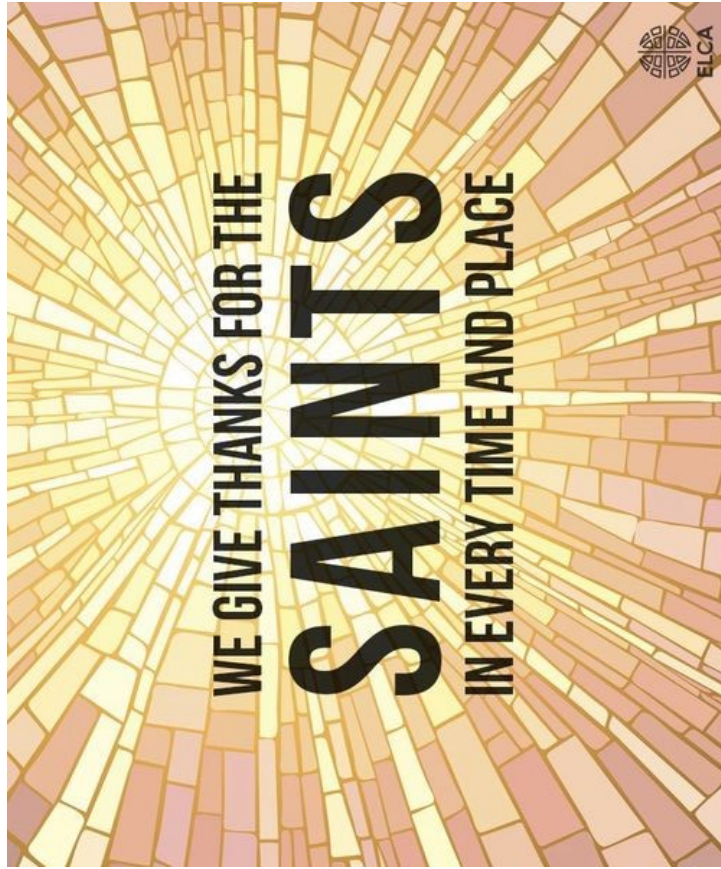


“Grace Greetings”

November 2023



Grace Lutheran Church
521 Providence Road
Chesapeake, VA 23325



<https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran>

Grace Lutheran—a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.



Grace Lutheran Church

A worshipping community of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org

November 2023 "Grace Greetings"

Mission Statement:

We are a community of believers in Christ called to be servants to all people.

Grace's 60th Anniversary

As was said in April's Grace Greetings Newsletter: this year, we celebrate Grace's 60th Anniversary. This month marks the 60th Anniversary of quite a few firsts for Grace:

ORGANIZATION SERVICE
&
INSTALLATION OF THE PASTOR

That Sunday morning of November 10, 1963 will always be remembered as a time when Pastor and people promised before God to serve Him and each other. Recall the words, "Yes, by the help of God." The history of Grace Lutheran will be dated from November 10, 1963. It was a historical moment when Pastor Yost said, "I do now declare Grace Lutheran Church to be a duly constituted Lutheran congregation, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

We were privileged to have the Rev. John Houch, Regional Mission Director, and the Rev. John Schram, secretary of the Eastern District Mission Committee with us. It was a solemn moment when Pastor Yost stood before the altar and was installed as the first pastor by Rev. Houch.



Charter Signing in 1963

Flip through the rest of the newsletter for more memories from the last 60 years at Grace Lutheran!



Charter Members in 1963

Our First Communion November -- 1963
 Sunday, November 17, was a red letter day. It was the first communion service in our church and the first as a congregation.

Charter Sunday November 24, 1963
 This was a historic day for us. All persons who have requested their Letters of Transfer from another Lutheran congregation together with those who will receive the Rite of Confirmation are privileged to sign the charter. At the appointed time in our service those with the Letters of Transfer and those who were confirmed that morning came forward and signed the official constitution in the church record book.

EVENTS

Mark your Calendar

Nov 1	ALL SAINTS DAY
	6:30pm Potluck
	7:15pm Bible Study (Hybrid)
Nov 5	Daylight Savings Time ENDS
	9am Sunday School
	10am Combined Worship
	11:15am Craft Group
Nov 6	9am Food Pantry
	1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)
	7pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
Nov 7	10am Threaders
Nov 8	6:30pm Potluck
	7:15pm Bible Study (Hybrid)
Nov 10	Office CLOSED
Nov 11	8am Men's Group
Nov 12	9am Sunday School
	10am Combined Worship
	11:30am Annual Congregational Meeting
	followed by 60th Anniversary Celebration Potluck
Nov 13	9am Food Pantry
	1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)
	5:30pm Preschool Board (Hybrid)
	7pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
Nov 14	10am Threaders
	7pm Council (Zoom)
Nov 15	Noon Ladies Lunch Out
	6:30pm Potluck
	7:15pm Bible Study (Hybrid)
Nov 19	9am Sunday School
	10am Combined Worship
Nov 20	9am Food Pantry
	NO Bible Study
	7pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
Nov 21	10am Threaders
Nov 22	NO Potluck or Bible Study
Nov 23	THANKSGIVING
	Office CLOSED
Nov 24	Office CLOSED

Nov 26	9am	Sunday School
	10am	Combined Worship
Nov 27		Food Pantry CLOSED
	1:30pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
	7pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Nov 28	10am	Threaders
Nov 29	6:30pm	Advent Soup Supper
	7:15pm	Midweek Advent Worship



Sunday School

Sundays at 9am

- The **Elementary School Class** meets in Classroom #1.
- The **Middle & High School Class** meets in the Youth Room.
- The **Adult Sunday School Class** meets in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom.

Hybrid WORSHIP

Combined Worship (Hybrid)

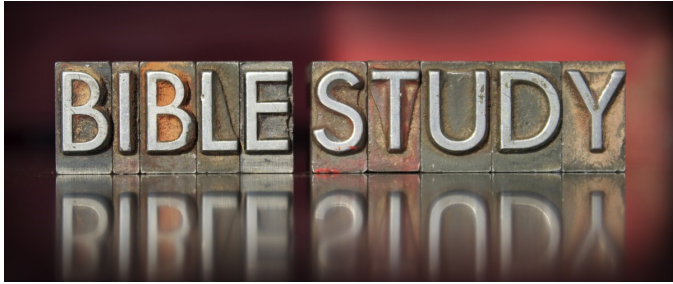
Sundays at 10am

Join us on site or online. Zoom log-in information is available at

www.gracelutheranchesapeake.org/news--upcoming-events.



The Threaders in 2004



Monday Bible Study (Zoom)

Mondays at 1:30pm

There is no Bible Study on Nov 20th.

- Join via computer/smartphone/tablet by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87557721128?pwd=b2J4ektpdGtwWk9NQkJudz1lcHBBQT09> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via phone by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 875 5772 1128 and Passcode: 152551



Bell Choir Rehearsal

Mondays at 7pm

If you have any questions, please contact Morgan.



Threaders

Tuesdays at 10am

The Threaders meet on Tuesdays at 10am to make walker bags for people throughout our community. There are jobs for various skill levels: sewing machine operator, button sewer, iron operator, etc. Questions? Contact Jane Jennings or Peggy Barry.



Potluck & Bible Study (Hybrid)

Wednesdays

Potluck @ 6:30 & Study @ 7pm

There will not be Potluck or Bible Study on Nov 22nd and will be on hiatus during Advent (starting Nov 29th).

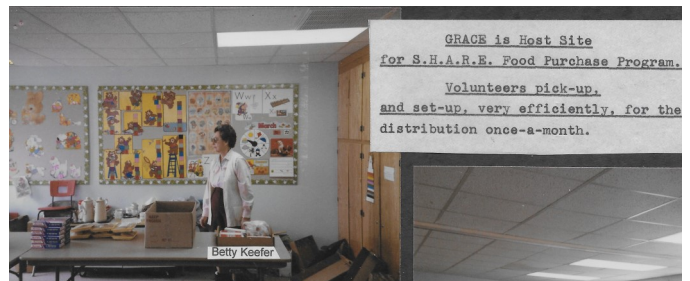
- Join via your smartphone/tablet/computer by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/621600567?pwd=OHhZWUFlc0FIQit0MjN5c0IEcintQT09> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via your regular phone, by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 621 600 567 and Passcode: 672531.



All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 5th

On All Saints Sunday, we will name those loved ones who have died in the last year during the prayers of intercession. To have a name included, please let Pastor Leslie know by Wednesday, November 1st. You are also encouraged to bring in a photo or memento for the Cloud of Witnesses table on that day.



The S.H.A.R.E. program in 1991



Craft Group

**Sunday, November 5th
after worship (~11:15am)**

Calling all knitters, stitchers, scrapbookers, etc.—let's get together and work on our projects. Bring a bag lunch and meet in the Fellowship Hall after the late worship service. Any questions, contact Sandra Fraenkel.



Men's Group

Saturday, November 11th at 8am

Join the men of GLC for potluck breakfast and work around the church.



Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 12th at 11:30am

All voting members are encouraged to attend. See the official meeting notice for more information.

Seeking Nominees

The Nominating Committee is currently seeking people interested in running for various leadership positions. If you are interested in possibly serving in any of the following ways, please contact Pastor Leslie, Kurt Longworth, Monique Schroeder, Marlene Hubert, or Sandra Fraenkel.

- * Nominating Committee (1 year term)
- * Congregational Council (3 year term)
- * Congregational Council (1 year term)
- * Preschool Board (3 year term)
- * Voting Member to the VA Synod Assembly, which will be held April 27th 9am-Noon on Zoom.



60th Anniversary Celebration Potluck

Sunday, November 12th after the Annual Meeting

Join us for a potluck lunch in honor of Grace's 60th Anniversary! Cake will be provided. Please sign up in the Narthex.



Board Meeting

Preschool Board Meeting (Hybrid)

Monday, November 13th at 5:30pm

- Join via computer/smartphone/tablet by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85964430976?pwd=cEVXNkkva2tLb2NWRUkvalRjQnJlU109> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via phone by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 859 6443 0976 and Passcode: 040561.

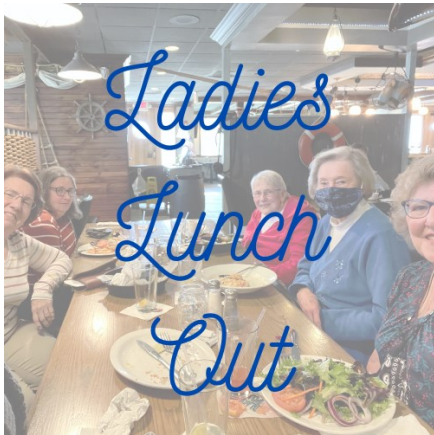


Council Meeting

Council Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, November 14th at 7pm

- Join via computer/smartphone/tablet by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87468766112?pwd=Z3VnL2RyVkRKdXhXRFFWT2E0ZlcrZz09> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via phone by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 874 6876 6112 and Passcode: 740742.



Ladies Lunch Out

**Wednesday, November 15th at Noon
at Sunrise Pizzeria Family Restaurant
(1370 S Military Hwy, Chesapeake, 23320)**

Join the ladies of GLC for fellowship & food. Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, November 12th.

Thanksgiving CLOSURES

- ◇ Nov 20—NO Monday Bible Study
- ◇ Nov 22—NO Wednesday Bible Study
- ◇ Nov 23—Office CLOSED
- ◇ Nov 24—Office CLOSED
- ◇ Nov 27—Food Pantry CLOSED



Toys for Tots Collection

through Sunday, November 26th

New, unwrapped toys may be placed in the collection box in the hallway outside of Pastor's Office. Please include batteries if needed. Contact: Nancy Springsteen if you have any questions.



Advent Soup Supper & Midweek Worship

Nov 29, Dec 6, 13, 20

- * **6:30pm**—Soup Supper
(sign up in the Narthex to bring a dish to share)
- * **7:15pm**—Midweek Worship (Hybrid)



Ladies Christmas Lunch

Saturday, December 9th at 12:30pm

Join us for a potluck lunch and fellowship. Friends and family are welcome! Sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, December 3rd. Questions?: Contact Debbie Dougherty, Kathie Rokitski, or Gretchen Stoll.



Lawn Care Volunteers Needed

We need your help to care for the lawn at church through the end of the growing season!

- Please sign up to help with lawn care by clicking the link: <https://tinyurl.com/2022lawncare>
- Information about lawn care procedures can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/lawncareinstructions22>
- If you have further questions, please contact Fred Schleede.

2023 Congregational Council



Bob Masters
President



Beth Woodard
Vice President



Mike Olson
Secretary



Walt Anderson



Tom Casey



David Cooper



Debbie Dougherty



Faith Longworth



Fred Schleede

From the Council

Greeting's to all Grace members from your Church Council. Fall is finally here and I for one am excited for the cooler days and nights. As I'm sure many of you have noted, there has been a recent emphasis of announcements and conversations

directed at the financial status of our church. And while it is true that for the past several years we have ended each year with a deficit, we are actively discussing options and alternatives to ensure that we not only strive to be good stewards of our resources but more importantly to ensure the continued ministries here at Grace. To that end a special Council meeting was held on Oct 17, led by Pastor John Wertz to continue the conversation as to possible steps required to ensure continued ongoing ministries. Our Annual Congregational meeting (hybrid-in person and on Zoom) is scheduled for Nov 12 following the worship service to discuss the 2024 Investment in Ministry plan that was mailed or emailed to you on Oct 11th along with other administrative items. And while financially we are not on the positive side, there are many options to discuss in the near future to help lessen and eventually alleviate these shortcomings. On a positive note, the "Bridging the Gap" campaign ended this past Sunday and was a rousing success thanks to the generosity of many individuals and families at Grace in which over \$12,600 was contributed to the general fund to erase a significant percentage of our monetary shortcomings.

Peace and God's blessings to all,
Bob Masters
2023 Council President



The Choir in the 1990s

THANK YOU for your generous financial support of God's mission!

In **September 2023**, Grace Lutheran received **\$11,467.71** in giving to the General Fund. Because of your generosity, we were able to:

- Celebrate "God's work. Our hands." Sunday with a potluck lunch and service projects, which included:
 - Packing over 400 staff appreciation gifts for some of our local schools.
 - Packing roughly 50 cold-weather Blessing Bags.
- Kick off another year of Sunday School.
- Welcome Seminarian Breezy, who will be doing her ministerial fieldwork for Seminary with us this school year.
- Support Pastor Leslie in serving on the Synod Council of the VA Synod.

(to name just a few) with **\$16,491.74** of expenses and generous gifts of time and talent.

Year to date (through Sep 30th), we have received \$147,295.47 for the General Fund and have had \$159,796.98 in expenses from the General Fund. The balance (as of Sep 30th) is \$46,708.14.

raised was \$12,615, which makes a huge impact in closing the gap between our expenses and income for 2023. Thank you again for your generosity.

If your budget allows, please consider increasing your ongoing financial gift to Grace so that we can continue to live out our faith by being servants to all people!



1999 Adult Sunday School



BRIDGING THE GAP

2023

Final Report on Bridging the Gap

THANK YOU to the 25 identified households and anonymous donors who contributed during the "Bridging the Gap" special giving campaign. As of Oct 8th, the total



2003 Ladies Tea

A special thanks to Walt Anderson, who scanned all the photos that are featured here and will be part of our continued 60th Anniversary celebration!



Order Poinsettias

to adorn the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve.
*You will be able to take home the plants you ordered
AFTER ALL Christmas Eve worship services are over.*

Each plant is \$11

Please return this order form & payment
(cash or check payable to "Grace Lutheran Church")
to the office **by Sunday, December 3rd.**

Name _____

Phone # and Email _____

Numbers of Plants _____ **x \$11 per plant = \$** _____

Dedication(s) _____



God of Our Mothers: Meeting the Matriarchs

Virginia Synod Fall 2023 Bible Study
Justice for Women Tapestry Thread
Led by the Rev. Kelly Bayer Derrick
November 6, 13, & 27; December 4
7pm on Zoom

"Is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob truly the God of Hagar, Sarah, Keturah, Rebekah, Leah, Rachel, Bilhah, and Zilpah?" The Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney asks this question in her book *Womanist Midrash: A Reintroduction to the Women of the Torah and the Throne*.

Pastor Kelly invites you to explore that question as we gather round the table for holy conversation together with the matriarchs of the Hebrew Bible. As we engage the stories of these amazing mothers, we will purposefully center the lived experiences of women in scripture as we also learn more about the narratives of the people of Israel.



Scan to register
or go to:
www.virginiasynd.org/events



2023-24 VA Synod Youth Events

vasynod.org



Lost and Found
Nov. 17-19, 2023
For 7th and 8th graders and their adult advisors at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center, Lynchburg, VA.
Early Registration discount ends Oct. 23, 2023.

Winter Celebration
Feb. 2-4, 2024
For 9th through 12th graders and their adult advisors at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center, Lynchburg, VA.
Early Registration discount ends Jan. 8, 2024.

Seventh Day
Mar. 2-3, 2024
For 5th and 6th graders and their adult advisors at Eagle Eyrie Conference Center, Lynchburg, VA.
Early Registration discount ends Feb. 5, 2024.

Bishop's Day
March 2024
For youth discerning a call to ministry and their pastors - watch for details and preregistration information on the synod website starting later in 2023.

Youth Assembly
Details TBD
Each congregation of the Synod is invited to send two delegates to the Youth Assembly at Roanoke College! Delegates can be in grades 7th through 12th. Congregations may register an additional delegate if there is space. Look for updates on the Synod website early in 2023.

Kairos
Jun. 23-28, 2024
For rising 9th through 12th graders, held at Roanoke College. Application forms will be available starting Feb. 5, 2024 and are due back to the Synod office by Apr. 22, 2024.

National Youth Gathering
Jul. 16-20, 2024
Every 3 years, the ELCA hosts youth from all across the country and US territories for the National Youth Gathering. Those having completed grades 8 through 12 by June 2023, as well as young adults can participate. In 2024, the gathering will be held in New Orleans, LA. The event includes large group gatherings, service opportunities, discussion time, and lots more fun. Youth and young adults should contact congregation leaders for more info. You can also visit the gathering site at elca.org/gathering

LAUNCH
Jul. 7-11, 2024
For just graduated high school seniors, held at Roanoke College. Registration deadline is Jun. 3, 2024.

Connect with us!



Virginia Synod-ELCA @virginsynod

Get registered!

Scan this QR code to access the VA Synod Youth Ministry webpage.



Contact: **Dave Delaney**, Synod Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministry. For more info, email: delauej@vasynod.org

Contact our Camps!

For year-round meeting and retreat opportunities



crossroads.org

lutheranyouthcenter.org

humberhouse.org

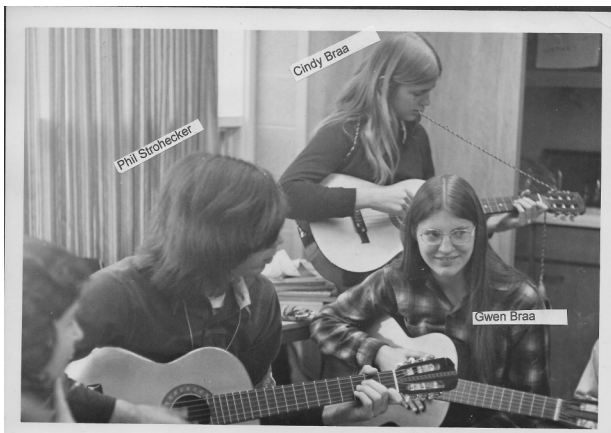
★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

- Nov 1 Rachel Lizan
- Nov 5 Lydia Bennett
- Nov 7 Gwen Scherman
- Nov 10 Jack Justice
- Nov 16 Kevin Latham
- Nov 18 Cathy Kayser
- Nov 20 Sandra Fraenkel
- Nov 22 Scott Curles
- Nov 23 Kathie Rokitski
- Nov 26 Ted Van Horn
- Nov 28 Betty Keefer



- Nov 7 Don & Susan Stillman
- Nov 13 Mark & Beth Woodard
- Nov 17 Mike & Kim Moody
- Nov 30 Ed & La Quita Opperman

To add/correct any birthdays or anniversaries. Please email Secretary@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org



Lutheran Youth Fellowship in 1973

PRAYER LIST

We Pray for Our Members

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Walt Anderson | Bob Masters |
| Elaine Babb | Charlotte Maurer |
| Joe Babb | David Pritchard |
| Suzanne Bergsten | Kathie Rokitski |
| Vickie Graif | Gwen Scherman |
| Hunter Headings | Lil Schleede |
| Jan Howell | Monique Schroeder |
| Leonora Jones | The Shalibo Family |
| Jack Justice | Rose Mary Sidam |
| Sharon Justice | Ted Van Horn |
| Betty Keefer | Thomas Washington |
| Barbara Kilian | |

We Pray for Our Friends

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Joyce Adkins | Nano Masters |
| Bill Babb | Robert Miller |
| Richard Bowell | Katie Milliner |
| Sarita Bowell | Patricia Petro |
| Laura Braugh | Stephan Pleli |
| Jody Bryant | Tommy Reeck |
| Sandy Crutchley | Leah Rosario |
| Madison Garriott | Lisa Sanders |
| Blair Getz | Lewis Schindler |
| Jenell Gordon | Sheila Silvey |
| Lettie Groshel | Nick Sims |
| Claude Hamilton | Larry Smith |
| Brian Hubert | Samantha Strother |
| Chris Jones | Deb Thompson |
| Henry Kappes Jr | Dianne Van Pelt |
| Murray Leffers Jr | Tina Wilson |
| Jude Lightfoot | Kristin |
| Bill Manke | |

- The Military & their Families
- Our Food Pantry Clients
- ELCA Missionaries & YAGM students
- All who mourn

In a effort to keep the prayer list up to date, please update Pastor Leslie monthly regarding your friends/family on the list.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
November 2023						
5 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15am Craft Group	6 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom) 7pm Bell Choir	7 10am Threaders	8 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	9 8pm AA	10 Office CLOSED	11 8am Men's Group
12 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:30am Annual Meeting Followed by 60th Anniversary Potluck	13 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom) 5:30pm Preschool Board (Hybrid) 7pm Bell Choir	14 10am Threaders 7pm Council (Zoom)	15 Noon Ladies Lunch 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	16 8pm AA	17	18 10am GS Troop 490
19 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	20 9am Food Pantry NO Bible Study 7pm Bell Choir	21 10am Threaders 7pm Good Mourning	22 NO Potluck/Bible Study	23 Thanksgiving Office CLOSED 8pm AA	24 Office CLOSED	25
26 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	27 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom) 7pm Bell Choir	28 10am Threaders 6:30pm American Sewing Guild	29 6:30pm Soup Supper 7:15pm Advent Worship (Hybrid)	30 8pm AA		