

“Grace Greetings”

December 2022

Advent:
a time for hope.

“THE DAYS ARE SURELY COMING,
SAYS THE LORD, WHEN I WILL
FULFILL THE PROMISE I MADE TO
THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND THE
HOUSE OF JUDAH. IN THOSE DAYS
AND AT THAT TIME I WILL CAUSE A
RIGHTEOUS BRANCH TO SPRING UP
FOR DAVID, AND HE SHALL
EXECUTE JUSTICE AND
RIGHTEOUSNESS IN THE LAND.”
-JEREMIAH 33:14-15

“I THANK MY GOD EVERY TIME I
REMEMBER YOU, CONSTANTLY
PRAYING WITH JOY IN EVERY ONE
OF MY PRAYERS FOR ALL OF
YOU, BECAUSE OF YOUR SHARING
IN THE GOSPEL FROM THE FIRST
DAY UNTIL NOW.”
-PHILIPPIANS 1:3-5

Advent:
a time for peace

“MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD,
AND MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD
MY SAVIOR,
FOR HE HAS LOOKED WITH FAVOR
ON THE LOWLINESS OF HIS
SERVANT.
SURELY, FROM NOW ON ALL
GENERATIONS WILL CALL ME
“BLESSED”
-LUKE 1:46-48

Advent:
a time for joy

“REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS:
AGAIN I WILL SAY, REJOICE. LET
YOUR GENTLENESS BE KNOWN TO
EVERYONE. THE LORD IS NEAR.”
-PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5

Advent:
a time for love



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.



December 2022 “Grace Greetings”

Mission Statement:

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

Parental Leave Covenant

During the 8 weeks of Pastor Leslie’s full time Parental Leave...

- **The congregation will:**
 1. Sustain their participation in the life of the parish, in worship, ministry, and stewardship (time, talents, & treasures).
 2. Look for the gifts of this season, and be patient when things aren't the way they usually are.
 3. Take seriously their role in welcome of visitors and guests, and mutual care for one another. Notify the Council President (La Quita Opperman) of any special needs or changes, in your own household or that of another member/friend of Grace, that may require special care from the congregation or Coverage Pastor.
 4. As always, look for ways that the things they are good at and the things they love to do might enrich the common life or ministries of Grace; and affirm other members when they offer their gifts to the church.
 5. Respect Pastor Leslie’s leave by not contacting her during her 8 weeks of leave.
- **Council President (La Quita Opperman) will:**
 1. Receive requests for pastoral calls/visits and coordinate response with the congregation and/or Coverage Pastor depending on what the situation calls for.
 2. Supervise staff and oversee communications with the congregation.
- **Coverage Pastor (The Rev. Scott Mims) will:**
 1. Attend monthly Council Meetings.
 2. Attend to any pastoral care emergencies (as informed by the Council President).
- **Supply Pastors will:**
 1. Preach and lead worship on Sunday mornings.
- **Pastor Leslie will:**
 1. take the necessary time and steps to physically heal.
 2. live into her new vocation as mother of two.
- **Pastor Leslie will not:**
 1. attend worship or other events at Grace.
 2. be physically present in the office or available for pastoral care.
 3. check/answer emails, phone calls, texts, or social media.

If you have a pastoral emergency while Pastor Leslie is on leave (Oct 23-Dec 17, 2022), please contact La Quita Opperman to be connected with the coverage pastor.

After the 8 weeks of full time leave, Pastor Leslie will work half-time for another 8 weeks (Dec 18, 2022-Feb 11, 2023).

EVENTS

Mark your Calendar

Dec 3	Noon	Ladies Christmas Lunch
Dec 4	8:30am	Contemporary Worship
	9:45am	Sunday School
	11am	Traditional Worship
Dec 5	9am	Food Pantry
	7pm	Bell Choir
Dec 6	10am	Threaders
Dec 7	6:30pm	Potluck Dinner
	7pm	Bible Study (Hybrid)
Dec 10	8am	Men's Group
Dec 11	8:30am	Contemporary Worship
	9:45am	Sunday School
	11am	Traditional Worship
	1pm	Confirmation @ Emmanuel, VB
	3:05pm	Norfolk Admirals Game
Dec 12	9am	Food Pantry
	5:30pm	Preschool Board (Hybrid)
	7pm	Bell Choir
Dec 13	10am	Threaders
	7pm	Council Meeting (Hybrid)
Dec 14	6:30pm	Potluck Dinner
	7pm	Bible Study (Hybrid)
Dec 18	8:30am	Contemporary Worship
	9:45am	Sunday School
	11am	Traditional Worship
	12:30pm	Hanging of the Greens
Dec 19		Food Pantry CLOSED
	7pm	Bell Choir
Dec 20	10am	Threaders
Dec 21	6:30pm	Potluck Dinner
	7pm	Bible Study (Hybrid)
Dec 24		Christmas Eve
	5pm	Family Worship (Hybrid)
	7pm	Candlelight Worship (Hybrid)
Dec 25		Christmas Day
	9:45am	Combined Worship (Hybrid)
Dec 26		Food Pantry CLOSED

Office CLOSED
 NO Bell Choir
 Dec 27 10am Threaders
 Dec 28 NO Potluck Dinner or Bible Study

Hybrid WORSHIP

Regular Hybrid Worship Schedule

- 8:30am Contemporary Worship
- 9:45am Sunday School
- 11am Traditional Worship



Sunday School

Most Sundays at 9:45am

- Elementary School—in Classroom #3
- Middle & High School—in Youth Room
- Adults—in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom

Monday Bible Study ON HIATUS

Monday Bible Study will be on hiatus until January 9, 2023.



Bell Choir Rehearsal

Mondays at 7pm

If you have any questions, please email Morgan at Music@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org.



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 (except Dec 28)

Potluck @ 6:30 & Study @ 7pm

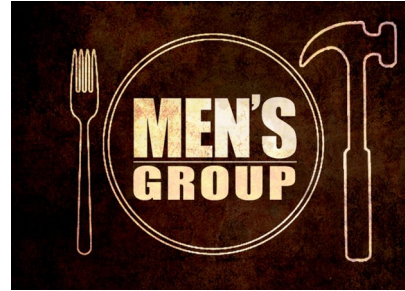
- Join via your smartphone/tablet/ computer by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/621600567?pwd=OHhzWUFlc0FIQit0MjN5c0lEcjNtQT09> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via your regular phone, by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 621 600 567 and Passcode: 672531.



Ladies Christmas Lunch

December 3rd, Noon-2pm

Join us for a potluck lunch and fellowship. Friends and family are welcome! We will also collect non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry. Sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, Nov 27th. Questions?: Contact Sandra Fraenkel



Men's Group

Saturday, December 10th at 8am

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



Craft Group

Sunday, December 4th after the late service

Calling all knitters, stitchers, scrapbookers, etc.! Let's all get together and work on our projects. Bring a bag lunch and meet in the Fellowship hall after second service. Sunday, December 4th. Hope to see you there. Any questions, contact Sandra Fraenkel.



Fellowship Event: Norfolk Admirals Hockey Game

Sunday, December 11th at 3:05pm at Norfolk Scope

Please sign up in the Narthex (or contact Sandra Fraenkel) by Sunday, December 4th. Bring your kids, grandkids, friends, and neighbors! Tickets will be approximately \$15 each.

Preschool Board Meeting (Hybrid)

Monday, December 12th at 5:30pm

- Join via computer/smartphone/tablet by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85964430976?pwd=cEVXNkkva2tLb2NWRUkvaIRJQnJlU109> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via phone by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 859 6443 0976 and Passcode: 040561.

Council Meeting (Hybrid)

Tuesday, December 13th 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.



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 18th after worship

Please stay to help decorate the church for Christmas—many hands make light work!

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

- ◇ Monday, Dec 26
 - ◇ Office CLOSED
 - ◇ Food Pantry CLOSED
 - ◇ NO Bell Choir
- ◇ Dec 28
 - ◇ NO Potluck or Bible Study
- ◇ Monday, Jan 2
 - ◇ Office CLOSED
 - ◇ Food Pantry CLOSED
 - ◇ NO Bell Choir



*** Dec 24th at 5pm—
Christmas Eve Family
Worship**

*** Dec 24th at 7pm--Christmas
Eve Candlelight Worship**

*** DEC 25 AT 9:45AM—
CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP**

*** Jan 1st at 9:45am—Service
of Lessons & Carols**

**We will use the same Zoom information
as Sunday Morning Worship for all of
these worship services.**

The Last Day to Give on Record in 2022

is Sunday, December 25th at 9:45am. All donations received after that time will not be deposited until after the new year and will be recorded on your 2023 giving statement.

Begin or Update Electronic Giving for 2023

You can sign up to give to the ministries of Grace electronically (once or recurring) via Tithe.ly (https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/475611). Use the same link and sign into your account to update the amount and/or frequency of your contributions for 2023.

2023 Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2023 Offering Envelopes next time you are at church. If you would like a set and there is not a set with your name on it, please contact our Financial Secretary, Rich Fraenkel.

2022 Congregational Council



La Quita Opperman
President



Bob Masters
Vice President



Mike Olson
Secretary



Walt Anderson



David Cooper



Faith Longworth



Jen Scherman



Fred Schleede

From the Council

Hoping everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. We are very thankful for everyone that joined us for the Annual Congregational Meeting both in person and online. Thank you for those members who volunteered to be on a committee. We still have a couple of vacancies, if you are interested in serving as a steward on these committees please contact me, Pastor Leslie, or any member of council. We require one more person for council and the Preschool board.

We are currently looking to hire a nursery attendant and a tech host. If you know of anyone that is interested in either one of these positions, please have them send a resume to me for the tech host and to Mana Masters for the nursery attendant position.

Fred Schleede and David Cooper have investigated the vents and are happy to report that we only have trouble with the back vents of the church and not all of them. Hopefully, these vents can be repaired and that we will not have to redesign the church for the HVAC system.

This will make replacing the existing systems less expensive.

Ladies, please plan to join us at the church on December 3, 2022, at 12:00 pm for our Ladies Christmas lunch.

Wishing everyone a blessed holiday season, and may the holy spirit visit you often and give you peace.

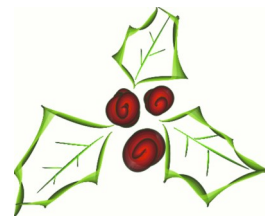
God peace to all, stay safe and healthy.

La Quita Opperman
2022 Council President

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

Because of your generosity in **October 2022**, we were able to:

- Host a Flea Market and donate proceeds to the Chesapeake We Care Resource Center and Grace Preschool's Lisa Marie Justice Scholarship Fund
- Host Confirmation Class for the Tidewater Conference cohort
- Support Pastor Leslie in attending the VA Synod's Annual Gathering of the Ministerium
- Support Pastor Leslie in taking parental leave for the birth of "Pumpkin"
- Gather for fellowship, playing "Wrap Your Crap" Bingo
- Collect kids coats for local primary schools.
- Host an American Red Cross Blood Drive
- Celebrate the ongoing movement of the Spirit on Reformation Sunday.





www.GracePreschoolChesapeake.weebly.com

From the Preschool

Greetings from Grace Preschool!!!! We have had an exciting start to the year. It's hard to believe that it's already December.

I want to thank the Grace Preschool parents, staff, and Grace Lutheran Church for all their hard work and dedication. We received a lot of food items to donate to the food pantry. Our teachers are in a friendly competition this year to see which class can get us to our goal of 1000 food items. Last year our four-year-old class was our champion. Let's see if they keep, they keep winning status. Food drive donations will be accepted through 12/9/2022.

We are very excited to announce our holiday activities for 2022! Our Christmas Production will be on 12/16/2022 at 6 pm. If you would like to volunteer to help with the costumes and background decorations, please contact the preschool director at 757-420-4720.

Did you know you can help our preschool by linking your Harris Teeter VIC card to our account? It's extremely easy to do just tell the cashier you want to link your card to Grace Preschool, account number: TIE7040. You can also go to <https://www.harristeeter.com/>, stroll down to click on Together in Education, and Link Your School Today. When you shop at Harris Teeter brands, a percentage of your purchase is donated to the school that your VIC card is linked to. You can also help our

preschool by ordering Papa John's pizza using promo code GracePizza with each order.

Sincerely
Kristie Fields
Preschool Director



Volunteer Opportunities

- * Worship Greeters and Ushers
- * Lectors and Assisting Ministers
- * Tech Hosts
- * Sewing with the Threaders
- * Food Pantry on Mondays
- * Food Pantry pickups
- * Men's Group



PRAYER LIST

We Pray for Our Members

Ann Anderson	Jack Justice
Elaine Babb	Sharon Justice
Joe Babb	Barbara Kilian
Peggy Barry	Lori Kilian
Jovie Bennett	Charlotte Maurer
Suzanne Bergsten	The Moody Family
Annette Fillmore	Roy Russell
The Headings Family	Monique Schroeder
Jan Howell	Rose Mary Sidam
Patricia Jackson	Ted Van Horn
Leonora Jones	

We Pray for Our Friends

The Ange family	Jennifer Horton
Bill Babb	Brian Hubert
Randy Bosecker	Chris Jones
Richard Bowell	Rege Kuzel
Sarita Bowell	Murray Leffers Jr
Laura Braugh	Andrew Lowe
Doris Carr	Katie Milliner
Nathan Darulla	Cindy Nethery
Randy Davis	Eugene Opperman
Sharon Dozier	Karen Opperman
Mark Dyer	Samantha Page
Madison Garriott	Joshua Patton
Terry Gillette	Stephan Pleli
Jenell Gordon	Tommy Reeck
Lettie Groshel	Lisa Sanders
Claude Hamilton	The Sidam Family
Rachel Hobson	Nick Sims
Ruby Hockenberry	Deb Thompson
Jaylin Horton	Dianne Van Pelt

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



Dec 2	Susan Stillman
Dec 6	Tara Moeller
Dec 8	Gayle Graham
Dec 9	Kyleen Calkins
Dec 9	Susan Graham
Dec 15	Bill Keefer
Dec 17	Rodney Haberkorn
Dec 29	Marlene Hubert
Dec 29	Mason Weed
Dec 30	Jordan Bennett
Dec 31	Carmen Fraenkel



Dec 5	Mark & Suzanne Bergsten
Dec 14	Jacob Evans & Kris McClellan
Dec 19	Rey & Rachel Lizan
Dec 28	David & Quina Pritchard
Dec 30	Casey & Kyleen Calkins

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

PASTORAL CARE

Please contact Pastor Leslie if you are in need of a pastoral care, hospital, or Communion visit.

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
December 2022						
4 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship	5 9am Food Pantry 7pm Bell Choir	6 10am Threaders	7 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	8 8pm AA	9	10 8am Men's Group 10am Girl Scouts
11 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 1pm Confirmation @ Emmanuel, VB 3:05pm Admirals Hockey Game	12 9am Food Pantry 5:30pm Preschool Board (Hybrid) 7pm Bell Choir	13 10am Threaders 7pm Council (Hybrid)	14 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	15 8pm AA	16 6pm Preschool Christmas Program	17 3:30pm Girl Scouts
18 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:30pm Hanging of the Greens	19 Food Pantry CLOSED 7pm Bell Choir	20 10am Threaders 7pm Good Mourning	21 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	22 8pm AA	23	24 Christmas Eve 5pm Family Worship 7pm Candlelight Worship
25 9:45am Combined Worship Service	26 Food Pantry CLOSED Office CLOSED NO Bell Choir	27 10am Threaders 6:30pm American Sewing Guild	28 NO Potluck or Bible Study	29 8pm AA	30	31