saints, we mean the persons who have lived exemplary lives. We often include John the Baptist, the apostles, Mary (several of them), Paul, Augustine, and Joan of Arc. We may even move through history and consider Francis of Assisi, Thomas a Becket, Dietrick Bonhoeffer, Mother Theresa, and others. But Martin Luther spoke of us as being both saint and sinner, suggesting we are in some way the saints, however uncomfortable that may feel. I suspect very few of us feel saintly.

So, what is it that makes one a saint. Our Roman Catholic cousins have a very elaborate process for identifying a person as a saint. We Lutherans do not have such a process, and yet we name a great many of our congregations after "saints." Again, I ask what is it that makes one a saint?

On Sunday, November 5th, All Saints Sunday, I will be leading a conversation about saints in the Parlor beginning at 9:20 am (right after the early worship service). I welcome your participation and conversation on this topic. I hope to see you there.

From the Deacon's Desk

A couple of weeks ago, we heard from Tammy Epprecht, our Stewardship Chair, on Blessed to Be a Blessing Sunday. Tammy gave a wonderful temple talk on what it means to share our time, our talents, and our treasures. (She also gave us a great lunch as well! Thank you, Tammy, for sharing your gifts and time!).

I wanted to jump on her bandwagon and follow up by offering to help you find your gifts. Maybe you aren't sure what ways you can offer your time to take part in a ministry of the church. We all have a lot going on in our lives, but sharing your gifts with the church is a true blessing both to the community and to you.

I've attached a link of a Spiritual Gifts Inventory that the ELCA has used to help members find their way into a ministry that fits who they are. You'll need to print this out to do it or see me and I will give you a hard copy. https://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/ spiritgifts.pdf? ga=2.218113119.712275557.1697464853-1105711834.1697464853

If you prefer to do an online inventory, you can check out this one from the United Methodist Church: https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en

Consider scheduling an appointment with me to talk about your gifts as well – whether you complete the inventory or not. You will find that serving in ways that meet your gifts will be wonderfully affirming!

Peace on the journey, Deacon Allison

The beautiful, hope-filled season of Advent begins on Sunday, December 3.

Join us in worship for Advent 2023

Sunday, December 3—1st Sunday in Advent Sunday, December 10—2nd Sunday in Advent Sunday, December 17—3rd Sunday in Advent

The schedule for Christmas Eve—December 24 is:

9:30 am One Service for Advent 4 with Holy Communion 7:00 pm Family Friendly Worship with Pageant and Holy Communion 11:00 pm Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion

On December 31 - One Service at 9:30 am; Lessons and Carols



Adult Service Project! Adults, are you interested in building homes for those who have lost theirs due to natural disasters in Tennessee? Alongside St. James Lutheran church in Limerick, Grace would like to take a team in the spring to help Appalachia Service Project with new build projects in Tennessee. If you are interested in this opportunity, please reach out to Kelsey!

Project Outreach invites you to a Community Thanksgiving Meal, on

Thursday, Nov. 23rd, at Royersford United Methodist Church, 380 Church St., Royersford. Doors open at 11:30am; meal is served at noon. Reservations are recommended & walk-ins are welcome. Call 610-948-5111 for reservations.

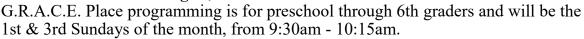




Magic Memories Early Learning Schools—We are dedicated to providing: A loving, caring and stimulating environment to support & guide your child. Safety, healthy meals & loving staff in a warm, trusting & home-like setting. Emotional security, self-esteem & social development of the children. Contact us at enroll@magicmemories.org, 610-400-8587 or magicmemories.org

YOUTH NEWS

G.R.A.C.E. Place has begun, at 9:30am!



November programming will be on November 5th and November 19th!



Calling all Young Adults! Join Kelsey Wednesday nights in November, at 7pm online, via Google Meet (https://meet.google.com/egw-vnvg-nxy) for a Bible Study! There will also be a young adult dinner and game night at Kelsey's house on Friday, November 10th at 7pm for any young adult! If coming, please email or text Kelsey.

Parents are invited to attend a monthly small group held by Kelsey, in the Prayer Croner Room, starting at 9:30am. Dates below:

Oct. 29th, Nov. 10th, Dec. 10th, Jan. 21st, Feb. 25th, April 14th, May 19th, and June 9th.

Sign-ups for the Christmas Pageant are out! We are looking for non-speaking parts, readers, and speaking characters! Please see Kelsey if you're interested OR grab a cast sign-up in the Narthex on the toolbox table!

High Schoolers: 2nd and 4th Sunday's, you are invited to meet in the high school room for fellowship and food! The 1st & 3rd Sunday's, they are invited to assist in a G.R.A.C.E. Place classroom. AND, on Nov. 5th at 5pm they are invited to High School Youth Group in the social hall!



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

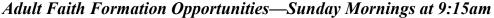


Calling All Counters—we are in need of 2-4 volunteers to help assist in counting money from the weekly collection. This task typically takes less than an hour following the late service. You will be asked to help in a 5-6 week rotating schedule so looking at 10-11 times each year. Following Covid we lost several teams and would really appreciate the help to lessen the burden on all. Please contact Phyllis at the church office with your desire to help or contact Kurt Meyers. Thank You!

Help Wanted - We're looking for 5-6 volunteers to join our Altar Teams. The goal is to add another volunteer to each of the 6 teams. This will add much needed flexibility which will help to cover vacations, absences & holidays. The tasks are easy, the commitment minimal, but the final results are pretty rewarding. If you're interested, please contact Joy Fraunfelter or the church office.



Check Out These Ways to Support Your Faith Journey





Weekly - Richard Harshaw's group continues to meet in the Choir Room (L04)

On the first Sunday of the month, alternate programming will be offered in place of the book group in the parlor. Join Pastor Wayne for the following two sessions:

All Saints Sunday discussion on 11/5 Christmas around the world on 12/3

On the 2nd, 3rd, 4th & occasionally 5th, Sundays of the month, a book discussion group will meet in the Parlor, led by Judy Stryker. The group will be reading "Holy Envy", by Barbara Brown Taylor. The author is an Episcopal priest who is teaching a college class about other people and their religious traditions. Through those religions, we learn to accept others and reevaluate our own thoughts about God.

Morning Grace Daily Devotions may be found at allisonwilcox.com. Sign up there to have these devotions delivered directly to your email box Mondays through Fridays.

The Gospel of Matthew Bible Study meets:

Monday evening at 7:00 pm via Zoom and Thursday mornings at 10:00 am, in the parlor (room L05). It's never too late to join us as we share in God's word. Let Deacon Allison know if you'd like a link to the Monday Zoom.



Interested in joining Grace? Please contact Deacon Allison at <u>deaconallison12@gmail.com</u>, to learn more about membership at Grace. Our next information class will begin soon.

Women's Retreat—Thank you to everyone who participated in the Women's Retreat!

Deacon Allison welcomes your feedback!



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 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.

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

Website: www.gracelutheranroyersford.com Email: gracelutrn@verizon.net

YouTube Channel: gracelutheranroyersford Instagram search: grace.lutheran.royersford Facebook search: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Twitter search: @gracelutheran12

NOVEMBER Prayer Focus

- 1: Special people (All Saint's Day)
- 2: Look for Circles' Day
- 3: Homemakers (National Homemaker Day)
- 4: Caregivers (National Caregiver's Appreciation Month)
- 5: Football players (American Football Day)
- 6: Saxophone players (National Saxophone Day)
- 7: Those suffering from diabetes (Diabetes Month)
- 8: Great Chefs (Cook Something Bold Day)
- 9: The safety of our children (National Child Safety Council founded 1955)
- 10: All Marines (US Marine Corps Birthday)
- 11: Veteran's (Veteran's Day)
- 12: Variety of food available (National Pizza with the Works Except Anchovies Day)
- 13: Kindness (World Kindness Day)
- 14: All nurses (Operating Nurse Week)
- 15: American Educators (American Education Week)
- 16: Things that give us comfort {National Teddy Bear Day}
- 17: Peace (World Peace Day)
- 18: Those suffering from lung cancer (Lung Cancer Awareness Week)
- 19: Those dying in wars (Abraham Lincoln delivers the Gettysburg Address)
- 20: Children of all ages (Universal Children's Day)
- 21: Personal communication (World Hello Day)
- 22: All Native Americans (Native American Heritage Month)
- 23: Thanking God for all our blessings this year (Thanksgiving Day)
- 24: Family
- 25: Small business Saturday
- 26. All those afflicted with Alzheimer's (Alzheimer's Disease Month)
- 27: Calmness (Pins and Needles Day)
- 28: Easy Nutrition (French Toast Day)
- 29: Our Grace family (Family Week)
- 30: Safety with computers (Computer Security Day)

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

DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER 2023
ISSUE OF GRACEFUL GREETINGS
IS Monday, October 16th



Visit us on the web at www.gracelutheranroyersford.com

Email: GraceLutrn@verizon.net Church Office: 610.948.3684 Fax: 610.948.3304