

## September 2025 Graceful Greetings



### September 2025 WORSHIP SERVICES

*(Fall Schedule with 2 Worship Services and Sunday School begins on 9/14.)*

Sunday, September 7—13th Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, September 14—14th Sunday after Pentecost  
**Begin Fall Schedule: Worship Services at 8:15 & 10:30am  
with Faith Formation at 9:15am**

Sunday, September 21—15th Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, September 28—16th Sunday after 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 Monday September 1st,  
for the Labor Day Holiday!**

### Mark your Calendars for September 7th!

One Service at 9:30am!

Ministry Madness & Rally Day at 10:30am (after worship, in the Welcome Center) - Learn about the ministries, Faith Formation & G.R.A.C.E. Place programming at Grace and how you can get involved!

After you check out all that's happening at Grace, join us in the Social Hall for a church picnic with the theme - "Taco 'bout Grace".



### Fall Worship Schedule - We will return to two services on Sept. 14th.

8:15am Traditional Worship

9:15am Adult Faith Formation & Confirmation Orientation (for students & parents, in the Sanctuary)

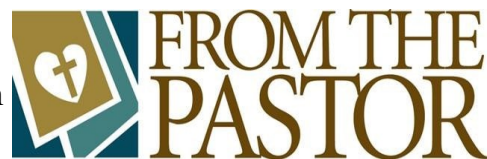
9:30AM G.R.A.C.E. Place programming for preschool - 6th grade!

10:30am Informal Worship



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

## From Pastor Leah



It's been a full summer for our ministries here at Grace Lutheran and out in the community, with Pride Fest, VBS, and Community Day as highlights. Our worship life has been energized by a combined summer worship service, and we've found time for fellowship and engagement with one another. We also marked significant moments in the lives of the saints among us in the body of Christ, including a baptism, a wedding, four funerals, welcoming new members, and sharing our gratitude with two farewell & Godspeeds. We were also blessed to award Strunk Fund scholarships to three young adult members of Grace this past August as we sent them off with our prayers and God's blessings.

Our Ministry Leaders and Committees, Staff, and Rostered Ministers have been very busy planning for and gearing up in anticipation of our fall ministries. We can't wait to have our full worshipping community back together again—we've especially missed many of our families with young children, and we are so excited to welcome you all with open arms on Sunday, September 7 when we kick off a new year of faith formation!

There is something vitally important and life-giving about prioritizing our lives of faith & regularly sharing in that gift of community together. Our SEPA Synod Bishop recently sent out a letter to our synod, and I want to share it with you now, in case you missed it, because I feel he captures so well the feelings upon my heart as we close out the summer months and look toward what is in store for us next as a community of faith. I hope you, too, will find inspiration in his words which follow. Please check it out on the next page.

Peace + Grace,

*Pastor Leah*

## From the Deacon's Desk: What I've been reading

Every now and then I like to share the books that I have either recently read, or am reading, or am getting ready to read. If any of these are of interest to you, or if you'd like to get a book discussion group going, please let me know.

**In this Economy: How Money and Markets Really Work**, by Kyla Scanlon. In this time of economic uncertainty, I felt like I needed a good, basic understanding of how it all works so that I can make informed monetary decisions. This book is fairly easy reading for someone like me - who would normally shy away from this kind of subject matter.

**The Tears of Things**, by Richard Rohr. Using the model of the Hebrew prophets, Rohr guides how we can "live compassionately in a time of violence and despair."

**Into the Mess & Other Jesus Stories**, by Debie Thomas. You've heard me quote Debie Thomas in my sermons and this book is partially why. She gives wonderful, fresh accounts of different aspects of Jesus' ministry that leave me uplifted and thinking in new ways about the Jesus story. One of my very favorite books!

**The Covenant of Water**, by Abraham Vergese. A gorgeous, epic, generational tale of love, medicine, and faith set among the St. Thomas Christians of Kerala, India.

**Caste**, by Isabel Wilkerson. From Amazon's description: "Beyond race, class, or other factors, there is a powerful caste system that influences people's lives and behavior and the nation's fate. Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Isabel Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more." This is a difficult but important book. It's big and I've been moving through it slowly to digest it.

Please share with me some books that have been on your reading lists!

God's peace be with you! Deacon Allison



**“A Letter from Bishop Bryan Penman entitled  
“We are Renewed in the Gift of Baptism”**

Dear beloved in Christ,

As August arrives, the air begins to shift ever so slightly—school supplies fill store shelves, calendars get updated with new schedules and families prepare to return to more regular rhythms of daily life.

There’s something about this season that invites reflection. A turning of the page. A beginning again.

In the church, we mark our beginnings at the waters of Baptism. Whether we were splashed as infants or immersed as adults, we carry those waters with us. We are marked with the cross of Christ forever—and that mark shapes how we live, how we love, and how we move through the world.

This fall, as life picks up speed again, I want to invite you to consider: What spiritual rhythms shape your daily living? When the calendar fills up and the pace of life quickens, it becomes even more important to ground ourselves in the practices that give life.

In Baptism, we make promises—not just once, but every day we rise and remember we belong to God. So how might we live them more fully this season?

How do we live among God’s faithful people? Maybe it’s returning to worship regularly or connecting with a small group. Community is not a luxury; it’s a lifeline.

How do we hear the Word and share the meal? Could you carve out time each week to read Scripture or join a Bible study? Or simply come to the Table on Sunday and let grace nourish you?

How do we proclaim Christ through our words and actions? A kind word, a generous gesture, an act of forgiveness—they preach louder than most sermons.

How do we serve all people? Look around. Where is God calling you to show up—with hands ready, and a heart open?

How do we strive for justice and peace in all the earth? This world is aching. Don’t underestimate the power of your voice, your vote, your presence at the margins.

Yes, life is busy. I get it. Kids to school, work deadlines, appointments, aging parents, news cycles. It’s overwhelming.

But here’s what I know: Tending to your spiritual life won’t drain you. It will ground you. It may be the very thing that saves you when everything else seems to fall apart.

So this fall, fall back into church.

Fall back into rhythms of grace.

Fall back on Jesus—and see just how strong those arms can be.

With you on the journey,

+The Rev. Bryan Penman  
Bishop, Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod



**Lorraine's Hearing Fund** (created to provide financial assistance to members of Grace who have a hearing impairment), will take applications for those in need of equipment/devices, education, or technology. Awards up to \$2,500 each will be considered for applicants. To apply, email Roxanne Troiano (rmtroiano@verizon.net) and she will either email or mail you an application (whichever is best for the applicant). **All applications are due by October 31, 2025.** Applicants will be notified in November of eligibility and the amount of the award. Please direct questions to Roxanne Troiano.

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

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 9, 2025      **HOURS:** 10 am - 9 pm

**WHERE:** Giovanni's Pizza & Restaurant, 466 Main Street, Royersford, PA

Why cook when you can have lunch, a date night, or a meal out with family and friends.

Have someone else cook & clean up while helping to raise money for a great cause. A portion of the day's proceeds will be donated to LHF.



## YOUTH NEWS



### Mark your Calendars for September 7th!

One Service at 9:30am! Rally Day!! Come out and meet the teachers!

3-year-old & 3rd grade, Bible giveaway during worship!

Ministry Madness at 10:30am (after worship) - Learn about all the ministries at Grace & how you can get involved all in the Welcome Center! Church Picnic in the Social Hall at 11am!

**G.R.A.C.E. Place starts classes on Sunday, September 14th at 9:30am!** G.R.A.C.E. Place programming will be every Sunday with 2 worship services and for preschool through 6th grade! Confirmation will have class every Sunday. Details are still being worked out for our high school youth for Sunday mornings - check the weekly announcements for the updates for high school.

**G.R.A.C.E. Place September Dates:** September 14th, 21st & 28th - 9:30am - 10:15am  
2 year old – kindergarten meet in Lower Level 07; 1st– 6th grade class meets in Lower Level 08-09.

Please register your child for G.R.A.C.E. Place online at:  
[www.gracelutheranroyersford.com/registration](http://www.gracelutheranroyersford.com/registration).

**Orientation for Confirmation will be 9:15-10:15am on Sun., Sept. 14th.** This is a meeting for both parents & students and will be held in the sanctuary. All must attend this meeting. If you cannot make this meeting or have questions about confirmation, please contact Julie Boyer. Your teachers for the year are Julie Boyer & Zach Miller! Regular classes will be held in-person, starting Sept. 21st, from 9:15-10:15AM & will meet every Sunday morning.

**Confirmands are required to attend the Lutheran Youth Retreat at Tuscarora, Fri., March 20th – March 22nd 2026;** cost is approximately \$150. This is an opportunity for the youth to enjoy some great activities & music, and deepen their spirituality among friends! If you would like to chaperone, the required background checks must be processed immediately. Please call the office for details. We LOVE (and need) plenty of adult help on our retreats. If you need financial help, please apply through the Paul Neff Scholarship BY January 1st, 2025. Scholarship applications can be found in the narthex on the toolbox table)

**First & second year confirmation students are combined and will meet in room L01, lower level of the church.** If your child has not received First Holy Communion, please contact Pastor. Your child will receive Communion instruction in this class & receive First Holy Communion.

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## Check Out These Ways to Support Your Faith Journey

**Bible Studies:** Bible Study begins again this month. We will be studying the Revelation of John, and it should give us all kinds of great fodder for conversation! We have two groups that cover the same topic: Monday's at 7:00pm via Zoom and Thursday mornings at 10:00am in the parlor. We will begin the week of 9/15 & 9/18. Contact Deacon Allison at [deaconallison12@gmail.com](mailto:deaconallison12@gmail.com) with questions or if you'd like a link to Monday's Zoom.



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

Richard Harshaw's group continues to meet in the Choir Room at 9:15 am for topical conversations on faith and life and for a time of fellowship. Check with Richard for details.

Judy Stryker's book discussion group will begin again on Sunday, September 14th in the parlor. Book TBA.



### **Faith First – Last Wednesday of this Month:**

Join us for breakfast devotions and fellowship at Main Street Café. We will continue to meet over the summer on the last Wednesday of the month at 8:30 am. Our next gathering will be on Wednesday, September 24th. Hope to see you there!

**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.

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### **Women's Retreat Registration is OPEN!**

**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 has begun.

To register, please use this Sign Up Genius Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054DADA82AA6F85-57453551-2025>

If you are unable to register via the link, please contact Deacon Allison or the Church Office. (Keep in mind that registration will be limited to 20 attendees due to space constraints, so registration will close when we have reached that amount).

This is a great way to enjoy the company of other women in our congregation & have some fun, while learning along the way. Temenos has a beautiful facility and we will have the opportunity to enjoy the nature surrounding it. Coffee, snacks & lunch will be provided. (If you are able to bring a snack or drink to share, that would be appreciated. You can sign up for something to bring when you register).

The cost for the retreat will be \$35 per person, to cover our retreat house & supplies. 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). Also, please let her know if you're interested in attending a group dinner at an area restaurant following the retreat.





*Thank you all for your service!*

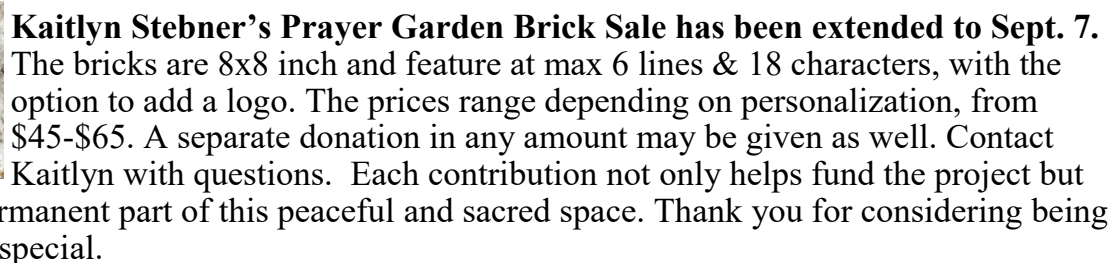


**Counting Teams**—           9/7                                 9/14                                 9/21  
                                Meyers/Troiano/Petel           Brown/Henson           Moyer/Mahaney  
9/28—Shiley/Deb Fritz

<b><u>Children's Sermon</u></b> —9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Angela	Tina	Pastor Leah	Jack

**Communion Assistants**—9/7 Kate Petel, Gary & Celeste Peteritas & Mark Rehrer  
 9/14—8:15 Jackie Perry  
           10:30 Mike Satryan, Karen Thomson, Margie Alloway & Karen Brown  
 9/21—8:15 Kathy Reese  
           10:30 Trish McGarry, Carol Ferguson, Kate Petel & Debbie Fritz  
 9/28—8:15 Joe Curran  
           10:30 Brenda Johnson, Darrell Lewis, Tina Meredith & Kathy Mills

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



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**Email:** [gracelutr@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutr@gmail.com)

**Instagram search:** grace.lutheran.royersford

**Twitter search:** @gracelutheran12

**DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER 2025  
ISSUE OF GRACEFUL GREETINGS  
IS Monday, September 15th**

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