

“Grace Greetings” September 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.

September 2023 “Grace Greetings”

Mission Statement:

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

Family Camp at Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp

Last month, I had the privilege of serving as chaplain at Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp in Fort Valley, VA. I attended camp at CFLC twice as a camper, served on staff two summer during college, and have twice attended Confirmation Camp as a pastor, but this was my first time serving as chaplain. Jacob and boys got to tag along since one of the camps offered that week was Family Camp. I got to introduce Caleb and Ethan to this place I love as we hiked, canoed, creek walked, swam in the lake, had campfires, played games, helped out around camp, worshipped, and grew in our faith while enjoying God's creation.

The theme verse for the week was Revelation 22:13 (see logo below) and we spent the week talking about the Triune God. On Monday, we talked about God the Creator and how we are all made in and filled with God's love. On Tuesday, we learned about Jesus the redeemer and God's gift of grace. On Wednesday, we explored the Holy Spirit and how we are unified in the midst of diversity. On Thursday, we talked about Holy Baptism and ended Thursday night worship with a remembrance of Baptism and a physical reminder of God's love, grace, and unity.

God Bless,
 Pastor Leslie Weber



EVENTS

Mark your Calendar

Sep 3	9:45am	Combined Worship
	11:15am	Craft Group
Sep 4		LABOR DAY
		Food Pantry CLOSED
		Office CLOSED
		NO Bible Study
Sep 5	10am	Threaders
Sep 6	6:30pm	Potluck
	7:15pm	Bible Study (Hybrid)
Sep 9	8am	Men's Group
Sep 10		"God's work. Our hands." Sunday
	9:45am	Combined Worship
		followed by service projects and potluck lunch
Sep 11	9am	Food Pantry
	1:30pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
	5:30pm	Preschool Board (Hybrid)
	7pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sep 12	10am	Threaders
	7pm	Council (Zoom)
Sep 13	6:30pm	Potluck
	7:15pm	Bible Study (Hybrid)
Sep 17	9am	Sunday School
	10am	Combined Worship
Sep 18	9am	Food Pantry
	1:30pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
	7pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sep 19	10am	Threaders
Sep 20	Noon	Ladies Lunch Out
	6:30pm	Potluck
	7:15pm	Bible Study (Hybrid)
Sep 24	9am	Sunday School
	10am	Combined Worship
Sep 25	9am	Food Pantry
		NO Bible Study
	7pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sep 26	10am	Threaders
Sep 27	6:30pm	Potluck
	7:15pm	Bible Study (Hybrid)



Combined Worship (Hybrid)

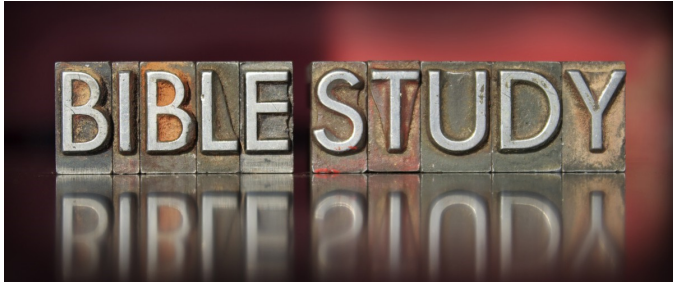
- Sep 3 & 10 at 9:45am
- Sep 17 & 24 at 10am

Join us on site or online. Zoom log-in information is available at www.gracelutheranchesapeake.org/news--upcoming-events.



Sunday School

- The **Elementary School Class** will be led by Joy Baltero and Pastor Leslie and will meet in Classroom #1.
- The **Middle & High School Class** will be led by Rebecca Headings and will meet in the Youth Room.
- The **Adult Sunday School Class** will be led by Rich Fraenkel and will meet in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom.



Monday Bible Study (Zoom)

Mondays at 1:30pm

- Join via computer/smartphone/tablet by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87557721128?pwd=b2J4ektpdGtwWk9NQkJudzllcHBBQT09> Passcode: Grace).
- Join via phone by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 875 5772 1128 and Passcode: 152551.



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

- Join via your smartphone/tablet/computer by clicking this link [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/621600567?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/621600567?pwd=OHHzWUFlc0FIQit0MjN5c0IEcINtQT09)

[pwd=OHHzWUFlc0FIQit0MjN5c0IEcINtQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/621600567?pwd=OHHzWUFlc0FIQit0MjN5c0IEcINtQT09) (Passcode: Grace).

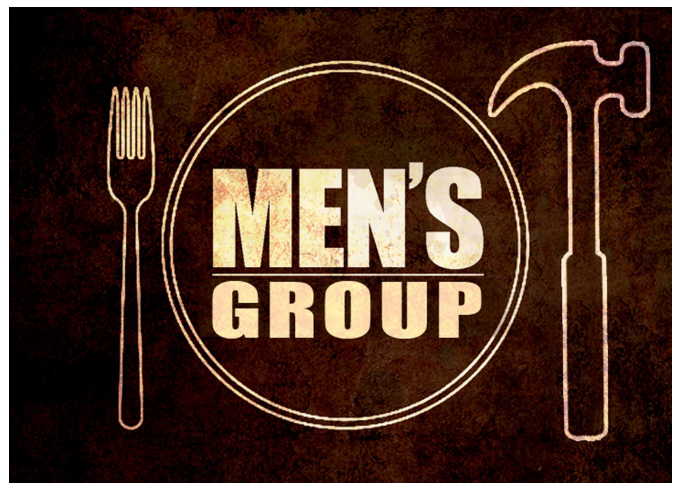
- Join via your regular phone, by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 621 600 567 and Passcode: 672531.



Craft Group

**Sunday, September 3rd
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, September 9th at 8am

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



**God's work.
Our hands.**

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday
Sunday, September 10th

- **Combined Worship Service at 9:45am**
- Followed by **Service Projects**
 - Pulling weeds from flower beds
 - Decorating and signing big "cards" for Grace members who are deployed or away at college
 - Bake Communion Bread
 - Sew Buttons on walker bags
 - Label books for the Book Ministry
 - Pack bags for the Food Pantry
 - Pack Blessings Bags
 - Prepare Teacher Appreciation gifts for local schools
- And a **Potluck Lunch**
 - Hotdogs will be provided.
 - Bring a side to share.
 - Sign up in the Narthex.



Board Meeting

Preschool Board Meeting (Hybrid)
Monday, September 11 at 5:30pm

- Join via computer/smartphone/tablet by clicking this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85964430976?pwd=cEVXNkkva2tLb2NWRUKvalRjQnJlU1O9> (Passcode: Grace).
- Join via phone by calling 646-558-8656 and entering the Meeting ID: 859 6443 0976 and Passcode: 040561.



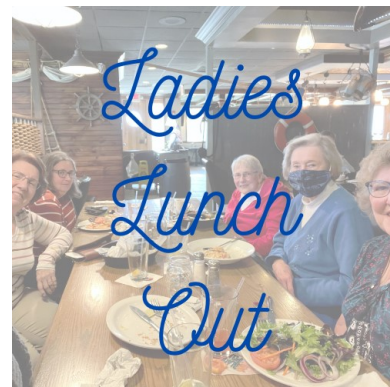
Bell Choir Rehearsal
Mondays at 7pm (resumes Sep 11)

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



Council Meeting (Zoom)
Tuesday, September 12 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, September 20 at Noon
at El Loro Mexican Restaurant
(801 Volvo Pkwy Ste 114, 23320)

Join the ladies of GLC for fellowship & food. Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, September 17th.



Lawn Care Volunteers Needed

We need your help to care for the lawn at church!

- 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.



BRIDGING THE GAP

2023

Update: Bridging the Gap

Please help us bridge the gap between our general fund income and general fund expenses from the first half of 2023 (~\$25,000). Just pick the plank off the display in the Narthex that fits your budget for an extra gift to GLC. Write your name on the back of the plank and place it and your cash/check in an envelope. Place the envelope in the offering plate on Sunday. As of Sunday, August 20th, we have received

- * 31 planks (out of 64 total)
- * 18 identified givers/households (plus some anonymous)
- * \$11,189



Balancing the Budget

By David Cooper, Council Member

My fellow members of Grace Lutheran Church, these past few years have thrown challenges at us both financially and spiritually with how we dealt with the pandemic and the recovery from it. Many things have changed in the congregation over the past few years, old brothers and sisters have moved on and new ones have joined, new ways of doing things have emerged. There have been many challenges financially recently that have lead us to change even more and to look for more ways to rebalance our finances while maintaining our mission to the congregation and the community as a whole.

The council will be looking at ways to rebalance the financial situation of the church in the next month but we would like input from the congregation as well since this could change how the church looks yet again. We ask that you would either send ideas to any of the council members or Pastor in email, letter, or speaking directly. We will be looking at ways to save money, cut spending, and increase income as well. Please prayerfully consider ideas that we can consider as council to move forward to rebalance the financial situation of the church.

2023 Congregational Council



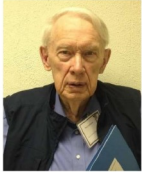
Bob Masters
President



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. The end of summer is quickly approaching although it's hard to tell that by the continued oppressive heat lately. Guess we're really in the throws of the "Dog days of summer"! Highlights from our past council meeting include the following:

Approval and initiation of the Employee Retention Credit which is a refundable tax credit. For an upfront cost of \$2500 we will receive approximately \$18,000 in approximately 6-9 months.

A special giving campaign called "Bridging the Gap" was established to help chip away at our financial shortcomings had a great start of over \$6,000 in the first 3 weeks. If you didn't get a chance to select a plank or planks, or if you did and are able to help even more, please check out the display in the Narthex and take one of more along with your donation

Both of these initiatives have been undertaken to purposely and faithfully decrease our deficit which was over \$26,000 for the first half of 2023.

Upcoming events and updates include, but are not limited, to the annual Fall Flea Market scheduled for October 14. Many volunteers are always needed and

welcomed. Please contact Millie Burns, Flea Market Coordinator, if you can help.

The new Sunday schedule for the fall has been looked at carefully based on polling of all Grace members. For this upcoming 2023-2024 year, Sunday School will start at 9AM followed by worship at 10AM.

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

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

In **June 2023**, Grace Lutheran received **\$18,995.77** in giving to the General Fund. Because of your generosity, we were able to:

- Support Jody (our office secretary) in taking vacation time.
- Enjoy good food and fellowship at the church picnic.
- Collect items for Connect With a Wish's Supporting Success program.
- Serve over 600 individuals through the Food Pantry.
- Host the following building use groups:
 - Alcoholics Anonymous
 - American Sewing Guild
 - Good Mourning Support Group
- Donate 20 walker bags to the Chesapeake Health & Rehab Center
- Gift countless books through the Book Ministry.

(to name just a few) with **\$14,894.62** of expenses and generous gifts of time and talent.

Year to date (through July 31st), we have received \$103,590.74 for the General Fund and have had \$125,688.58 in expenses from the General Fund. The balance (as of July 31st) is \$41,359.93.



Fall FLEA MARKET

**Located at
Grace Lutheran Church
521 Providence Road
Chesapeake, VA 23325
757-420-4704**

**Saturday
Oct 14
8am-2pm**

10' x 10' spaces only \$10

Bring your own tables, chairs, and tents!

Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

Spaces are LIMITED!

**Reserve your space online at
www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org**



**American
Red Cross**

Community of Giving

Blood Drive

Saturday, October 28, 2023

9am – 1pm

Grace Lutheran Church
521 Providence Road
Chesapeake, VA 23325

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Download the Blood Donor App

© The American National Red Cross | 161501

2023-24 VA Synod Youth Events

vasynod.org



Roanoke College Lutheran Visit Day

Sep. 2, 2023

For **high school youth and parents** to learn about our church's college and about discerning the Christian calling to higher education.

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 @virginiasynod @virginiasynod

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: delaney@vasynod.org

Contact our Camps!

For year-round meeting and retreat opportunities



carolinefurnace.org



hungrymother.org

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

- Sep 1 Mike Moody
- Sep 2 Rebecca Headings
- Sep 4 Pastor Leslie Weber
- Sep 7 Debbie Jennings
- Sep 7 Danica Pinkoski
- Sep 7 Elaine Russell
- Sep 7 Yvonne Shepherd
- Sep 9 Annabelle Wolfe
- Sep 11 Pat Jackson
- Sep 17 Barbara Moran
- Sep 17 Margaret Van Dyke
- Sep 19 Shelley Simpkins
- Sep 20 Pam Kohan
- Sep 24 Ed Opperman
- Sep 27 Roy Russell



- Sep 13 Kris & Amy Peterson
- Sep 20 Hugh & Debbie Dougherty
- Sep 24 Steve & Nancy Springsteen
- Sep 26 Terry & Yvonne Shepherd

To add/correct any birthdays or anniversaries. Please email

Secretary@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org

PRAYER LIST

We Pray for Our Members

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Elaine Babb | Bob Masters |
| Joe Babb | Charlotte Maurer |
| Suzanne Bergsten | David Pritchard |
| Vickie Graif | Kathie Rokitski |
| Hunter Headings | Gwen Scherman |
| 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 | Bill Manke |
| Bill Babb | Nano Masters |
| Richard Bowell | Robert Miller |
| Sarita Bowell | Katie Milliner |
| Laura Braugh | Patricia Petro |
| Trevor Crawford | Stephan Pleli |
| Sandy Crutchley | Tommy Reeck |
| EvaJo Dove | Leah Rosario |
| Madison Garriott | Lisa Sanders |
| Jenell Gordon | Sheila Silvey |
| Lettie Groshel | Nick Sims |
| Claude Hamilton | Larry Smith |
| Brian Hubert | Samantha Strother |
| Chris Jones | Deb Thompson |
| Murray Leffers Jr | Dianne Van Pelt |
| Jude Lightfoot | Kristin |

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.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
September 2023						
3 9:45am Worship 11:15am Craft Group	4 Labor Day Food Pantry CLOSED Office CLOSED NO Bible Study	5 10am Threaders	6 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	7 8pm AA	8	9 8am Men's Group
10 "God's work. Our hands." Sunday 9:45am Worship followed by service projects and potluck lunch.	11 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom) 5:30pm Preschool Board (Hybrid) 7pm Bell Choir	12 10am Threaders 7pm Council (Zoom)	13 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	14 8pm AA	15	16 10am GS Troop 490
17 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	18 9am Food Pantry 1:30pm Bible Study (Zoom) 7pm Bell Choir	19 10am Threaders 7pm Good Mourning	20 Noon Ladies Lunch 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	21 8pm AA	22	23
24 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	25 9am Food Pantry NO Bible Study 7pm Bell Choir	26 10am Threaders 6:30pm American Sewing Guild	27 6:30pm Potluck 7pm Bible Study (Hybrid)	28 8pm AA	29	30