



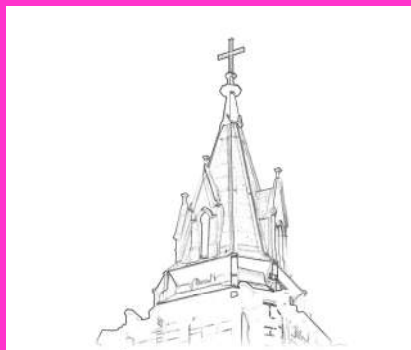
# Grace Visitor

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rochester, PA

Vol. 21 - Num. 1 February 2015

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**Regular Worship Hours**  
8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

**Junior Church after  
Children's Sermon—  
both services**

**Sunday School for all ages**  
9:30 a.m.

## Speaking the Truth in Love

**Ephesians 4:15**

Speaking is an activity that happens a lot in a church community, some of the speaking is edifying and helpful, other speaking hurts and destroys. Seldom do we speak only what God puts in our mouths (cf. Numbers 22:38). More often than not we sinners/saints speak with two agendas, our own and God's purpose. Purity and perfection are beyond us, yet God leads us to continue in God's truthful Gospel language.

Grace Church is a gathered people, having in common the Holy Spirit, learning Jesus' language of love. I hear Jesus' language of truth telling in all generations represented in Grace. It is awesome to witness another set the record straight or re-orient others to the presence and purpose of God.

Love grows and matures as unbiased invitations go out to neighbors for the purpose of sharing Jesus at all activities and ministries. God inspires creativity for us to share with Redeemer and other faith communities. Share what? Share who? What for?

## JESUS

Growing up in Christ,  
Pastor Clagg



*As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to God's service by following the teachings of our Lord and Savior. We will study the word of God, share His love, and expand His kingdom by nurturing, sharing freely, and working together.*

# Grace Visitor

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Grace Evangelical Lutheran  
Church

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Webmaster: Justin Clagg

Facebook Page  
facebook.com/GELCPA

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## Our Staff

### *Pastor*

Rev. Gregory S. Clagg

### *Intern Pastor*

Wesley Smith, III

### *Director of Music/Organist*

Henry Doktorski

### *Administrative Assistant*

Beth Ann Bush

### *Custodian*

Annamarie Perreta-Rosepink

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**Deadline for submission:  
15th of the month.**

### Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday—Office Closed



*Shrove Tuesday  
February 17, 2015*

*6:00 p.m.*

## *Entertainment*

*Dee Ruckert*

*Pastel drawings done to  
music with black-light  
effects.*

*A freewill offering will  
be collected.*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
★ The **2015 offering en-** ★  
★ **velopes** are on a table ★  
★ at the rear of the sanc- ★  
★ tuary. Please stop by the ★  
★ church and pick yours ★  
★ up. ★  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



## Ash Wednesday Worship

February 18, 2015  
7:00 p.m.



**Lenten Soup Suppers** will begin on February 25, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. This year we will serve only soup and bread. No casseroles, salads or desserts please.

**Lenten Worship** will start February 25, 2015 at 6:45 p.m. in the sanctuary.

# Weekly and Monthly Schedules



## SUNDAY

**Family Circle Worship**—8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday School**—is in full swing with classes for all ages. Join us at 9:30 a.m.

**Service of Liturgy & Music**—10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary. Nursery is available for children through kindergarten. *Junior church* in the Sunday School room after the Children's Sermon.

## WILD WEDNESDAY

**Supper** at 6:00 p.m.

**The Gathering Praise Service** at 6:30 a.m.

**Connections Youth Group** 7:00 p.m. in the Connections Room. PreK—12th grade and nursery.



## Bible Study

**Bible Study** meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Chancel Choir**—7:00 p.m. in the choir room

## REGULAR MEETINGS

**Bell Choir**—Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Sunday School Room 6

## Youth Ministry Team

1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Youth room.

## Property

The Tuesday prior to the Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Council room.



## Senior Fellowship

2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Lounge unless otherwise announced.

## Council Meeting

2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council room.

*Other groups/committees meet as needed. Check your bulletin.*

Please note that the Elizabeth Circle has disbanded and join with the Senior Fellowship group.



## Ministries that share our facilities:

Meals on Wheels—Daily, 7:00 a.m. to noon, kitchen & Fellowship Hall.

Tiny Tots—Daily, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., lower level Education wing.

Alcoholics Anonymous—Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

Community Table—3rd Tuesday & every Thursday, 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

Samaritan Counseling Center—Daily by appointment.



## On the schedule

### Altar Flowers

Feb 1	Janet Ramella
Feb 8	Open
Feb 15	Edward Baughman family
Feb 22	Edward Baughman family

### Bulletins

Feb 1	Rich & Patty Avery
Feb 8	Harry & Karen Baker
Feb 15	Open
Feb 22	Open

### Readers

Feb 1	Marsha Johnson
Feb 8	Janet Ramella
Feb 15	Caitlin Newton
Feb 22	Sharon & Abigail Kilmer

### Greeters

February	Harry Baker
	Mikey Dierdorf



The new sponsorship sheets are on the bulletin board for altar flowers and bulletins for 2015. This year altar flowers are \$30.00. Please remember to pay for your altar flowers and bulletins in a timely manner.

## GRACE FAMILY NEWS

We look forward to announcing news from our Grace Church families.  
Please submit information for publication by the 15th of the month.



To Whom It May Concern:

We would like to acknowledge a very kind donation of food that was received on November 24th, 2014. We would like to thank you for your selection of the Salvation Army for this donation. We have a monthly food bank for 350 families and programs to provide warm clothing and holiday help for the people in this community. Thank you ones again for being a participant in these programs and may God continue to bless you.

Thank you once again for your help.

*Sincerely,*  
*Envoy John Barnett*

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Pr. Clagg:

Thank you to the congregation of Grace for the generous gift to Crossroads Shelter in the amount of \$479.50. It is only through contributions such as yours that Crossroads is able to provide shelter to the homeless men of Beaver County. As of the end of October, approximately 191 men have passed through the doors of our church building to find a safe haven for the night, as well as assistance in

locating job training, employment, permanent housing, medical care, drug and alcohol rehabilitation and other services. Approximately 25% of the men have moved on to permanent housing, and in most cases gainful employment, while another 25% or so were discharged to residential treatment facilities for drug and alcohol addiction. This is considered to be a very high "success rate" among homeless shelters....

In Christ,  
The Rev. Kimberly A. Rapczak

(These letters will be posted on the bulletin board at the rear of the sanctuary.)



We The Residents of Penn Pavilion wanted To Thank you for your Kindness For donating Christmas Bags for us. That MADE our christmas. We're here Trying To be better people, and its nice To know Someone cares enough To Take Time To make These bags for us. The homemade cookies were awesome By The way. By us Sending This letter we just wanted To let you know we really enjoyed it. I know This letter isn't much but when I can I will also pay it forward To help Someone ~~in~~ in need. If I get The same feeling To help out its all worth it in The end. So Thank you for your Time, card, and Bags you sent for us.

Sincerely  
Anthony Glowack

Residents:

Anthony Glowack

Marie Dorsey Thank you

TERMAINE Williams

William Ely

Bruce Felpaul Thanks so much

Cheryl Feltner (Thank a lot. it's greatly appreciated)

Casey Aubrey

Kirk E. Hawkins

Donald Carter

W. J. Caldwell

J. Sims

John Baker

Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank you!

MIKE WHITE

Thank You! Tim J.

James Mahaleh

Sean Beach (GOD BLESS!!)

Michael Knight (214)

K.O. Regall

Thank you very much!!!

Thank you Delores Johnson



## *Joined in Marriage*

*Frances Klinesmith  
&  
Philip Cotter*

*December 26, 2014*



Please keep those of our congregation who have recently been hospitalized in your prayers.

Scott Barton  
Ruth Davis  
Matt Durr  
June Holsinger  
William Murphy  
Donald Ours  
Betty Tolbert



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all who made donations in memory of their family and friends.

**LILLIAN OWENS**  
CAPITAL BUDGET FUND  
Nina Sheets  
Gail & Rich Pethia  
Bruce & Marty Jumper  
Steve & Laurie Bailey  
Albert & Barbara Brower

**NANCY YOUNG**  
CAPITAL BUDGET FUND  
Deb Newton  
Harry & Karen Baker  
Martha & Reda Steinacker  
Walter & Eileen Van Dyke  
Kay Fabyanic  
Dorothy Altenbaugh  
Ted & Hazel Withers  
Richard Budd  
Larry & Pat Marko  
David & Janet Boyer  
Beth Sebastian & Nelson Winter  
Joseph & Carolyn Kulcyk  
Carol McNutt  
John & Yvonne Thickey  
Albert & Barbara Brower  
Dayna Klinevsmith  
Christ United Methodist Church  
Choir  
Joseph & Susan DeSisto  
Dan & Susan Lynch  
Wayne & Abbie Kohler  
Dale & Janet Hesse  
AK Nahas Shopping Center  
Don & Laura Knepp  
Dick & Ronna Yoho  
Ronnie & Barb Famrer  
David & Kathy Brenner  
Phil Hewitt, Jr.  
Judy & Clyde Kernek  
Bill & Carol Bostic  
Beverly Kohler

Michael & Judy Racioppi  
Shirley Rozzo  
Bill & Karen Morrow  
Kathy Young  
Barbara & Robert Kohler  
Linda Gourley

**REV. WILLIAM FRUTH**  
CAPITAL BUDGET FUND  
Dolores Fruth

**GERALDINE POWELL**  
CAPITAL BUDGET FUND  
Larry & Pat Marko  
Albert & Barbara Brower

**PAUL & MARGARET EVANS**  
MUSIC FUND  
Walter & Rebecca Bloom

**MARGUERITE KEENE**  
CAPITAL BUDGET FUND  
Jody Donnelly Walter



Send an e-mail to the church at [glc11@comcast.net](mailto:glc11@comcast.net). Put "E-Mail Newsletter" in the subject line. Don't forget your name. We will continue to mail newsletters to those who prefer a paper copy.

**This is a current list of Grace members and friends who are unable to worship regularly with us at church. Let us remember them in our prayers and with a visit, phone call, card, or letter. Just a little of your time will add a lot of sunshine to their lives.**

Ms. Betty Adams  
Franciscan Manor  
71 Darlington Road  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-3012

Ms. Barbara Alberts  
Franciscan Manor  
71 Darlington Road  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-3012

Mrs. Betty Baldwin  
Rochester Villa  
174 Virginia Avenue  
Rochester, PA, 15074-1723

Mr. Terry Barr  
404 Craig Street  
New Brighton, PA 15066-3616

Ms. Elma Buttermore  
Passavant  
409 Main Street, #181  
Zelienople, PA 16063-1245

Ms. Lillian Carnegie  
Providence Health Care Center  
900 Third Avenue Rm 129  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-4613

Ms. Cynthia Cloughley  
Lakeview of South Beaver  
498 Lisbon Road  
Darlington, PA 16115-3309

Ruth Davis  
2000 May Drive, Apt. 305  
Zelienople, PA 16063-1525

Elmer Enigson  
Rochester Manor, Rm. 468  
174 Virginia Avenue  
Rochester, PA, 15074-1723

Miss Pauline Haney  
573 Jefferson Street  
Rochester, PA 15074-1753

Mrs. June Holsinger  
Rochester Manor, Rm. 221  
174 Virginia Avenue  
Rochester, PA, 15074-1723

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Marko  
15300 Badestowe Drive  
Chesterfield, VA 23832-2089

Mrs. Dolores Matika  
Concordia at Rebecca Residence  
3746 Cedar Ridge Road  
Allison Park, PA 15101-1048

Mrs. Pauline Matthews  
Franciscan Manor, Rm 222  
71 Darlington Road  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-3012

Mrs. Imogene McDeavitt  
43 Lexington Drive  
Freedom, PA 15042-2217

Mrs. Dorothy McNear  
Providence Health Care Center  
900 Third Avenue Rm 135  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-4613

Ms. Valerie Prothero  
279 Big Knob Road  
Rochester, PA 15074-2639

Mrs. Mary Reader  
2108 Masonic Drive  
Sewickley, PA 15143-2409

Mr. Fred Schidemantle  
734 Beaver Road  
Rochester, PA 15074-1102

Ms. June Siaus  
711 7th Avenue, Apt 1  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-4536

Ms. Charlotte Jean Speas  
Hickory Hill Retirement  
900 Cary Shop Road  
Burkeville, VA 23922-2119

Mrs. Arlene Teets  
112 Marwood Road  
Apt. 4217  
Cabot, PA 16023-2258

Ms. Ellen Ware  
Providence Health Care Center  
900 Third Avenue  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010-4613



## *The Littlest Angels*

As many of you know, for several years Grace Church has been offering support in the way of school supplies, clothing and other needs to grandparents who are caring for their 6 grandchildren abandoned by their mother.

If you wish to donate at any time, just put your donation in an envelope with "Littlest Angels Fund" written on it and drop in the mail to the church or in the collection on any Sunday.





## The Prayer Chain

To participate in the prayer chain or to request prayer, please call Pastor Clagg, 724-709-8222; the church office, 724-774-3792; or Nancy Loughman, 724-775-6657.

### **Team 1**

Susan Emerick  
724-843-6369

Judy Bingle  
724-774-2959

Brenda Kaszer  
724-996-4815

Patty Avery  
724-375-6845

Cheryl Bean  
724-728-5828

### **Team 2**

Karen Baker  
724-728-0197

Barbara Horter  
724-775-7852

Margaret Hays  
724-774-4745

### **Team 3**

Betty Baker  
724-774-3155

Amy Wolford  
724-774-6488

Marilyn O'Data  
724-775-7996

Linda Lantz  
724-498-6859

### **Team 4**

Nancy Loughman  
724-775-6657

Lynn Baker  
724-775-6760

Lynda Steuer  
724-378-0879

Kim Smith  
724-846-9018

### **Team 5**

(e-mail devotions)

Dayna Klinesmith  
dklinesmith  
@hotmail.com  
724-775-7923

Chick O'Data  
cnodata@aol.com  
724-775-7996

### **Important**

Please pass names along promptly. Sometimes prayer requests are urgent. If you asked to have names left on your answering machine please be sure to check it and call back to confirm that you received the message.

If you are unable to participate for an extended period of time, please arrange to be skipped.

If the next person on your prayer chain doesn't answer within 24 hours, please skip temporarily to the next person on the chain.



Many thanks from all of us to those who have volunteered to serve on the phone prayer chains for the coming year. If you would like to help, please sign up on the list either in Fellowship Hall or at the rear of the sanctuary. For those who have volunteered, please review the suggestions on the prayer chain page in the Grace Visitor.



\*\*\*\*\*  
**BAD WEATHER OFFICE CLOSINGS**—The church office will follow the Aliquippa and/or Rochester School District closings due to bad weather. If either school district is closed, the church office will be closed. If either school district is delayed due to weather, the church office will be open and I will make every effort to be there as soon as possible, but may be delayed due to road conditions. Thank you for your understanding. — Beth Ann  
 \*\*\*\*\*



# WHAT'S GOING ON AT GRACE CHURCH?

## Council Minutes Highlights

### November 2014

- Approved the Building Use Request of LifeSteps Early Headstart for Thursday, December 18, 2014, from 10 AM to 1:30 PM.
- The treasurer reported Total Income for October of \$25,732 and Total Expenses of \$22,314. The year-to-date deficit is \$10,213. The proposed 2015 budget was recommended for approval by the congregation.
- Approved Pastor's request that Philip William Cotter be accepted for membership on November 16, 2014 at the 8:30 AM service.
- "Wild Wednesdays" will alternate weekly between Grace and Redeemer with the host church responsible for dinner
- A work day is planned for Saturday, December 13, at 9 AM. The congregation is encouraged to participate.
- Approved Mission Endowment Committee's recommendation that \$200,000 be withdrawn from the "Unrestricted" funds of the Mission En-

dowment Fund. It is recognized this withdrawal is not a loan and it is hoped the money can be repaid to the fund in a period of three to five years. No further withdrawals may be made from the principal of the Endowment Fund until the \$200,000 is repaid, except in a dire emergency.

- Recommended approval of the slate of nominees for Council vacancies beginning 2015: Ronnie Sines, Veronica Belanger, Walter Van Dyke and Janet Ramella – 3 year terms; Charles Andrews – 2 year term; Tesa Hill/Mikey Dierdorf – 1 year term.
- Advent coin folders will be divided 50% to the Capital Budget and 50% to Pastor's Discretionary Fund
- To date, the Synod has not approved our revised Constitution.

### December 2014

- Approved the Building Use Request of Cindy Spearing for use of Fellowship Hall for a birthday party on January 10, 2015
- Pastor reported a check

settling the estate of Robert White was received.

- The treasurer reported Total Income for November of \$23,649 and Total Expenses of \$20,497. The year-to-date deficit is \$7,087.
- The front entrance and sidewalk capital project will go out for bids in mid-January. Proposed startup is late March or early April.
- Tiny Tots did not receive the Lowe's grant to replace flooring in their area.
- Approved the request of the Mission Endowment Committee that \$70,000 of the approved \$200,000 Unrestricted Funds withdrawal be used to pay off the loan from BNY Mellon.
- Congregational meeting will be held on January 25, 2015 between services. A light breakfast will be served by Council.
- To date, the Synod has not approved our revised Constitution.





## Nov 2014

Weekly Attendance:  
 Nov 2 192  
 Nov 9 157  
 Nov 16 172  
 Nov 23 169  
 Nov 30 147

Nov Monthly Income:  
 \$23,649

Nov Monthly Expenses:  
 \$20,497

Nov income exceed expense:  
 \$3,152

Nov Benevolence (paid):  
 \$1,197

Year To Date Income  
 \$233,621

Year To Date Expenses  
 \$240,708

YTD expenses exceed income:  
 <\$7,087 >



## Dec 2014

Weekly Attendance:  
 Dec 7 152  
 Dec 14 167  
 Dec 21 188  
 Dec 28 151

Dec Monthly Income:  
 \$38,263

Dec Monthly Expenses:  
 \$25,538

Dec income exceed expense:  
 \$12,725

Dec Benevolence (paid):  
 \$1,771

Year End Income  
 \$271,884

Year End Expenses  
 \$266,246

YE income exceed expenses:  
 \$5,638

If you have a current address for any of the following families, please call the office at 724-774-3792:

Mr. & Mrs. David Mengel, Jr.  
 Dara Pruszenski  
 Elaine Sarver  
 Evelyn Spade

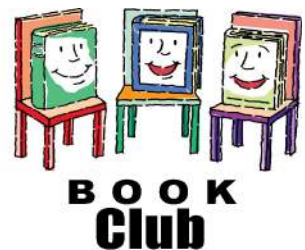
## NEWS FOR WOMEN OF THE ELCA

**ALL WOMEN OF GRACE CHURCH ARE MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA**



## Senior Fellowship

Will meet on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Lounge. Light refreshments will be reserved.



The **Book Club** will meet on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at the Rochester Library. The February book is "Nineteen Minutes" by Jodi Picoult. If you like to read, please join us. We're a no pressure, casual group.

Winter is in full swing and it's a wonderful time for getting comfy with a good book. So, if you like to read, please consider joining us. We have a great time. There's no pressure to read or buy a book you don't think you'll like. Meetings (other than our holiday party) are usually about 1-1/2 hours. If you'd like more information, please contact Cindy Spearing at [cmspearing@verizon.net](mailto:cmspearing@verizon.net) or 724-728-2562.



## Pure love for Jesus

Jesus has many who love his heavenly kingdom, but few who bear his cross. He has many who desire consolation, but few who care for trial. He finds many to share his table, but few to take part in his fasting. All desire to be happy with him; few wish to suffer anything for him. Many follow him to the breaking of bread, but few to the drinking of the chalice of his passion. Many revere his miracles; few approach the shame of the cross. Many love him as long as they encounter no hardship; many praise and bless him as long as they receive some comfort from him. ...

Those, on the contrary, who love Jesus for his own sake and not for any comfort of their own, bless him in all trial and anguish of heart as well as in the bliss of consolation. ... What power there is in pure love for Jesus — love that is free from all self-interest and self-love!

—Thomas à Kempis, The Imitation of Christ

# C.A.S.T.

We will be collecting the following items **throughout the year**:

Toilet Paper  
Shampoo  
Dish Detergent (small)  
Paper Towels  
Face Soap  
Toothpaste  
Tissues

There will be collection boxes at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity.



These dinners are provided by people of faith in Christ Jesus for everyone who would like to share food and fellowship.

The 3rd Tuesday and every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. prayers are said and the meal is served.

Grace Church provides the location and other local churches and organizations provide the volunteers who prepare and serve the meals. If you would like more information please contact Barb Hill at 724-728-1001.

**Feb. 5th** hosted by Grace Church

**Feb. 12th** hosted by St. Cecilia Church.

**Feb. 19th** hosted by Grace Church

**Feb. 26th** hosted by Vanport Presbyterian Church

No Community Table on **February 17th** due to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.



## Christian Education News

✝ The Youth Ministry Team meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Room.

**Sunday School classes** are available every week for ages 2 years through adult.



### **Junior Church** (Pre-K thru 6th grade)

After the  
Children's Sermon  
both services.



### **Connection** **Wednesday Night** **Youth Group**

1st through 12th grades

### *Rochester Manor Visits*



February 4th

March 25th

April 1st

May 6th



All students third grade and older who are interested in taking the first communion classes at Grace Lutheran Church are invited to do so starting March 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 in the library (behind the stage).

### **The class will be held: All 5 Sundays in March**

The children will receive their First Holy Communion Maundy Thursday April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please contact Amy Wolford at 724 774-6488 with any questions.



### **Presidents Day**



**Bible Bowl** is coming up! Practices are on Sundays immediately following the 10:45 a.m. service. We are studying the books of Mark & Philemon. Lunch is served. Bible Bowl will be on February 22, 2015. Coaches are Joe Forman & Caitlin Newton. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join the team.



### **Scroll**

A scroll may symbolize the writings of Scripture, particularly the Old Testament. In Luke 4, Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah in his home synagogue at Nazareth. A scroll may also symbolize the Day of Judgment, with the names of the elect, or saved, written on it. In Revelation 5, the creatures and elders around God's throne sing to Christ the Lamb: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation" (v. 9, NIV).





## Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

**Directions:** Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.



"

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ "

\_\_\_\_\_ 6:8 , \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV

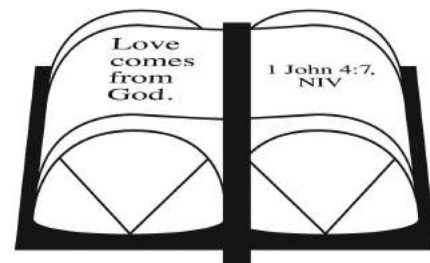
## Lenten living

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18 this year. Christians have observed this season of the church year since the fourth century. It's traditionally a time of reflection, penitence and spiritual renewal before Easter.

During Lent, some Christians give up something that hinders their relationship with God. Others do something extra for their spiritual growth or make a special sacrifice. The key is to make Lent a memorable season of sincere spiritual growth — a time that can set the tone for the rest of the year.

## GOD'S SWEET WORD

Share this Bible treat — and God's love — with a special valentine.



### What you need:

- Black card stock or construction paper (2" x 1.5")
- Double-sided tape
- 2 wrapped Hershey's Nuggets candy bars (silver or gold)
- Pen or marker
- White paper (2.75" x 1")
- Thin sliver of red paper or ribbon
- Scissors

### What you do:

1. In the center of the black paper, tape down the candy bars side by side.
2. On the white paper, write a short Bible verse about love. Then wrap it around the candy bars horizontally and tape it down.
3. Place the red paper or ribbon between the two candy bars, and tape the top of this "bookmark" to the Bible.
4. Give away this fun, sweet message of God's love!

## ***From Our Council Members***

**Chuck Andrews**  
**Property Liaison**

The reason I wanted to be on Council, was because I thought I could help with the dealings of the Church, and maybe make a difference with the ways things were done. Perhaps help cut some financial corners, and do a better job all around.

**Karen Baker**  
**Council Secretary**

### **Why I Think Council is Important**

I've been a member of Grace since 1977 and this is my third term as a member of Council – in the late 1980's, 2000-2003, and 2014-2016. I feel if we are going to remain a viable Lutheran presence in Beaver County and our Synod, we need an energetic, progressive, fresh leadership. It's very difficult to determine the gifts, talents and interests of our members... as evidenced by the few responses we get to any kind of congregational survey. Everyone is busy these days, especially those with young children. But we need younger adults to step up now while they have the opportunity to benefit from the knowledge of those who have served for so long in our congregation. Council sometimes

has difficult decisions to make, especially when finance, property and personnel are concerned. When we are given enough information to make these decisions, however, it's not quite so daunting.

I encourage you to make time to read through the officer and committee reports in our 2014 Annual Book of Reports. These reports took much time and effort on the part of those who wrote them and they truly deserve your attention if you are at all interested in Grace Church and its mission. Please check out the new Council member photographs posted on the wall near the stage in Fellowship Hall. Seek us out, we are more than happy to talk with you and answer your questions. Find an area that fits your interests or talents and volunteer. If administration is your strength, then perhaps you would consider serving on Council. If you would like to sit in on one of the Council meetings to see what goes on... yes, you can, and are welcome, to do that. Just contact Pastor Clagg.

We are going to spend a lot of our church's resources to improve our building. Let's show Rochester and Beaver County we haven't succumbed to this depressed economy. Help keep Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church shining as the "Beacon on the Hill." God is great!

## ***From the Intern***

### ***Pastor***

Who remembers a time in their life that dwarfs the rest? Perhaps your marriage stands out as this event. Maybe the birth of a child, or perhaps the holiday season brings about a cheerful glee that keeps us coming back for more. All of these events, and more, are times in our lives that seem to stand out above the rest.

These events, however, while being amazing at the time, are a type of 'mountain-top' experience - that being, we are on top of the world and nothing - nothing else can top it. The trick, the challenge we are faced with after achieving this mountain-top experience is maintaining the high we get from these experiences - and this can be difficult.

How can we keep the warm-fuzzies from these events and how can we spread this feeling to others? In the coming weeks eight youth from both the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer and Grace Lutheran will be venturing to Pittsburgh to participate in the Youth Quake event where they will explore their faith in a safe and faith-filled environment with a diverse assortment of youth from the area.

They will sing, dance, engage in fellowship, yet these things are only a small part

of one's growth in the church or otherwise. The real growth comes when congregations nurture and expand upon the experiences of these types of events.

Our youth are coming into their own and church is arguably the one place where children and youth are allowed to be as such. My challenge, my call for those reading is simple : take a youth under your wing as Christ did. Let's make church the mountain-top experience that never ends, for our youth and our adults too!

Intern Pastor Wesley Smith  
III



**ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES:** Have you signed up for your spring Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend? NOW is the time to register for this opportunity to rekindle the romance and realize the full potential of your marriage with all the joy and beauty that God intended. Weekends run from Friday evening at 8 PM to Sunday afternoon around 4 PM. **The 2015 Pennsylvania Spring Weekends are:**

- March 13-15, 2015 at the lovely Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel located in a peaceful setting 6 miles from the Pittsburgh Airport.
- April 10-12, 2015 at Toftrees Golf Resort and Conference Center nestled in 1500 wooded acres in State College, PA.

Registrations are also being accepted for the September 18-20, 2015 Weekend at Spruce Lake Retreat Center in Canadensis, PA, in the Poconos and the October 16-18, 2015 Weekend at the Heritage Hotel in Lancaster, PA. Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included with your \$45 registration plus a contribution of whatever amount you wish to make at the end of the Weekend toward the continuation of the program.

To sign up online, go to: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org), and pay the \$45 fee using your credit card, or mark the option to mail in a check.

**Registrations are limited, so act today to ensure that you can attend the Weekend of your choice.** For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Pennsylvania Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or email: [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net).

### *An Endowment Moment...*

The following is a look at a former Grace member, Agnes Doyle, who provided generously for the church through a bequest to the endowment fund. Agnes Doyle understood the value of an endowment fund and the importance of the congregation's long-term financial viability.

### **Agnes Doyle's legacy.**

Agnes came to us from St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Rochester when her church merged with Grace Church on December 2, 1990. On that day, at Agnes' initiative, members of St. Paul's Church processed up Adams Street to Grace Church carrying a banner and the St. Paul's artifacts. With this merger, Grace Church gained some very faithful members. From those thirteen or so members, David and Janet Boyers, Chris Gomory and Bill Bostic continue to be active in our church.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church was started with a merger of two German speaking congregations; one a Lutheran Church from Bridgewater and the other a Reformed Church from Rochester. The year was 1867. On September 13, 1868 the cornerstone, for their new church, was laid by the Reverend William A. Passavant, the founder of Grace Church in 1854.

(continued on page 16)

After the merger, the stained glass window that adorned the back of St. Paul's chancel was moved to our sanctuary and placed on the south wall. The inscriptions under that window show the history of their congregation and pastors.

Agnes died in 2005 leaving many fond memories with those who got to know her. Agnes served St. Paul's Church as Treasurer for many years. She also served on Grace Church's Council and as an advisor on the Mission Endowment Committee. Agnes also served on the Call Committee in 1995.

As a testament to the love and caring of her new church, she bequeathed \$41,500 to Grace Church. A small portion of that bequest was used for church maintenance and the balance was invested in the Agnes Doyle Fund. That investment generates income for the General Fund of Grace Church. As of December 2014, her investment has a value of \$37,500 and generates earnings of approximately \$1,500 yearly which is used for the general purposes of the church.

Grace Church is pleased and very thankful that Agnes Doyle, like many others before her, provided for its future through her bequest.

Information about the Grace Church Endowment is available by contacting Harry Baker, Chick O'Data or Walt VanDyke.

## *Evangelism Moment*

Billy Graham is 96 years old with Parkinson's disease. In January 2000, leaders in Charlotte, North Carolina, invited their favorite son, Billy Graham, to a luncheon in his honor. Billy initially hesitated to accept the invitation because he struggles with Parkinson's disease. But the Charlotte leaders said, "We don't expect a major address. Just come and let us honor you." So he agreed.

After wonderful things were said about him, Dr. Graham stepped to the rostrum, looked at the crowd, and said, "I'm reminded today of Albert Einstein, the great physicist who this month has been honored by Time magazine as the Man of the Century. Einstein was once traveling from Princeton on a train when the conductor came down the aisle, punching the tickets of every passenger. When he came to Einstein, Einstein reached in his vest pocket. He couldn't find his ticket, so he reached in his other pocket. It wasn't there, so he looked in his briefcase but couldn't find it. Then he looked in the seat by him. He couldn't find it.

The conductor said, 'Dr. Einstein, I know who you are. We all know who you are. I'm sure you bought a ticket. Don't worry about it.' Einstein nodded appreciatively.

The conductor continued down the aisle punching tickets. As he was ready to move to the next car, he turned around and saw the great physicist down on his hands and knees looking under his seat for his ticket.

The conductor rushed back and said, "Dr. Einstein, Dr. Einstein, don't worry, I know who you are. No problem. You don't need a ticket. I'm sure you bought one." Einstein looked at him and said, "Young man, I too, know who I am. What I don't know is where I'm going."

Having said that Billy Graham continued, "See the suit I'm wearing? It's a brand new suit. My wife, my children, and my grandchildren are telling me I've gotten a little slovenly in my old age. I used to be a bit more fastidious. So I went out and bought a new suit for this luncheon and one more occasion.

You know what that occasion is? This is the suit in which I'll be buried. But when you hear I'm dead, I don't want you to immediately remember the suit I'm wearing. I want you to remember this: I not only know who I am, I also know where I'm going."



# CURRENT NEEDS

## **Abiding Ministries Cold Weather supplies**

Men's and women's over the calf cotton socks  
Men's and women's underwear, sizes ranging from medium to xxx  
Men's and Women's long underwear , tops and bottoms, medium - xxx  
Men's heavy pants – jeans and cargo type, sizes ranging Medium – xxx  
Belts for trousers (layering one's mismatched clothing can be tricky)  
Men's sweatshirts and hoodies, sizes large through – xxx  
Gloves – new or gently used  
Boots – new or gently used  
Boot and shoe laces  
2 person tents - space for person and possessions  
**Cold Weather Sleeping Bags**  
Tarps  
Basic Toiletries – wrapped in bath towels  
Foot powder, foot powder, foot powder  
Deodorant sticks  
Lip Balm  
Cough drops  
Tooth brushes / small sized tooth paste  
Brushes and combs  
Hand and foot warmers

### **Special Items:**

Carhartt type (durable materials) work clothing – pants, jackets, coveralls, facemasks. Some of the guys work overnight (outdoors) at our recycling centers and in stadium maintenance to clean up the tailgate garbage after entertainment events.

**Pastor Blair Morgan will accept (gratefully) donations at the synod office, 9625 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh PA 15237.**

**Questions may be directed to Diaconal Minister Christine Rotella at [chaplainchristine@gmail.com](mailto:chaplainchristine@gmail.com).**

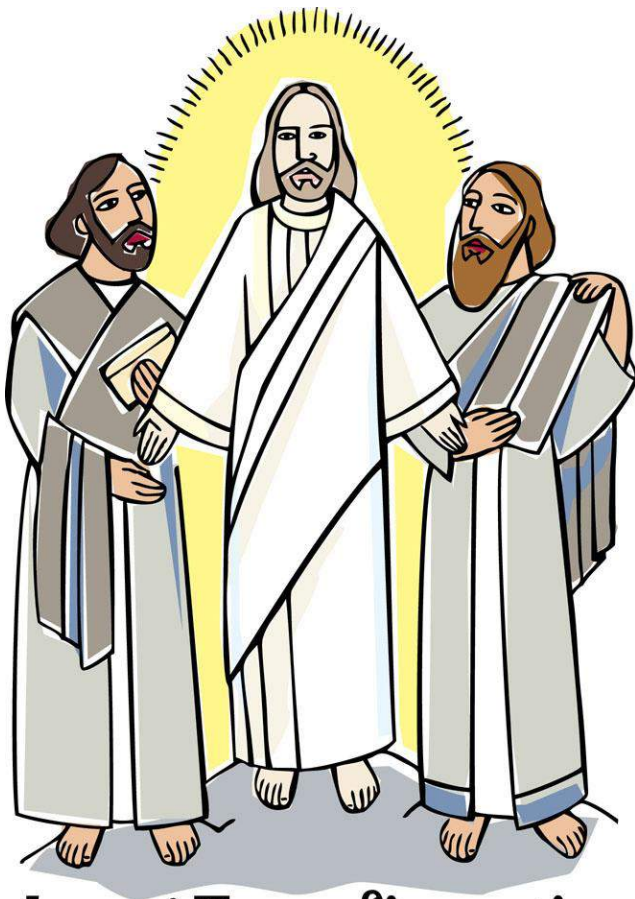


Announcing a new website and new webmaster. Justin Clagg has taken control of the website and redesigned it. He's done a great job. If you would like to check it out, please visit [www.gracelutheranpa.org](http://www.gracelutheranpa.org).

## Transfiguration (Mark 9:2-9)

Christ took them to the mountaintop  
With great anticipation  
To show them why He had to die.  
It was a revelation.

He wanted them to know the truth  
About their own salvation.  
But then they saw how He was changed  
In glorious transformation.



## Jesus' Transfiguration

Oh Peter thought it was a show  
That needed celebration.  
He saw Elijah, Moses, too  
In bright configuration.

The voice of God came through the clouds  
Proclaiming with vibration,  
That Jesus was His holy Son  
Who came for our salvation.

They walked down from the mountaintop  
To meet the confrontation.  
They told no one what they had seen  
Because of their frustration.

Later on when Jesus rose,  
Recalling the sensation,  
They spread the good news near and far  
To each and every nation.

And so today we know our Lord  
Because the dedication  
Of humble men was born anew  
By God's Transfiguration.

-Dolores Fruth

# The Lighter Side

Q: What do squirrels give for Valentine's Day?

A: Forget-me-nuts.

Q: Did Adam and Eve ever have a date?

A: No, but they had an Apple.

Q: What did the boy octopus say to the girl octopus?

A: Can I hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand?

Q: What did one snake say to the other snake?

A: Give me a little hug and a hiss, honey.

A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?"

A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy.

"Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked.

"You know: Our Father, who does art in Heaven..."

Life is like being on a dog team. If you're not the lead dog, the scenery is always the same.

Four-year-old Sam loved candy almost as much as his mom Sally did. He and Daddy had given her a beautiful

heart-shaped box of chocolates for Valentine's Day. A few days later Sam was eyeing it, wishing to have a piece of it. As he reached out to touch one of the big pieces, Sally said to him, "If you touch it, then you have to eat it. Do you understand?"

"Oh, yes," he said, nodding his head. Suddenly his little hand patted the tops of all the pieces of candy. "Now I can eat them all."

A young woman was taking an afternoon nap. After she woke up, she told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a pearl necklace for Valentine's day. What do you think it means?"

"You'll know tonight," he said.

That evening, the man came home with a small package and gave it to his wife. Delighted, she opened it --only to find a book entitled "The meaning of dreams".

When a man opens the door of his car for his wife, you can be sure of one thing: either the car is new or the wife.

Driving through Southern California, I stopped at a roadside stand that sold fruit, vegetables and crafts. As I went to pay, I noticed

the young woman behind the counter was painting a sign. "Why the new sign?" I asked. "My boyfriend didn't approve of the old one," she said. When I glanced at what hung above the counter, I understood. It declared: "Local Honey Dates Nuts"




My high-school English teacher was well known for being a fair, but hard, grader. One day I received a B minus on a theme paper. In hopes of bettering my grade and in the spirit of the valentine season, I sent her an extravagant heart-shaped box of chocolates with the pre-printed inscription: "BE MINE." The following day, I received in return a valentine from the teacher. It read: "Thank you, but it's still BE MINE-US."

## Happy Valentine's Day



# FEBRUARY 2015

“Love is our true destiny. We do not find the meaning of life by ourselves alone — we find it with another.” —Thomas Merton

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship with communion 12:00 p.m. Bible Bowl Practice 2:00 p.m. Rochester Manor Service	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b> 6:00 p.m. Youth Ministry Team 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anon.	<b>4</b> 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:30 p.m. The Gathering 7:00 p.m. Small Groups 7:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir	<b>5</b> 6:00 p.m. Community Table	<b>6</b> 1:30 p.m. McGuire Service	<b>7</b> Party
<b>8</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship 12:00 p.m. Bible Bowl Practice	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:00 p.m. Property Committee 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anon.	<b>11</b> 1:00 p.m. Senior Fellowship 3:00 p.m. Franciscan Manor Service 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:30 p.m. The Gathering 7:00 p.m. Small Groups 7:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir	<b>12</b> 6:00 p.m. Community Table 7:00 p.m. Council	<b>13</b> 1:30 p.m. McGuire Service	<b>14 Valentine's Day</b> 
<b>15 Transfiguration of Our Lord</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship with communion 12:00 p.m. Bible Bowl Practice	<b>16 Presidents' Day</b>  <b>Grace Visitor Deadline</b>	<b>17</b> 6:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir	<b>18 Ash Wednesday</b> 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service 	<b>19</b> 6:00 p.m. Community Table	<b>20</b> 1:30 p.m. McGuire Service	<b>21</b> Party
<b>22 First Sunday in Lent</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Discussion Group 10:45 a.m. Worship Bible Bowl (time TBA)	<b>23</b> 5:30 p.m. Early Head Start Event	<b>24</b> 7:00 p.m. Bell Choir 8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anon.	<b>25</b> 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship 7:45 p.m. Choir	<b>26</b> 6:00 p.m. Community Table 7:00 p.m. Book Club	<b>27</b> 1:30 p.m. McGuire Service	<b>28</b>