

# Good News from *Grace*



June 2020

Volume 1 Issue 3

## *Our Purpose*

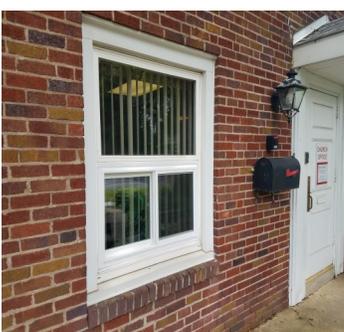
*The purpose of our church is to make a difference by serving others through God's love and our faith.*

## **SUMMER SERMON SERIES: FOLLOW ME**

This summer our gospel readings take us through Matthew's chapters, as the disciples learn what it means to witness, serve, and follow Jesus. Join us as we take a look at these texts each Sunday and discuss what it means for us to follow Jesus in our current context.

## **A THANK YOU FROM PASTOR COVER**

Thank you to the Tuesday Bible Study folks for their generosity and kind words about our live stream worship during this pandemic! I know I am thankful we can "worship together" during this time using technology, and I am thankful for Chris Jury, Carolyn, and Bonnie who contribute their gifts to *every worship* service, making it a rich experience for all at home.



## **NEW SERVICE WINDOW**

We have added a new service window to the church office. This can be used to pick up/drop off prayer shawls, cloth masks etc. Monday—Thursday from 8:00am to 12 noon. (Other hours available by appointment) Contact Wendy at 717-737-0439 or [gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net) to make the arrangements.

## **JUNE 21, 2020 (THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST)**

**Matthew 10:39** – "Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

*Sometimes community feels like loss, smells like sorrow, and loudly laments what is no longer. Jesus proclaims a "kingdom" community born of an essential loss to self. That death, in turn, enriches the soil from which the abundant life God desires for all creation will burgeon.*

Grace Church will continue to remain closed for worship and public activities until further notice. For updates continue to check the website ([gracecamphill.org](http://gracecamphill.org)), Facebook or by calling 717-737-0439 ext. 14

**Please call  
Pastor Cover  
(717-525-4617)  
or Pastor Evan  
(717-497-3742)  
directly if you need  
pastoral assistance  
during this time!**

## **IN THIS ISSUE.....**

Reopening Survey Results	2
Prayers	4
From the Music Director	5
Photo Directory Update	6

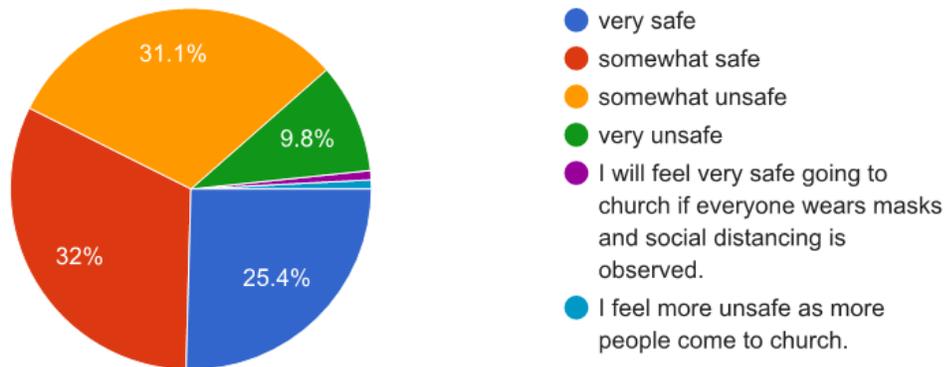
## REOPENING SURVEY RESULTS & UPDATES

Thank you to our Grace members for a great response to our Reopening Survey. We received 122 responses! Wow! Our taskforce continues to meet every week, reviewing updated materials from our synod and other church bodies (such as the Catholic Diocese), our insurance carrier, and the CDC. We have begun outlining guidelines for returning to in-person worship as well as for small groups to meet in-person. When these are complete and reviewed by the council, they will be posted on our website and sent to you via the Grace News.

Here are some of our survey response results:

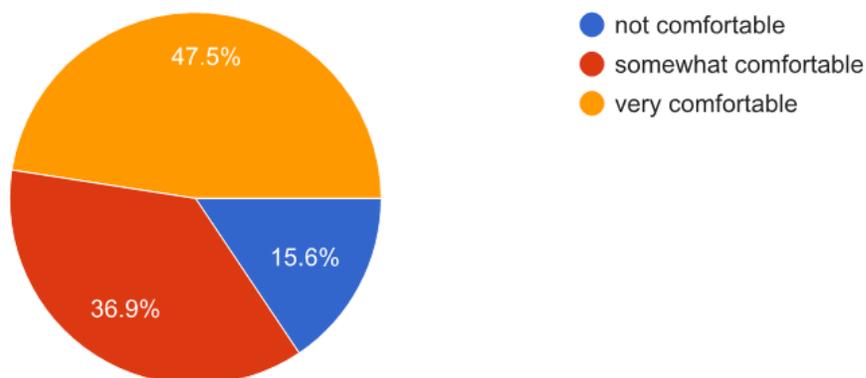
How safe do you feel coming to church at this time?

122 responses



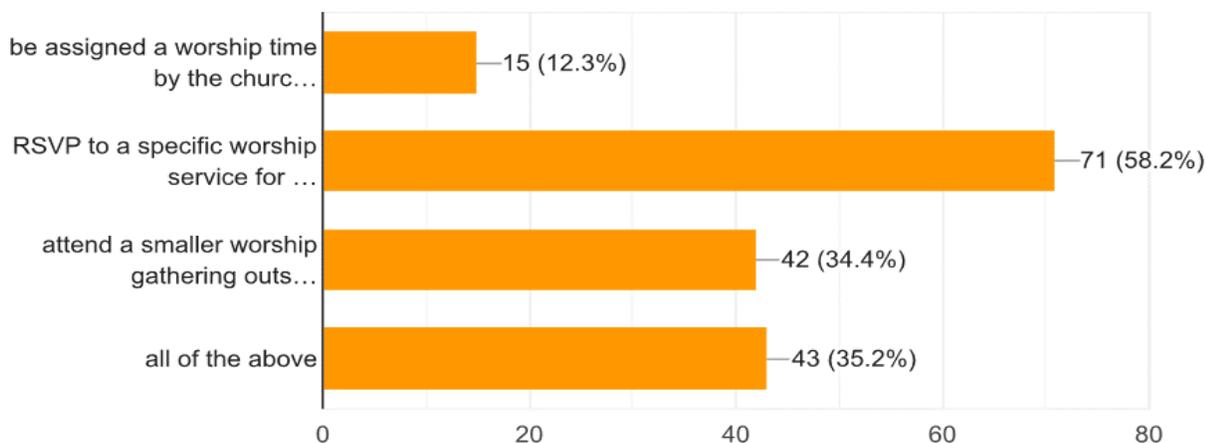
How comfortable would you be with gathering in a small group (less than 25 people), such as Book Club, Women's Group, Bible Study, etc., using a larger space such as the Social Hall?

122 responses



In order to reduce the number of worshipers at one service, we may add worship opportunities, such as several services on Sunday morning. Would you be willing to (choose all that apply):

122 responses



In terms of the two questions about whether folks would attend in-person for worship/small groups or whether they would continue to join via live stream or zoom:

48.4% said a combination of both for *worship*, the largest percentage in the category;

37.7% said a combination of both for *small groups*, the largest percentage in the category.

In addition, the survey short-answer results indicated that some of our members will not be returning to in person worship until there is a vaccine for COVID-19.

***At this point our group can share a few decisions with you.***

We have arrived at these protocols out of concern for the most vulnerable among us, your survey results, and the recommendations of the sources listed above.

- For groups and worship, everyone will be required to wear a mask covering the nose and mouth, except for children under 2.
- For groups and worship, everyone will be required to practice physical (social) distancing of 6 feet. Worship in-person will not include congregational singing, and will encourage speaking in soft tones or mouthing responses only. *Singing and even loud speaking is a "super-spreading" activity for aerosolized particles.*
- We will begin welcoming small groups to meet in-person before we open worship to in-person gatherings.
- Even though our worship life will look different in this new time, our worship staff will strive for meaningful, creative, and fulfilling worship for all who attend *and* for all who continue to worship via live stream.
- When we return to in-person worship, there will be a service offered on Saturday evening at 6:00p.m. (Whether that service can be safely held in the chapel is still being decided.)
- Protocols for the distribution of Holy Communion in person have been offered through our bishop's office and other church bodies. We are reviewing these and plan to offer Holy Communion in a *variety of settings* so that our members are comfortable, have choices for their own safety, and can receive the sacrament regularly.

**More information will be forthcoming**, and our taskforce continues to work diligently on preparations for everyone's safety. Check your Grace News, the website, and our live stream worship announcements for up-to-date information. **Keep our taskforce and their work in your prayers**—Rick Keen, Michelle Knight, Nancy Whitcomb, Sue Gasswint, Carolyn Houck, and Pastor Cover.

*We hold in prayer especially this week, ..*

Carm Mitchell, Amber Shearer, Linda Kaufmann, Ronald E. Rhoads, Jr., Steven Noll, Janet Montan, Roger Alling, Sally Snyder, Jennifer Heverling, Joyce Allan, Sis Hoffman, Garry Murray, James Silcox, Dave Buchanan, Tim Butler, Art Hall, Sr., Vernon Frazier, Barbara D., Dean Jury, Charlie Buchanan, Tricia Snavelly, and Brad Bert.

*We hold in ongoing prayer...*

Diane Brokenshire, David Harman III, Howard Lauver, Priscilla Walter, Caroline Witmer, Paulette Lauver, Lesly Richards, Elijah Conroy, Delores Miller, Frank Blizzard, Jim Stoll, Susan Blumberg, Lisa Leen, Eileen McCann, Mary Heverling, Mike Lutz, John Eck, Destiny Glenn, and Reinhard C.

*We also hold our shut-ins in prayer:*

John Hench, Shirley Hughes, John Shuey, Phyllis Patterson, John Titzel, Jane Peters, Betty Bennett, Phyllis Probst, Harlow Fluevog, and Dick Cromer.

*In our military:*

Charles Hildebrand, Corey Latsha, Alex Robison, Larry G. Lackey and Gabriel Bailey.



*We hold in prayer especially those in the medical fields ...*

Katie Perella-Carvalhoes  
Lauren S.  
Megan S.  
Dixie S.  
Ben S.  
Katelynn S.  
Tess J.  
Kay L.  
Art L.  
Addison McInnes  
Corky Graf  
Ken Graf  
Kristin Quesenberry  
Maureen Minard  
Brad Moore, MD  
William Schell, MD  
Kirsten Hyatt, MS  
Star Peiffer  
Patty Rohde  
Melanie Augustine  
Jenny Castillo  
Jill Green  
Mary Brown  
Kara  
Sheri Hartzell  
Tracy Hartzell  
Josh Barr  
Chrystal  
Sante  
Cindy Frost  
Eileen Smith  
Sharon Eppley  
Kayleigh Titzel  
Brendan Bergey  
Judith Zeiders  
Amy Evans  
Laurie Colman  
Connie Malmborg  
Ashley Morris  
Amy Schwab  
Beth Gargiulo  
Tami Heath  
Julie Draper  
Deb Fickes  
Amanda McNally  
Justin Young  
Jessica Chestnut  
Stephanie Sampson  
Samantha & Peter Kang  
David Bergquist, MD



**ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES!**

If the Coronavirus has put stress on your marriage, you are not alone! Lutheran Marriage Encounter has scheduled a couple of Weekends this fall, and we believe that you will find that attending a Weekend will help you renew and revitalize your marital relationship no matter whether your marriage is in great shape or if you could really use some help.

The weekends currently scheduled are:

- ◆ September 18-20 at Heritage Hotel Lancaster in Lancaster, PA
- ◆ October 16-18 at the Olmstead Retreat in Ludlow, PA, an hour north of Pittsburgh

Scholarships are available for those in need of financial assistance—simply email or call us at the information below before you register. Registrations will be very limited as we plan to provide ample space in the conference room for each couple. If the virus should cause us to have to cancel the Weekend, your registration will, of course, be transferred to a later Weekend or refunded if you wish. So please sign up now, at the website:

[www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org)

to ensure your spot. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance and enrich your relationship! For questions, please contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber at 724-325-3166 or

[fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net)

## ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

[CLICK HERE](#) to see dates available to sponsor. You can, also, contact Diane at [deppengelc@comcast.net](mailto:deppengelc@comcast.net) or the church office by phone 717-737-0439 or by email [gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net). Altar Flowers cost \$ 36.00. Before sending in payment be sure to reserve the date with Diane

If you have already sponsored flowers and would like to pick them up the week after your sponsorship please contact the church office to make arrangements.



## FROM YOUR MUSIC DIRECTOR...

During this pandemic we have been trying different ways to make music relevant and meaningful to you our members on the live stream. We have been using the piano and organ together and many different soloists. As we read more about the things that spread the disease we are constantly trying to keep us all safe. We will be opening up in the near future and we need to be mindful of what are the safest ways

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING UPDATE

Our Congregational Meeting was called to order Sunday, June 7th at 10:40am, following the requirements of our Constitution to meet in the month of June. Since Cumberland County was in "yellow" - preventing gatherings of large groups—it was called via Zoom. It was determined that there was an absence of a quorum (with only 11 members on the call). Therefore, the chair, Council President Tom Blackburn noted we could not conduct business, and put the meeting into recess until another date when a quorum could be met.

The later date will hopefully be in a time we can gather in person for a congregational meeting, and will be called by the President, with appropriate notice to the congregation.

## BULLETIN & MAILING SPONSORSHIP

Starting in July we will be offering and listing Bulletin & Weekly Mailing Sponsorships. These are to help offset the costs we have printing and mailing information to those without access to the internet as well as Sunday bulletins. If you wish to sponsor a week you can check out available dates by [CLICKING HERE](#) or by contacting the church office at [gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net) or 717-737-0439 or Diane at [deppengelc@gmail.com](mailto:deppengelc@gmail.com). Bulletin & Mailing sponsorship is \$ 27.00. Before mailing in payment be sure to reserve the date with Diane by email or by phone 717-737-0439 X15.

to be together.

Singing unfortunately is not the safest way. The droplets which you have heard a lot about can spread with the singing voice. This is not good news to our vocalists. But the good news is for our bell choir. We have been forming small groups and have purchased more bell tables, since playing the bells can be done safely, so you will see more of this in our service going forward. Watch for them and their musical masks!

Carolyn Houck

## HILLS AND VALLEYS

### HILLS AND VALLEYS WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting is on **Monday, June 22nd at 7:00pm** and will either be in-person or via Zoom — TBD. If interested in joining contact Susan Ryder at [ryder.susan@comcast.net](mailto:ryder.susan@comcast.net) or 717-574-1960.



### CALLING ALL SEWERS

Once we re-open our doors to in-person worship we will need to have masks on hand for anyone who arrives at church without one.

The masks can be made using any pattern of your choice, but should meet the current guidelines of being made from cotton t-shirt or cotton quilting fabric. If you need a pattern you can contact the church office [gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net) or by phone 717-737-0439 or Diane [deppengelc@gmail.com](mailto:deppengelc@gmail.com) and they can send a pattern to you.

Completed masks may be dropped off at our new service window Monday—Thursday 8am—12noon.

## THIS MONTH AT GRACE

The Altar Flowers for **Sunday, June 21st** have been given by Jan Utter to honor companion animals.

The Sanctuary Lamp for **June** is given by Diane Brokenshire in loving memory of her mother and brother Laury

The **Special Benevolence** for **June** is **Lutheran Camping Corporation**.

Please indicate "Lutheran Camping Corporation" on the front of the offering envelope under Comments, and make checks payable to GELC.

## BIBLE STUDY

**Tuesdays at 1:00pm or 7:00pm via Zoom online or by phone**

There **will not** be any Bible Study on **June 30th**. **Bible Study will resume on July 7th**. If you wish to participate please contact Pastor Evan at 717-497-3742 or [pastorevan47@gmail.com](mailto:pastorevan47@gmail.com) for the login information.

*Note: The phone number is a toll call and charges may apply.*

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer shawls can signify God wrapping his arms around you. Are you lonely after this prolonged quarantine? Do you know someone with illness or medical issues? Do you know someone who has lost a loved one. Prayer shawls are for everyone. When a prayer shawl is knit or crocheted - prayers are offered before, during, and after the crafting of the shawl for the recipient. If you would like to receive a prayer shawl for yourself or to give one to someone you can email ([gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net)) or call (717-737-0439) the church office to arrange for a contactless pickup or delivery of a shawl.

Prayer shawls will be blessed in the near future. If you have been knitting/crocheting a prayer shawl and want to include it in the upcoming blessing then please email or call the church office to arrange drop-offs.



## CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY UPDATE

Like many things the pandemic has put a hold on Grace's Photo Directory. Lifetouch, the organization that took the photographs and prints the directory, has been closed. As businesses start to reopen, keep posted for more information on when the photo directory will be available.

Thank you for your patience.

## THE GIVING PANTRY

Meals and supplies are **'pre-order'** only. If you are in need of a meal or items from Pantry please contact GarriAnn by phone (717)856-2760 or by email [hearn2003@comcast.net](mailto:hearn2003@comcast.net) by **12noon on Tuesdays**.

These items will be prepackaged and volunteers will take them out to the cars on **Wednesdays 3:00pm to 5:00pm**.

**Good News from Grace** articles are due by **12:00pm on Tuesdays**. Email to [gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net)

## Join us for Worship!

**Sundays at 9:30 AM**

via Livestream

**Sundays September to May  
at 10:45AM**

Sunday School for ALL ages!



## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

1610 Carlisle Road  
Camp Hill, PA 17011  
Office: 717-737-0439  
[gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net)

Visit us on Facebook at  
Grace Lutheran Church,  
Twitter @grace\_elca  
or on the web at:  
[www.gracecamphill.org](http://www.gracecamphill.org)