

# July 2025 Graceful Greetings



## JULY 2025 WORSHIP SERVICES

*(Summer Schedule - One Combined Service at 9:30am; No Sunday School)*

Sunday, July 6—4th Sunday of Pentecost  
Sunday, July 13—5th Sunday of Pentecost  
Sunday, July 20—6th Sunday of Pentecost  
Sunday, July 27th—7th Sunday of Pentecost



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.



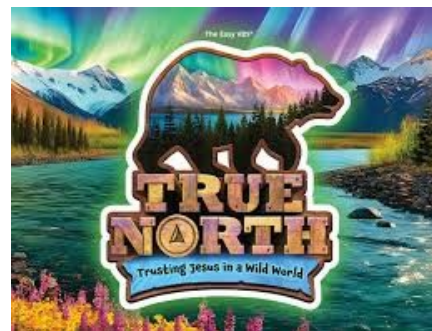
**The Church Office will be closed on Fri., July 4th in honor of Independence Day.** Please feel free to leave a message or email us and we will get back to you as soon as we are able.

**Come join us for 2025 VBS on July 13th through July 17th,** on an Alaskan adventure, where northern lights glow over majestic mountains, racing rivers & glistening glaciers pointing you towards Jesus. You will learn that he is a faithful friend that can always be trusted and he is your True North.

Preschool through 6th graders are invited to join us for Grace Lutheran’s Vacation Bible School! You won’t want to miss this adventure into God! Come explore God’s love and Jesus’ light!

Register at: [https://vbspro.events/p\\_early/e11f24](https://vbspro.events/p_early/e11f24)

Or Scan the QR Code



**Members & friends—Several items are needed to make VBS awesome!**

We need enough of each item for 50 children.

Here is the link for the Amazon Wish list for VBS; please help out if you can!!

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/SNZ6QHV5JJ9U?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/SNZ6QHV5JJ9U?ref=wl_share)

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Dear Siblings in Christ,



Many years ago, long before I became a pastor, I learned how to play the violin. Eventually, I joined the praise band at St. John's Ridge Valley, my home congregation. My fellow musicians clipped a small lapel microphone onto my violin to amplify its acoustic sound so that it would not be lost among the other amped instruments. However, the microphone was so sensitive that it picked up the distracting sound of every breath I took, and so I began to stifle and even hold my breath as I played.

Then one Christmas, my fellow musicians gifted me with a digital pick-up, which attached to my violin's bridge to pick up the vibrations, sending the sound of the violin directly to the sound system and eliminating the need for the clip-on microphone. The sound of my violin improved with the better technology.

But there was something else, and I didn't notice it at first. Because of the microphone, I had been holding back my breath for so long, that it took me a few weeks to realize that I didn't have to hold my breath anymore. Without restriction, I could move the air freely through my whole body again and simply breathe. This changed everything: My sound improved dramatically, I was happier and more satisfied with my music making, and my band mates could hear and feel the difference, too. I learned that my ability to play beautifully was completely dependent upon my freedom to breathe and move.

One of my favorite classical recordings is Zuill Bailey playing Bach's Cello Suites. I love to hear him play, not just because he is a superb musician, but because I can distinctly hear each breath he takes as he plays. It's one of the precious few recordings I've heard that didn't edit out the breath sounds.

And so I wonder...

What if the spiritual life is like that too? What if our ability to love and serve, as Jesus would have us do, is connected to our absolute freedom to breathe with the Holy Spirit as deeply as our souls can hold? And to move unrestricted in the knowledge that God loves us no matter what. How much more beautiful might our lives sound and feel if we could just remember to breathe in the gift of the Spirit and breathe out that which impedes God's love?

*Creator, Lover & Sustainer,  
As in the beginning, you breathe into us animating us with the gift of life.  
Yet sin contorts us, fear restricts us, and our anxieties keep us from  
living freely as you desire us to do.  
Help us to release to you all that binds us,  
which we now name before you aloud or silently from our hearts...  
By your Spirit, fill us deeply with your life-giving breath  
that we may live and serve others out of the unrestricted abundance of your love.  
In the precious name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.*

Peace + Grace,

*Pastor Leah*

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### *From the Deacon's Desk: Summer Blues, News, and Snooze*

OK, well those words don't all go together perfectly for what I want to say, but I can't resist a great rhyme!

I said summer blues because the world around us might seem like a scary place right now. As I write this, political and global tensions are high, and a new COVID strain, along with Bird Flu, is threatening health again. So the news of the world might be giving us the blues.

But as Christians, we are also the bearers of good news. The best news! Despite how frightening the world might seem right now, the good news is that we are not alone. We are beloved. We aren't promised that we will be free from suffering, but we are promised that God always goes ahead of us: leading, guiding, loving, and holding. We know that suffering and death will not have the last word.

As for snooze: well, rest...find time this summer to rest. Relax, yes, but rest also with God. Sure, that means continue to worship, but it also means find ways to rest with God in peace and in quiet in the other avenues of your life.

*May God's peace be with you!*  
+ Peace! Deacon Allison



**St. Mary's Shelter catered meal or gift card request for July 7-11.** St. Mary's is no longer accepting home cooked meals. They are requesting grocery store gift cards or catered meals from restaurants to provide meals for their residents. Contact Danielle Lau if interested [dlau751@gmail.com](mailto:dlau751@gmail.com)

**Laurel House School Supply Drive** - Grace is collecting school supplies to provide 50 children who are impacted by domestic violence. **Collection dates are June 22-July 27.** Please check the website or pick up a copy of the complete list of items requested, from either information table at church.



### **Save the Date! Women's Retreat**

**Women from Grace are once again invited to a day-long retreat, on Sat., October 4th to be held at the Farmhouse at Temenos Retreat Center in West Chester.** Registration for the retreat will begin in August. So save the date and stay tuned. (keep in mind that registration will be limited to 20 attendees due to space constraints).



This is a great way to enjoy the company of other women in our congregation and have some fun and learning along the way. Temenos has a beautiful facility & we will have opportunity to enjoy the nature surrounding it. Coffee, snacks, and lunch will be provided.

The cost for the retreat this will be \$35 per person. Scholarships will be available. Please let Deacon Allison know if the cost is prohibitive.

If you have questions, contact Deacon Allison either in the church office or at [deaconallison12@gmail.com](mailto:deaconallison12@gmail.com).

## YOUTH NEWS



**Summer Mission Trip 2025:** We're heading to Lutherridge in Aden, NC (near Ashville, NC) to help flood recovery from Hurricane Helene. This ELCA Lutheran Christian Camp sustained significant damages to their property & needs our help with cleanup and reconstruction. Trip dates" July 13-18, 2025. More information to come.

**Calling all volunteers!!!!** We are looking for volunteers for VBS this summer and would love for your help. If you are interested and want to learn more on how you can help please email: [cey.graceluthrn@gmail.com](mailto:cey.graceluthrn@gmail.com)



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

**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/channel/UCgracelutheranroyersford)

**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)



**GLC has an open Council position for Youth Committee Chair.** Do you have a heart for youth ministry? Are you feeling a nudge from the Holy Spirit to discern a call to serve on our dynamic Council? Please speak with Pastor, Deacon, or Council President Kurt Meyers for more information.



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## Check Out These Ways to Support Your Faith Journey

**Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation & Fellowship**—Richard Harshaw's group will continue to meet during the summer in the Choir Room for topical conversations on faith and life, and for a time of fellowship. Check with Richard for details regarding date & times.

Judy Stryker's group is on break for the summer.

**Bible Study has finished for the summer. We will begin again after Labor Day.**



**Faith First – Last Wednesday of this Month.** Join us for breakfast, devotions and fellowship at Main Street Café. We meet on the last Wednesday of the month at 8:30 am. **Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, July 30th.** Hope to see you there! **(note that this is the fifth Wednesday of the month)**

**Morning Grace—Morning Grace is currently on hiatus.**

**Interested in joining Grace?** Contact Deacon Allison [deaconallison12@gmail.com](mailto:deaconallison12@gmail.com), to learn more about membership at Grace. Our next information class will begin soon.



**Dear Grace Members, Friends & Guests:** In an effort to update pictures on our website, over the next few weeks & months, you may encounter someone taking pictures of the congregation, a group, class or area of the church. If you would prefer not to have your face or image published on our website and/or other forms of written communications & social media, please step away from the area & contact the church office at 610.948.3684 or email us, to let us know your preference to not be included in any publications or social media platforms. Thank you.

**Do you have a digital camera? Do you like to take pictures?** If you have pictures or have taken recent pictures of a church event, we would like to see them (if you are willing to share). We may be able to use some on our website or in other social media platforms for the church.

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**Assisted Listening System Available for Services:** Have trouble hearing during services? Please reach out to an Usher when you arrive if you'd like to use an assisted listening device. We have 2 models: a loop around the neck that works directly with most hearing aids; and an over-the-ear speaker. Each has personal volume control.





## **JULY Worship Assistants**

*Thank you all for your service!*



**Please note: Our Summer Worship Schedule with one combined service at 9:30am, is in effect.**

**Trustee**—Richard Harshaw      **Altar Guild Team**—Joe & Deb Kamertz

### **Counting Teams**

7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27
Brown/Henson	Fritz/Shiley	Fraunfelters	Fraunfelter/Harshaw

### **Reader**

7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27
J. Claypotch	M. Rehrer	M. Alloway	C. Butler

### **Children's Sermon**

7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27
Brenda	Jack	Pastor Leah	Angela

**Tech Table**    7/6 -Jim                      7/13 - Austin                      7/20 - Dave                      7/27 - Jim

### **Communion Assistants**

7/6    Glenn Peak, Jackie Perry, Gary & Celeste Petritas  
7/13    Kathy Reese, Joe Curran, Mark Rehrer & Mike Satryan  
7/20    Susan Firering, Richard Harshaw, Karen Thomson & Margie Alloway  
7/27    No Communion/Healing Service

### **Ushers**

7/6    Brenda Johnson & Diane Murphy  
7/13    Glenn Peak & Tom Weikel  
7/20    Karen & Darrell Lewis  
7/27    Richard Harshaw & Joel Stoddard

*(Changes to this schedule may occur after printing; assistants should be alert for updates.)*

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**DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST 2025  
ISSUE OF GRACEFUL GREETINGS  
IS Tuesday, July 15th**