

“Grace Greetings”

January 2018



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

The Reverend Leslie D. Scanlon, Pastor

Office (757) 420-4704

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PastorLeslie@GraceLutheranChesapeake.org

Regular Worship Hours

8:30 am Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Traditional Worship with Holy Communion

www.GraceLutheranChesapeake.org

Grace Lutheran Day School

Offers Christian Preschool programs for 2, 3, & 4 year old children.

Call 757-420-4720 for information

www.GraceLutheranDaySchool.weebly.com

January 2018 "Grace Greetings"

Mission Statement:

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

The Twelve Days of Christmas

In the last couple of years, I have noticed more and more companies misappropriating the twelve days of Christmas. My only issue is not that they are using a religious season to make money, but that use the twelve days as a countdown to Christmas.

"Between the double of Christmas (Dec 25) and Epiphany (Jan 6) we have the twelve days of Christmas. Because of school vacations and the ending of the frantic preparations for this festival both in secular society and the church, perhaps more attention can be given during these days to the significant means of God's offer of light and life to the world in Jesus Christ. For Christians Christmas is not over after December 25."

(Keeping Time: The Church's Year p.12)

There are actually four commemorations (mini holy days) that occur during this twelve day season:

- December 26—Stephen, Deacon & Martyr
- December 27—John, Apostle & Evangelist
- December 28—The Holy Innocents, martyrs
- January 1—Name of Jesus

**A list of Lesser Festivals and Commemorations
can be found in the front of our hymnal
(Evangelical Lutheran Worship) on pages 15-17.*

These lesser commemorations falling right after our joyous Christmas celebrations are a reminder that there is more to Christmas than just the birth of a little baby. The incarnation of God in human form to be Immanuel—"God with us"—is bigger! Sometimes God's work in the world even threatens the powers of this world, and so they lash out with violent resistance (ex: stoning of Stephen, slaughter of the holy innocents, crucifixion of Christ), preferring the world order where they are in charge. Over the centuries there have been many who have been part of God's redemptive work, heralding the good news of God's love throughout the world. From the shepherds, to the Magi, along with Stephen, and John, we too are called to "go tell it on the mountain."

**God made you.
God named you "beloved child of God."
God loves you.
"God sent us salvation"!**

Merry Christmas (for all twelve days)!
Pastor Leslie Scanlon

Upcoming Events

Jan 1		OFFICE CLOSED
Jan 3	6:30pm	Potluck
	7pm	Bible Study
Jan 4	7pm	CATECHUMENight Out
Jan 6		Epiphany
Jan 7		Install Leaders
	12:30ish	Un-decorate
Jan 8	5:30pm	GLDS Board
	7pm	Bell Choir
Jan 9	7pm	Council
Jan 10	6:30pm	Potluck
	7pm	Bible Study
Jan 11	7pm	Stewardship Mtng
Jan 13-15		Pastor on Vacation
Jan 15	7pm	Praise Choir
	7:30pm	Grace Choir
Jan 17	12:30pm	Ladies Lunch Out
	6:30pm	Potluck
	7pm	Bible Study
Jan 20	9am-Noon	Council Retreat
Jan 22	7pm	Bell Choir
Jan 24	6:30pm	Potluck
	7pm	Bible Study
Jan 26-28		Winter Celebration
Jan 31	6:30pm	Potluck
	7pm	Bible Study

New Adult Sunday School Topic

Starting **Sunday, January 7th at 9:45am** the Adult Sunday School class will begin a series on **Martin Luther's life and writings**.

CATECHUMENight Out

Thursday, January 4th at 7pm

At Brixx Pizza (801 Eden Way N)

Join us for some "pub theology" as we discuss **Epiphany & Magi** over drinks, food, and fellowship! Please invite others and [RSVP on Facebook \(www.facebook.com/events/1776083749360428/\)](https://www.facebook.com/events/1776083749360428/)

Men's Group

Saturday, January 13th at 8am

All men are invited for a potluck breakfast and light work around the church—inside and outside.

Ladies Lunch Out

Wednesday, Jan 17th at 12:30pm

at Rancho Grande (1320 S Military Hwy, Chesapeake)

GLC ladies and friends meet on the third Wednesday of the month at a local restaurant for fellowship & food. Please RSVP on this Facebook Event, sign up in the Narthex and/or to Pastor Leslie by Noon on Monday, January 15th.

NEST at Oaklette UMC

January 10-16

Oaklette UMC, on Indian River Road, will be hosting the homeless and needs our help! They are seeking volunteers to ride the bus, register overnight guests, spend the night at the church to supervise guests, cook breakfast, clean up in the morning, and launder towels. Contact Bill Henry at Oaklette with questions at 420-9457.

Winter Celebration 2018

January 26-28, 2018

at Eagle Eyrie (Lynchburg, VA)

Winter Celebration is the annual VA Synod weekend retreat for High School youth (grades 8-12). The weekend is spent discussing faith and life with singing, worship, prayer, and lots of fun! Contact Rich Fraenkel (cell (757) 403-3525) for registration forms or with any questions.

Changes to Grace goes to Brunch

Less and less local restaurants are accepting Sunday brunch reservations for large groups, we are discontinuing the formal "Grace goes to Brunch" events at this time. However, we encourage you to invite some other members to go out to brunch after worship some Sunday—it is a great way to stay in touch with old friends and to make new ones! Thank you to Bethany Solomon and Beverly Galles for coordinating this for the last year or so!



From the Council

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! At our December meeting, we heard from the Landscape Focus Group, who had selected a local nursery to help us with the landscape renewal effort. By the time this January Grace Greetings is published, or very shortly after publishing, plants should be in the ground on the East side of our church, along the sanctuary next to the parking lot, and between the parking lot and the Day School. This will allow the shrubs to wake up naturally in the spring. Grass will be planted in the spring. All these efforts should really make a big difference in the look and feel of our entrance. Council also set Saturday, January 20th as the date for our annual Council Retreat, at which we'll discuss Council's role as ministry liaisons, and also work on a welcoming statement for our congregation. Crafting the welcoming statement is a key step in the process for being designated as a Reconciling In Christ (RIC) congregation, which will formalize our commitment to being a welcoming and loving congregation to everyone, regardless of the color of their skin, the language they speak, their sexual orientation, their economic status, or their political affiliation. I give thanks to God for all the ways in which our community engages in His ministry, and for all the ways we are blessed as we do God's work with our hands.

May the peace of Christ be with you always!

Rich Fraenkel



Why I Serve"—Rick Pabst

Serving the Church has been a big part of my life. My first memories of my "obligation" to serve were formed when I became eligible to serve as an acolyte at South Miami Lutheran Church when I was eleven and began participation in confirmation and our "Luther League" youth group. I also joined the Boy Scouts at that time which also placed a strong emphasis on serving God and Country. I enjoyed the fellowship of both groups and made many friends.

Later, when I was just beginning High School, my family moved to Huntington Station, New York. I didn't know a sole person, but when my family joined Gloria Dei Lutheran Church that quickly became a central part of my High School life. I met my wife Ellen at the very first Luther League meeting I attended. Of course, she will tell you that I dated everyone else before establishing she was my wife to be.

Throughout my Navy career, Ellen and I have always been affiliated with a Church and it has been a central part of our life. We joined Grace back in the early 1980's when Ellen (I was deployed) wanted a Day School for our daughter Joyce. Later our son Rick Jr. was confirmed at Grace and both enjoyed the Youth Group in their high school years.

I wanted to start with that background because Church and Faith have always been a central part of the best parts of my life. I realized early on two things about

being a member of a Church. First, it is not really an “obligation” to serve, but an Honor to serve. Being asked to serve is like a personal invitation from God to be part of something so much bigger than anything else in our lives. Whether it is small things not even remotely connected to religion and faith, or something integral to helping or comforting someone in their faith walk with God, serving within the Church is honor, privilege and often very rewarding. The second thing I discovered is, serving can be fun, enriching and a great building block for friendships.

Finally, I recognize life for many may seem crazier and busier these days, however that is one of the great things about belonging to, participating with and serving in a Church. There are so many different ways, opportunities and means of being part of the Church, and they can all be helpful and rewarding. I have found that my participation is one of the most rewarding parts of my life.

Lent & 3 Days Workshops CANCELLED

You read in Dec 2017's Grace Greetings that Pastor Leslie was on the planning team for a series of workshops being put on by the ELCA Worship office in Jan & Feb 2018. Those events have been cancelled due to low registration, so Pastor Leslie will not be travelling as much in early 2018.

Annual Preschool Basket Raffle

The baskets have been filled with corporate donations. Tickets will be sold from Sunday, Jan 14th until Thursday, Feb 8th. The winners will be drawn and announced on Friday, February 9th.

This years baskets are:

- Pampering for Her
- Virginia is for Lovers
- Rainy Day Activities
- Beer Cooler
- Wine & Cheese
- Evening Out



From the Preschool

Happy New Year from the staff and children at Grace Lutheran Day School!

We want to extend a special “Thank You!” to Ray Miles for being our Santa this year. The children were so excited to see him. And for very good reason – he came bearing gifts!

With the New Year we also greet new members to our preschool board and say good bye to the outgoing members. Ruthie Miles is leaving us as board president. We want to thank her very much for all the hard work she has put into making the best decisions for the preschool. She will be missed.

We are welcoming Pam Kohan who brings a lot of preschool experience to the table. We are very excited to work together. Sandra Fraenkel has agreed to serve as the new preschool board president.

The Basket Raffle to benefit the Lisa Marie Justice Scholarship Fund will kick off in January. This year we have 6 baskets: Evening out, Pampering for Her, Wine and Cheese, Beer Cooler, Rainy Day Activities and Virginia is for Lovers. We have been very blessed with generous donations from businesses this year. Please take a moment to come and look at all the wonderful goods we have in the baskets. And buy your raffle tickets!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jan 6	Faith Longsworth
Jan 7	Joy Baltero
Jan 12	Hannah Kylo
Jan 15	Shirl Kuykendall
Jan 17	Kim Moody
Jan 19	Collin Moody
Jan 23	Samantha Pinkoski
Jan 24	Kristopher McClellan
Jan 27	Emery Braa
Jan 28	La Quita Opperman
Jan 29	Joaquina Pritchard



Jan 10	Earl & Debbie Richards
Jan 20	Roy & Elaine Russell

We Pray for Our Friends

Bill Babb	Adam Kuykendall
Mary Babb	Kathy Lapinski
Katherine Barry	Linda Leshner
Suzanne Bergsten	Brian Long
Dottie Borowski	Debbie Merrill
Johnny Howell	Laura Miller
Richard Howell	Katie Milliner
Sarita Howell	Jay Mumford
Marty Cabe	Bill Muse
Herb Dewar	June Opperman
Beverly Dornberger	Samantha Page
Ernie Dove	Kay Parrish
Bonnie Dreyer	John Phillips Jr
Bob Dyer	Stephen Pleli
Carol Edwards	Adam Portor
Jamie Evans	Mary Powe
Karen Flaherty	Tommy Reeck
Jeff Forman	Angela Richardson
Maryanne Gamboa	Jim Rose
Madison Garriott	Jeanlyn Sawyer
Meredith Garriott	Mary Sawyer
Jenell Gordon	Rick Sidam
Eddie Haga	Annette Stamper
Sherry Hall	Ken Sterling
Shalah Hammond	Janice Stewart
Cheryl Hughes	Gini Stoddard
John Johnson	Jerry Titus
Carol Joyce	Carl Young Urps
Donnie Kerr	Roy Wilson
Kristy Kline	Walter Wilson
Rachael Kramm	Victor Zech

If you or loved ones are celebrating significant events, let us rejoice with you & announce to all in the Grace Greetings. Please drop a note on the secretary's desk in the office to add any birthdays or anniversaries.

Prayer List

We Pray for Our Members

Jackie Ange	Lenora Jones
Elaine Babb	Barbara Kilian
Joe Babb	Dawn Kilian
Aimee Barnes	Mark Kohan
Peggy Barry	Shirl Kuykendall
Kyleen Calkins	Frankie Lunde
Doc Dougherty	Charlotte Maurer
Mildred Enga	Kim Moody
Carmen Fraenkel	Barbara Moran
Gary Galles	Debbie Richards
Chuck Graham	Earl Richards
Gayle Graham	Monique Schroeder
The Headings Family	RoseMary Sidam
Anita Helton	Nancy Springsteen
Jan Howell	Margaret Van Dyke
Pat Jackson	

All who mourn
 The Military & their Families
 Our Food Pantry Clients
 ELCA Missionaries & Young Adults in Global Mission



Worship Servers

To sign up to serve in worship, please sign up in the Narthex.
To sign up to help count, please contact Marlene Hubert.

		Assisting Minister	Lector	Communion Assistant	Greeters	Ushers
Jan 7	8:30am	Mark Kohan	Hunter Simpkins			-
	11:00am	John Twiddy				Hubert/Chamberlin
Jan 14	8:30am		Gwen Scherman			-
	11:00am	Rich Fraenkel	Tracy Ownby		Hubert	
Jan 21	8:30am		Solomons			-
	11:00am	David Pritchard				
Jan 28	8:30am		Mark Kohan			-
	11:00am		Tracy Ownby			Solomon
Counters for January: Beverly Galles & Sandra Fraenkel						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 FOOD PANTRY & OFFICE CLOSED 6pm Karate for Christ	2	3 6:30 Potluck 7pm Bible Study	4 7pm CATECHUMENight Out	5 8pm Karate for Christ	6
7 8:30 Contemporary 9:45 Sunday School 11am Traditional 12:30pm Un-decorate	8 Food Pantry Threaders Book Ministry Bible Study 5:30pm GLDS Board Karate for Christ 7pm Bell Choir	9 7pm Council	10 6:30 Potluck 7pm Bible Study	11 7pm Stewardship 7pm OA 8pm AA	12 Karate for Christ	13 8am Men's Group
14 8:30 Contemporary 9:45 Sunday School 11am Traditional 3pm Girl Scouts	15 Food Pantry Threaders Book Ministry Food Pantry Party Karate for Christ 7pm Praise Choir 7:30pm Grace Choir	16 7pm Good Mourning Support Group	17 12:30pm Ladies Lunch 6:30 Potluck 7pm Bible Study	18 7pm OA 8pm AA	19 Karate for Christ	20 9am-Noon Council Retreat
21 8:30 Contemporary 9:45 Sunday School 11am Traditional	22 Food Pantry Threaders Book Ministry Bible Study Karate for Christ 7pm Bell Choir	23 6:30pm ASG	24 6:30 Potluck 7pm Bible Study	25 7pm OA 8pm AA	26 Winter Celebration Karate for Christ	27 ↑
28 8:30 Contemporary 9:45 Sunday School 11am Traditional 3pm Girl Scouts Return from WC	29 Food Pantry Threaders Book Ministry Bible Study Karate for Christ	30	31 6:30 Potluck 7pm Bible Study			

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