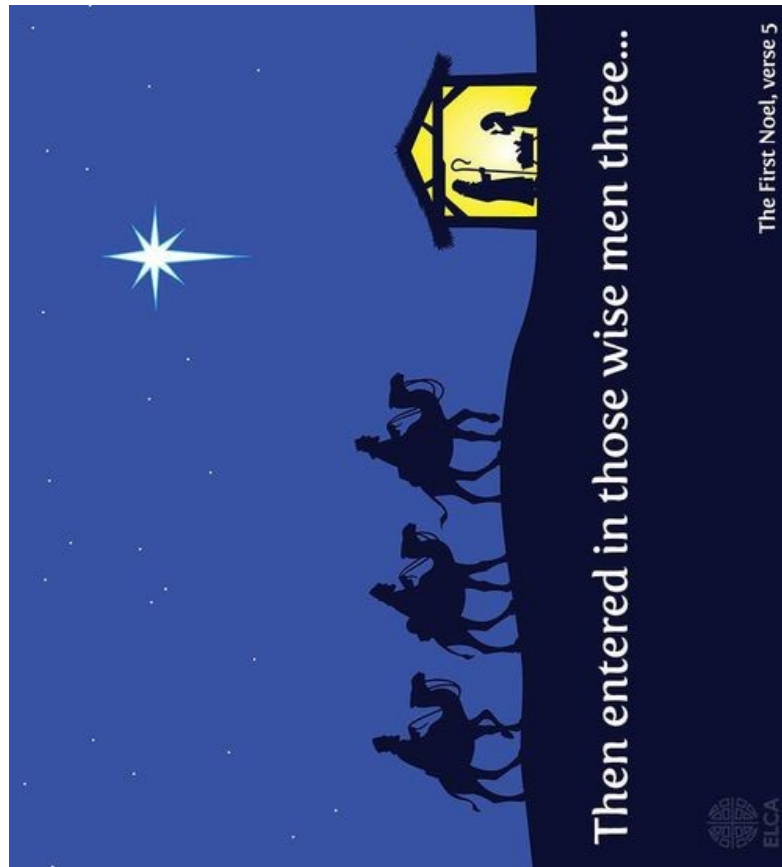


# “Grace Greetings” January 2022



**Grace Lutheran Church  
521 Providence Road  
Chesapeake, Virginia 23325**

**The Rev. Leslie D. Weber, Pastor**  
Office (757) 420-4704  
Cell (757) 598-3522  
[PastorLeslie@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org](mailto:PastorLeslie@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org)

**Sunday Worship (Hybrid: in-person & online) at 9:45am**  
Log-in information at  
[www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org/News--Upcoming-Events](http://www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org/News--Upcoming-Events)

**Grace Preschool**  
Offers Christian Preschool programs for 2, 3, & 4 year-olds  
Office (757) 420-4720  
[www.GracePreschoolChesapeake.weebly.com](http://www.GracePreschoolChesapeake.weebly.com)



<https://linktr.ee/gracelutheran>



## January 2022 “Grace Greetings”

### **Mission Statement:**

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

### **Epiphany House Blessing**

It is traditional each year on Epiphany (January 6th) to bless houses. It was in a house that the Magi met the Christ child, and hopefully we meet Christ in others in houses as well. Houses ideally are places where faith is shared and lived out all year long.

Below is an order of service that I encouraged you to use to bless your house this Epiphany. You can also watch me talk your through it here: <https://youtu.be/EsiA2540Tll> (note the video is from last year).

God Bless,  
Pastor Leslie Weber (she/her/hers)

**GREETING**—May peace be to this house and to all who enter here. By wisdom a house is built and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. (See *Proverbs 24:3-4*)

**READING**—As we prepare to ask God's blessing on this household, let us listen to the words of scripture:

Read *John 1:1-4, 14, 16*

**INSCRIPTION**—*20+CMB+22 may be inscribed with chalk above the entrance as you say:*

	The magi of old, known as
C	Caspar,
M	Melchior, and
B	Balthasar
	followed the star of God's Son who came to dwell among us
20	two thousand
22	and twenty-two years ago.
+	Christ, bless this house,
+	and remain with us throughout the new year.

**PRAYER OF BLESSING**—O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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# EVENTS

Mark your Calendar

Jan 2	9:45am	Hybrid Worship
	10:45	Kid's Sunday School
	10:45am	Un-hanging of the Greens
Jan 3	9am-12:45pm	Food Pantry
	1:30pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
Jan 4	10am	Threaders
Jan 5	7pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
Jan 8	8am	Men's Group
Jan 9	9:45am	Hybrid Worship
	10:45am	Kid's Sunday School
	1pm	Confirmation @ Grace
Jan 10	9am-12:45pm	Food Pantry
	1:30pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
	5:30pm	Preschool Board (Zoom)
Jan 11	10am	Threaders
	7pm	Council Meeting (Zoom)
Jan 12	7pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
Jan 16	9:45am	Hybrid Worship
	10:45am	Kid's Sunday School
Jan 17		Food Pantry CLOSED
	1:30pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
Jan 18	10am	Threaders
Jan 19	Noon	Ladies Lunch Out
	7pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
Jan 21-23		Winter Celebration (VA Synod High School Youth Event)
Jan 23	9:45am	Hybrid Worship
	10:45am	Kid's Sunday School
		last day for Outreach Collection
Jan 24	9am-12:45pm	Food Pantry
	1:30pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
Jan 25	10am	Threaders
Jan 26	7pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
Jan 30	9:45am	Hybrid Worship
	10:45am	Kid's Sunday School
		Souper Bowl of Caring begins
Jan 31-Feb 2		Midwinter Power in the Spirit (Online)
Jan 31	9am-12:45pm	Food Pantry
	1:30pm	Bible Study (Zoom)

## Hybrid WORSHIP

### Hybrid Worship

Sundays at 9:45am

### In-person

- Information about what to expect and risk-mitigation measures at [www.gracelutheranchesapeake.org/hybrid-worship.html](http://www.gracelutheranchesapeake.org/hybrid-worship.html).

### On Zoom

- Join via your smartphone/tablet/computer by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/984794689?pwd=dEx0N3FDa055WFNQQTV5UFFyOUc5QT09> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via your regular phone, by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 984 794 689 and Passcode: 546963.

Sign up to serve in worship: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MYFXiYDQXvVEsP8-K8yRgcsBbr9rAMrplIX9yiXSxR4/edit?usp=sharing>

Children's Sunday School



### Kid's Sunday School (K-5th Grade)

Sundays after worship (~10:45am) on the playground

(in the Fellowship Hall in the case of inclement weather).

Risk mitigation measures will be the same as those currently in place for Hybrid worship (ex: masks, distancing, etc.). Please contact Joy Baltero if you have any questions.



**Monday Bible Study (on Zoom)**

**Mondays at 1:30pm**—we are currently studying the book of Ecclesiastes.

- Join via your smartphone/tablet/computer by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87547409467?pwd=MzI5TFdseFpYU1lpTS95czN4VWl4QT09> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via your regular phone, by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 875 4740 9467 and Passcode: 478408.

**Wednesday Bible Study (on Zoom)**

**Wednesdays at 7pm**—we will be studying the 1st & 2nd Samuel.

- 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.



**Threaders**

**Tuesdays at 10am**

**\*NOTE SCHEDULE CHANGE\***

In 2022, the Threaders are going to begin meeting 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.

**Updated In-person Worship Protocols**

**Begin Sunday, January 2, 2022**

- Distancing is still required, but **all pews will be open**
- **Hymnals will be returned to the pews**
- Masks are still required in the building
- Sign-in for contact tracing purposes will continue
- You are encouraged to join us from home via Zoom if you are not feeling well or have possibly been exposed.

**RISK MITIGATION MEASURES FOR IN-BUILDING WORSHIP AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, CHESAPEAKE**



**STAY HOME IF YOU FEEL UNWELL**

Anyone who has exhibited signs of illness in the last 48 hours, had a positive COVID-19 test in the last 10 days, or been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, will not be permitted in the building.



**WEAR A FACE COVERING**

Masks must be worn over the mouth, nose, and chin, regardless of vaccination status.



**SIGN IN WITH GREETERS**

Enter through the double glass doors. Attendance will be taken to aid in contact tracing, and general health questions will be asked.



**PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

Please keep a distance of at least 6 feet from individuals not in your household/pod. Every pew will be available for seating, but we encourage you to continue to spread out as you are able.



**HAND HYGIENE**

Wash or sanitize your hands upon entry and exit of the church building. This is especially important as we resume using hymnals, etc.



**CONGREGATIONAL SINGING**

Vaccinated worshippers are encouraged to sing with less gusto than normal. The CDC does not recommend that un-vaccinated worshippers sing.



**DISMISSAL**

You are encouraged to leave after worship via the back door in a quick and organized manner.

UPDATED JANUARY 2022

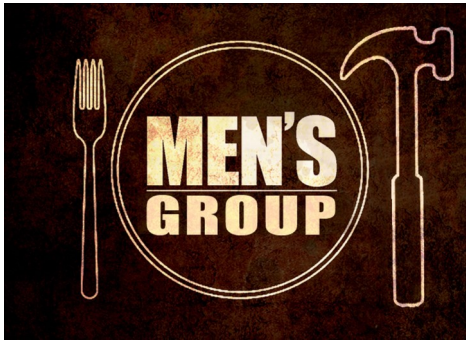


**Un-Hanging of the Greens**

**Sunday, January 2nd after worship**

Please stay to help un-decorate the church for Christmas—many hands make light work! Risk mitigation measures will be in place.





**Men's Group**

**Saturday, January 8th at 8am**

Join the men of GLC for potluck breakfast and work around the church. Please plan to wear a mask, follow "distant socializing" guidelines, and practice good hand hygiene.

**Preschool Board Meeting (on Zoom)**

**Monday, January 10th at 5:30pm**

- Join via your smartphone/tablet/computer by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85964430976?pwd=cEVXNkkva2tLb2NWRUkvaIRJQnJIUT09> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via your regular phone, by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 859 6443 0976 and Passcode: 040561.

**Council Meeting (on Zoom)**

**Tuesday, January 11th at 7pm**

- Join via your smartphone/tablet/computer by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87468766112?pwd=Z3VnL2RyVkrKdXhXRFFWT2E0ZlcrZz09> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via your regular phone, by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 874 6876 6112 and Passcode: 740742.



**Handbell Choir is Coming Back!**

Handbell choir will be resuming the third week of January. We will be taking precautions for COVID-19 as we have been

with our hybrid services the past few months, such as masks and social distancing—in addition to some extra considerations specifically regarding handbell rehearsals (more information to come regarding these). In addition to adults, children and youth ages 11 and up are encouraged to join the handbell choir as well.

If you would like to join our handbell choir, please fill out the linked Doodle poll [[https://doodle.com/poll/4fpmq3xq2yce6gry?utm\\_source=poll&utm\\_medium=link](https://doodle.com/poll/4fpmq3xq2yce6gry?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link)] and select the times you would be available for handbell choir rehearsals weekly, starting the week of January 16, 2022. If you have any questions or concerns regarding handbell choir, feel free to send Morgan an email at:

[Music@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org](mailto:Music@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org).



**Day For All People**  
**January 17-21, 2022**



**Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy: Day for All People**

**Monday, January 17-Friday, January 21 in Richmond & Online**

Day for All People is an annual Advocacy Day with the Virginia General Assembly, organized by the VA Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP). In 2022, we will have a hybrid model, offering both virtual gatherings throughout the week, and in person advocacy on Wednesday. People of faith and goodwill from across Virginia are invited to join together to make your voices heard on economic, racial, and social justice issues. You will learn about our priority policy issues from dynamic speakers and workshops, meet with your state

legislators, and engage with advocates in your region.

Register online at <https://virginiainterfaithcenter.ourpowerbase.net/civcrm/event/info?reset=1&id=170>

- Early Bird Registration Fee: \$30 (ends 5:00 pm on Friday, December 31)
- Regular Registration Fee: \$40

View Schedule (subject to change) at <https://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/DFAP-2022-Schedule-At-A-Glance-11.05.21-2.pdf>



### **Ladies Lunch Out**

**Wednesday, January 19th at Noon**

**at Recovery Sports Grill** (1672 Sentinel Dr)

Join the ladies of GLC for fellowship & food. Please sign up in the Narthex or RSVP to Pastor Leslie by Noon on Monday, January 17th.



### **Outreach Collection for Family in Need through Sunday, January 23rd**

Chesapeake Public Schools has referred a family to us who is in need of help. After some time of being homeless, the family is now settling into stable housing, but they are starting from scratch as far as personal belongings go. So we are going to collect shoes and clothing for the two school age sons (see sizes below) and gift cards for household items (Walmart, Target, Kroger, etc.). All donations should be dropped off at the church office by Sunday, January

23rd.

- 6th Grade Boy (size 7.5 shoe, size 16 shirt, and size 18 pants)
- Kindergarten Boy (size 2 shoe, size 8 shirt, and size 8 pants)

Questions? Contact Pastor Leslie or Gretchen Stoll.



### **Beer Reformation Retreat** **January 28-30, 2022**

Join us for a weekend of fellowship and renewal, paired with the art of beer brewing. We'll follow our "Earn your Beer" hike with a visit to a local brewery, then bottle a special Caroline Furnace recipe to take home.

Registration rates are \$115 for the weekend or \$30 for the day. The retreat cost includes modern-rustic lodging, scratch-made meals, and Saturday transportation. Register online by January 14.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSelikQUyCmKOdB1iWeDCJm2sK8woAFC\\_kMuEKtOLvYI7WE6Wg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSelikQUyCmKOdB1iWeDCJm2sK8woAFC_kMuEKtOLvYI7WE6Wg/viewform)

# Winter Celebration

### **Winter Celebration (VA Synod High School Youth Event)**

**January 21-23, 2022**

Winter Celebration is our annual weekend faith-formation retreat for youth in 9th through 12th grades and adult leaders. This year we are gathering in-person (at Eagle Eyrie Retreat Center in Lynchburg) once again for Large Group experiences with lots of singing and skits and fun and Small Group experiences with lots of new friends,

games, conversation, more games, and faith sharing!

There is also the option of attending the event via Zoom for those who are concerned about COVID safety or have other mobility limitations. The cost is \$35 for online participation.

If you would like to attend, please talk to Pastor Leslie and/or Rich Fraenkel.



**Souper Bowl of Caring Food Drive**  
**Sunday, Jan 30th-Sunday, Feb 13th**

We will be collecting non-perishable food from Sunday, January 30 through Sunday February 13th. On January 30th, there will be five grocery carts in the Narthex, one for each team playing in the NFL Division Championship Games and one for "I don't care." The first two Sundays in February, we'll be down to three grocery carts, one for each team playing in the NFL Super Bowl, and one for "I don't care." Show your support for your team and our Food Pantry by placing non-perishable food donations in the grocery cart of your choice!



**American Red Cross**

**Blood Drive**  
**Saturday, February 12th, 9am-1pm**  
**in the Grace Lutheran Fellowship Hall**

To make an appointment, visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code: GraceLutheran.



**Synodwide Gathering in 2022**

The Synod Council approved plans to hold a Synodwide Celebration of Service in conjunction with Power of the Spirit at Roanoke College. The Synod staff is coordinating with the Power in the Spirit planning team to develop an associated event on the Friday and Saturday of Power in the Spirit that will focus on service and will include a large festival worship experience. Unfortunately, St. Andrew's Catholic Church is no longer hosting outside groups for worship, so we give thanks for College Lutheran's willingness to host worship on July 15.

More information on the event will be coming in early 2022, but for now, please go ahead and **reserve July 14-16 for Power in the Spirit or July 15-16 for the Synodwide Celebration of Service**. We look forward to seeing you at the first in-person gathering of the entire Synod since 2019.



**Re-Formation in Action: VA Synod Tapestry Team has 4 New Focus Groups**

The Tapestry Team of the Virginia Synod now has four new focus groups to address social justice issues throughout the year.



After receiving feedback from surveys asking about interest in different justice issues, four justice threads rose to the top:

- Racial Justice
- LGBTQIA+ Inclusion
- Care of Creation Justice
- Justice for Women.

The Tapestry Team will now have four teams devoted to planning events around these justice areas. Each team - led by its own coordinators - will have a quarter (3 months) of the calendar year where they can focus on events for that justice emphasis.

NOW is the time to express your interest in participating in any or all of these teams!

Please email: [Tapestry@vasynod.org](mailto:Tapestry@vasynod.org)

	Racial Justice	LGBTQIA+ Inclusion	Care of Creation Justice	Justice for Women
Quarter of 2022	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter Jan., Feb., March	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter April, May, June	3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> quarter Aug., Sept., Oct.	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter Oct., Nov., Dec.
Coordinators	Pastor Harry Griffith and Maurice Gallimore	George Donovan and Mel Siebert	Deacon Phyllis Cox and Cael Edwards	Pastor Monica Weber and Sylvia Eley

[www.vasynod.org/ministries/tapestry/](http://www.vasynod.org/ministries/tapestry/)



### **2022 Estimate of Giving**

Share with us how you plan to support God's ministry at Grace Lutheran in 2022 by filling out the form at <https://forms.gle/Wjbi2dxmzkngqJkv8>.

### **2022 Offering Envelopes**

We are still waiting on 2022 Offering Envelope packs to arrive. We will let you know as soon as they are ready for pick up. If you received envelopes in 2021, you will receive them again in 2022. If you did not receive envelopes in 2021, but would like a 2022 pack, please let Grace's Financial Secretary, Rich Fraenkel, know [[FinSec@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org](mailto:FinSec@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org)]

### **Begin or Update Electronic Giving for 2022**

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](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 2022.

### **Qualified Charitable Distributions**

*by Walt Anderson*

If you have an IRA and make Required Minimum Distributions, now is the time to review next year's distribution. Depending on your situation you may be able to receive your distribution tax-free...by giving it to Grace as part or all of your regular contribution.

If you are 70 ½, you are eligible to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA, which can provide a tax benefit to you and, of course, also benefit God's ministry at Grace Lutheran Church. Some simple rules:

- You must be 70 ½.
- It must be paid directly from a traditional IRA or Roth IRA.
- It must be paid directly from IRA custodian to the charity.
- It must be paid to a qualifying charity—Grace Lutheran Church qualifies.

If making a Qualified Charitable Distribution sounds like an interesting option to you, talk to your tax advisor first, to see if a QCD is appropriate for your situation. If it is, you will need to see your IRA holder to correctly direct the distribution to Grace.



### **A Note from the Food Pantry**

In December we distributed 35 Christmas Food Baskets to individuals and families in our community. This was made possible by your generous donations of food and

turkeys and monetary donations. In addition, the food pantry received food from:

- Grace Lutheran Preschool Food Drive
- Indian River Middle School Food Drive
- Mayflower Marathon (the turkeys and food are collected by the Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia and Eastern Shore and distributed to area food pantries)
- Food purchased by a Thrivent Action Team Grant

The people receiving the baskets were very appreciative and we received many "thanks". One person's prayers were answered since he had just lost his job and could not work due to a medical condition. He had a wife and kids. A couple of people mentioned "I get a turkey too?" Yes, everyone got a big box of food and a turkey.

We had approximately 8 volunteers working two days to assemble and distribute the baskets.

Again, THANK YOU very much for your support of our food pantry and for prayers for the clients who come to our food pantry.

the pews for use throughout the service. We do ask that if you are not feeling well, please join us on Zoom.

Council wants to take this time to thank Michaela Woodridge for being our childcare attendant throughout these past few years. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Pastor Leslie.

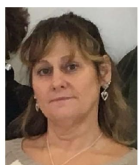
At our last council meeting we discussed returning to our regular services. One of the things we need to be able to move forward with two service for Sunday are Tech Hosts. If you are interested in training for this ministry, please contact Rich Fraenkel.

We wanted to let everyone know that for the first time this year we were able to meet our budgeted unrestricted income for the month of November. We budgeted \$18,675 a month for the unrestricted giving, we collected \$19,407.94. Thank you so much for your increase in giving.

Kris Peterson has volunteered to help educate the congregation on how we can help ourselves financially and help the church too. Please look for our Temple Talks in the coming year.

God peace and please be safe,  
La Quita Opperman  
*Council President*

### 2021 Congregational Council



La Quita Opperman  
*President*



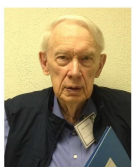
Bob Masters  
*Vice President*



Mike Olson  
*Secretary*



Casey Galkins  
*Treasurer*



Walt Anderson



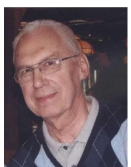
Alex Cloud



David Cooper



Faith Longworth



Fred Schleede

### From the Council

Happy New Year! Council felt that we have adequate precautions in place and decided to have all the pews open. We still require everyone to wear masks. We still will remain in our seats to pass the peace and to commune. We will enter and exit through the Narthex. Hymnals will be available at

### Accessible Bathroom Addition

Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2022! We will pass along more detail as we get them. The total project will cost just under \$30,000. Since the Congregational Meeting in June where we approved the spending from the "Growing in Grace" Building Fund, financial gifts to that fund have totaled almost \$8,000. As we shared before the vote, there was already enough money in the fund to cover the cost of the project, but it is important to replenish the fund before the next big building expense arises. Please consider a one-time gift or a recurring gift along with your regular giving to the General Fund in 2022.

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

In **November 2021**, Grace Lutheran received **\$18,263.33** in giving to the General Fund. Because of your generosity, we were able to:

- ◆ Remember our loved ones who have died on All Saints Sunday
- ◆ Gather for our Annual Meeting with voting members present in person and online
- ◆ Conclude another liturgical year and began a new one with the season of Advent
- ◆ Donated 12 turkeys for Indian River Middle School's Thanksgiving Baskets
- ◆ Support Pastor Leslie in being away from the office for a week of vacation and Sabbath rest

(to name just a few) with **\$15,735.03** of expenses and generous gifts of time and talent.



[www.GracePreschoolChesapeake.weebly.com](http://www.GracePreschoolChesapeake.weebly.com)  
**From the Preschool**

Happy New Year from Grace Preschool!!!! We are very excited to see 2022!!!! Grace Preschool had a wonderful 2021!!! Our students donated over 500 items to the food pantry helping families in the community.

We also donated items to Toys for Tots. Our students are leading by example, and we

are very proud of their generosity.

Our Christmas program was a huge success. Pastor Leslie did a magnificent job with the technology. Teachers and students worked very hard to make the presentation an awesome show. Parents and the Grace Preschool community were able to see students live on screen. We all felt the holiday spirit as they performed.

The fall fundraiser was a huge success!!! Our school goal was to sell \$1,000.00 in merchandise. We passed our goal and sold \$3,000.00 worth of merchandise. We are waiting on the company to give us our revenue percentage. Thank you for participating in our fundraiser.

The preschool will also be participating in the Super Bowl of Caring Can drive with Grace Lutheran Church this year. Students will be receiving report cards on January 27 -28, 2022.

We would like to thank everyone who linked your Harris Teeter VIC card to our account. If you have not gotten around to linking your card, it is not too late. 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 online to <https://www.harristeeter.com/>, scroll down to click on Together in Education, lastly click on Link Your School Today. When you buy Harris Teeter brands, a percentage of your purchase is donated to the school that your VIC card is linked to. There are NO LIMITS to how much a school can earn.

Please visit our Facebook page for fun facts, pictures, activities, and volunteer opportunities. It is always a pleasure to be part of the village helping our students succeed.

Sincerely,  
Kristie Fields  
Preschool Director



## January's Music Moment

Each month, our Minister of Music, Morgan Hatfield will let us know what new songs will be introduced this month and tell us a little about a few of the other songs we will be singing.

- \* On Sunday, January 9th, we will be singing a new song—"Our God" by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Jonas Myrin, and Matt Redman.

- \* On Sunday, January 16th, we will be singing "Soul Adorn Yourself with Gladness" (ELW #488) by Johann Franck and Johann Crüger.

"...James Mearns regarded this text as 'perhaps the finest of all German hymns for Holy Communion'...This hymn has the kind of devotional warmth the ruin of the Thirty Years' War engendered, while 'O Lord, we praise you' has the vigor of the sixteenth-century Reformation."

*Paul Westermeyer*

*(Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 314)*

- \* On Sunday, January 23rd, we will be singing a new song—"I Give Myself Away" by Sam Hinn and William McDowell

- \* On Sunday, January 23rd, we will also be singing "Let Streams of Living Justice" (ELW #710) by William Whitla and Gustav Holst.

"I wrote the hymn in 1989 just after the events in Tiananmen Square, and when the Mothers of the Disappeared in Argentina were bringing their campaign to the conscience of the world. At the same time, the religious and racial disputes in Ireland, Israel-Palestine, the Congo and other parts of Africa, in Canada and many other countries over First Nation or Aboriginal rights all seemed impossible to solve. Unfortunately, similar events are still replayed, and only too-similar images in the Near East, Iraq, Afghanistan, and now Somalia--not to mention the school shootings at home--recur and are now extended well beyond those earlier sad happenings. So I used some images from those events...seen through echoes of the holocaust, to tell of the bad news before the Good News of verses [two and three in the ELW]. Subsequent events sharpened those images, alas..."

*William Whitla, as quoted by Paul Westermeyer*

*(Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 567)*



# SAVE THE DATES

JANUARY 31 TO FEBRUARY 2, 2022



## MIDWINTER POWER IN THE SPIRIT

# Rest + Renewal + Rise

Our second annual midwinter Power in the Spirit online gathering is coming soon! Once again centered on Candlemas (February 2), this is our time after Christmas and before Lent to “rest, renew, and rise!” Power in the Spirit first met online because we had to. Now we gather online in the midwinter because we want to!

Join us for live sessions online Monday, January 31, to Wednesday February 2, 2022. We’ll open our virtual doors at 5:30 PM each night, and by 5:45 we’ll be enjoying lectures and workshops from a variety of leaders. At 7:00 PM we’ll close with worship.



**The Rev. Kevin Strickland, Bishop of the Southeastern Synod of the ELCA,** joins us as our keynote speaker! Bishop Strickland brings a wealth of knowledge regarding worship practices and how our worship forms us for mission. [Click here for more information on Bishop Strickland.](#)

Registration will open on January 3, 2022. For now, save the dates: January 31 to February 2, 2022.

While you are saving dates, plan to join us on the campus of Roanoke College for our summer Power in the Spirit Gathering: **July 14 to 16, 2022!**



**For more information:**  
[HTTPS://WWW.VASYNOD.ORG/POWER-IN-THE-SPIRIT/](https://www.vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit/)

# PRAYER LIST

## We Pray for Our Members

Walt Anderson	Jack Justice
Elaine Babb	Barbara Kilian
Joe Babb	The Marchant Family
Suzanne Bergsten	The McCulloughs
The Braa Family	Charlotte Maurer
Kyleen Calkins	Ray Miles
Jan Howell	Ruthie Miles
Jane Jennings	Rose Mary Sidam
Leonora Jones	Susan Stillman

## We Pray for Our Friends

Bill Babb	Jason Kestner
Jake Berman	Rege Kuzel
Randy Bosecker	Murray Leffers Jr
Richard Howell	Darrell Lowe
Sarita Howell	Katie Milliner
Laura Braugh	Keren Murphy
Karen Carter	Eugene Opperman
Tim Currubba	Karen Opperman
Nathan Darulla	Samantha Page
Mark Dyer	Stephan Pleli
Judy Fischer	Karen Polanco
Ken Fischer	Tommy Reeck
Karen Flaherty	Lisa Sanders
Mary Froehlich	Amy Shriner
Madison Garriott	Rick Sidam
Jenell Gordon	Nick Sims
Patty Graham	Glenn Smith
Lettie Groshel	Mia Smith
Eddie Haga	Larry Sommerfeld
Mike Hockenberry	Stephanie Royal
Ruby Hockenberry	Stanfield
The Hogan Family	Anita Stephens
Brian Hubert	Cornelia Swival
John Johnson	Dianne Van Pelt
Chris Jones	John West
Shelly Karriker	Ken Zaletski
Michael Keaton	Tyler

The Military & their Families  
 Our Food Pantry Clients  
 ELCA Missionaries  
 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.



Jan 6	Faith Longworth
Jan 6	Jacob Weber
Jan 17	Kim Moody
Jan 19	Joy Baltero
Jan 19	Collin Moody
Jan 23	Noah Lancaster
Jan 23	Samantha Pinkoski
Jan 24	Alex Cloud
Jan 24	Kristopher McClellan
Jan 27	Tom Casey
Jan 28	La Quita Opperman
Jan 29	Quina Pritchard



Jan 12	Jacob & Leslie Weber
Jan 20	Elaine & Roy Russell

To add/correct any birthdays or  
 anniversaries. Please email  
[Secretary@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org](mailto:Secretary@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org)

**PASTORAL CARE**

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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9:45am Worship (Hybrid) <b>10:45am Un-hanging of the Greens</b> 10:45am Kid's Sunday School	<b>3</b> 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>4</b> 10am Threaders	<b>5</b> 7pm Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>6</b> 8pm AA	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8am Men's Group
<b>9</b> 9:45am Worship (Hybrid) 10:45am Kid's Sunday School 1pm Confirmation @ Grace	<b>10</b> 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom) 5:30pm Preschool Board (Zoom)	<b>11</b> 10am Threaders 7pm Council (Zoom)	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8pm AA	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9am Infant Toddler Specialist Event
<b>16</b> 9:45am Worship (Hybrid) 10:45am Kid's Sunday School	<b>17</b> Food Pantry CLOSED 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>18</b> 10am Threaders 7pm Good Mourning	<b>19</b> 12:pm Ladies Lunch Out 7pm Bible Study	<b>20</b> 8pm AA	<b>21</b> <b>Winter Celebration (VA Synod HS Youth Event)</b>	<b>22</b> →
<b>23</b> 9:45am Worship (Hybrid) 10:45am Kid's Sunday School	<b>24</b> 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>25</b> 10am Threaders	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8pm AA 7pm Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:45am Worship (Hybrid) 10:45am Kid's Sunday School	<b>31</b> 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom)					

# January 2021