

# Good News from *Grace*



June 2020

Volume 1 Issue 2

## *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.

## **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.



## **CAREGIVER AND GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

The Caregiver and Grief Support Groups meeting was changed to June 16th at 11:00am. This meeting may be in person so please contact Pastor Cover at [pastorcover.gelc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcover.gelc@gmail.com) or in person.

## **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.

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!**

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## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WEDNESDAY GIVING PANTRY

Thank you for all who have been donating to the Wednesday Giving Pantry. We still need your support!

The Wednesday Giving Pantry is currently handing out approximately 230 “to go” meals per week which means they are needing to purchase “to go” containers for all those meals each week.

Contributions can be mailed or dropped off at the church. Please make all checks out to GELC, but either indicate on the memo line or enclose a note stating the contribution is for **The Wednesday Giving Pantry**.

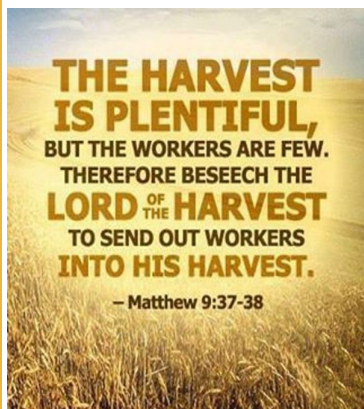


## ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS

Even though we are continuing to worship only via Live Stream we will resume having flowers on the Altar on Sunday mornings. If you wish to see if there are sponsorship opportunities available you can contact Diane at [deppengelc@comcast.net](mailto:deppengelc@comcast.net) or contact the church office at 717-737-0439 or [gelc@comcast.net](mailto:gelc@comcast.net).

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.

## June 14, 2020 (SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST6)



**Matthew 9:37-38** – Then [Jesus] said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

*How will our faith communities look when we finally emerge from our sheltering in place? Many things will have changed, but the good news is eternal. We listen to Jesus, pray for renewal, and trust that God is doing a new thing with, among, and through us.*

## STEWARD YOUR NEW COMMUNITY

Like a caterpillar emerging from a cocoon to new life as a butterfly, we can steward our congregations and communities to awaken from Covid-19 to a more excellent reality that brims with faith, hope and love.

Covid-19’s hardship, deprivation and grief have inspired an outpouring of kindness, generosity, selflessness, neighborliness and courageous service. Suffering has given us a glimpse of what our communities can and should be, following Christ’s two principal commands: love God and love one another. Our stewardship opportunity and challenge is clear: Can we cultivate this renewed spirit of loving neighborliness as a “new normal”? As our community’s central, defining ethos?

The last several months have taught us much:

**Life is precious.** Everyone counts. No exceptions.

**We suffer together.** Shared pain creates strong bonds.

**Serving brings fulfillment.** Many sacrifice joyfully.

**We need each other.** We can’t go it alone.

**We miss each other.** We require human interaction.

**Personal contact is sublime.** Nothing beats face-to-face.

**We are grateful.** Thank God for what we have.

**We are wiser.** We know what’s important.

Covid-19 is receding, though slowly. Much pain lies ahead. Before it’s through, the virus will claim more of our friends and loved ones. Many families will suffer economically.

But the virus is also teaching us anew how to be loving neighbors. As Covid-19 abates, we can deepen these lessons and steward our communities to live more closely aligned with God’s purposes, to discover life abundant with joy, connection, fulfillment and generosity. With God’s help, our congregations and communities can emerge from our Covid-19 cocoon to a more excellent reality, centered in faith, hope and love.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2020, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, ELCA, and works as content editor for [www.stewardshipoflife.org](http://www.stewardshipoflife.org). He blogs at [www.thestewardshipguy.com](http://www.thestewardshipguy.com)

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

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



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.

Thank you all for your continued support of this ministry.

## **REOPENING PLANS FOR GRACE**

**Wednesday, June 10th** is the last day to turn in the Reopening Survey. If you have not already done so please [CLICK HERE](#) to go to the online survey.

When this plan is complete, it will be sent via Grace News, mailed to those without email and posted on our website at: <https://www.gracecamphill.org/reopening>.

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

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 Snaveley, Brad Bert and the friends & family of Galen Ryder.

## *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.



## HIGH SCHOOL

- **Ava Bechtel**, daughter of Dave & Melinda, is graduating from Cedar Cliff and plans to attend the University of Kentucky to study Nursing
- **Megan Kauffman**, daughter of Ron & Heather, is graduating from East Pennsboro and plans to attend HACC to study Dental Hygiene

## COLLEGE

- **Julia Freimuth**, daughter of Eric & Victoria Madden and David & Carol Freimuth, is graduating from Juniata College with a major in Chemistry and a minor in Spanish. She plans to serve as a Medical Scribe during this gap year and attend Medical School next year.
- **Jacob Hearn**, son of Matthew & GarriAnn, is graduating from Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology with a degree in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology
- **Maddy Hindermeyer**, daughter of Kathy & Greg, is graduating from Penn State University with a degree in Biobehavioral Health and a minor in Psychology. She plans to continue her education at PSU Harrisburg for a Nursing Degree
- **Brandon Kauffman**, son of Heather & Ron is graduating from Bloomsburg University with a degree in Technical Leadership and Training. He has accepted an Internship in Leadership Development with Giant Foods
- **Greg Kincaid**, son of Kevin & Shannon, is graduating from Shippensburg University with a degree in economics and a minor in Business. He is currently job searching in the areas of economics and the insurance industry
- **Maci Russel**, daughter of Gayle & Gary, is graduating from Penn State University with a major in Animal Medicine. She will continue her education at the University of Penn to study Veterinary Medicine.
- **Kyle Rohde**, son of Dan & Patty, is graduating from the Rochester Institute of Technology with a degree in Computer Engineering. His future plans are to begin his career at RDA Web Design in Townson, Maryland in September
- **Lauren Rohde**, daughter of Dan & Patty, is graduating from Johnson and Wales University. Her degree is in Entrepreneurial Business and Innovation while minoring in Baking and Pastry. She is currently job searching



"Two of our graduates, Kyle and Lauren Rohde, receive a yard sign from GYG. The signs display a message of congratulations and blessing for the future. We are proud of all of our Grace grads!"

## THE GIVING PANTRY



Feeding the  
Community

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**.

## CONGREGATION COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S 2019-2020 REPORT

Program year 2019-2020 started in the usual way with new members of Council ready to join in the general oversight of the life and activities of our congregation, including its financial and property matters. The congregation approved a lease agreement with Family Promise of Harrisburg to use the property at 1604 Carlisle Road as transitional housing for a formerly homeless family. They have been quietly successful.

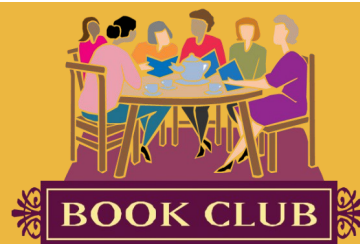
In January 2019, the congregation had authorized Council to appoint a call committee to begin the process to call a part-time associate pastor. Unfortunately, Council recognized that we have not been able to sustain enough funds to support this position. As announced at the January 2020 congregation meeting the call committee's work has been placed on hold.

Then the coronavirus pandemic swept the world. COVID-19 has changed virtually everything. Since the middle of March our church building has been closed to gatherings. Yet, Grace continues to worship collectively. Every Sunday morning a worship service has occurred at Grace, and thanks to the online wonder of streaming that worship service has been shared with all who can go to the website. Pastor Cover, along with organist Bonnie Barton and typically director of music Carolyn Houck as lector (and of course Chris Jury recording it all), has continued to preach and teach and lead us. Every week there has been special music. And what could be more normal than Pastor's kids enjoying the children's message? Instead of writing a check to put into the offering plate, I have learned to contribute online each Sunday.

COVID-19 has temporarily shuttered the Wednesday meals. However, the Giving Pantry continues to provide meals to go. Pastor Evan's bible study is now on Zoom – often with even more participants than before the pandemic.

As I said a year ago, we continue to worship and praise God together; that is now via streaming and social distancing. We serve in the name of Jesus and share the Word of Christ. In all that we do we will continue to live into our story of Grace.

Tom Blackburn, Council President



The next meeting will be on **June 16th at 7:00pm** and will be either in-person or via Zoom — TBD. We will be discussing our next book "Behold the Dreamers" by Imbolo Mbue.



## 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.

## BIBLE STUDY Tuesdays at 1:00pm or 7:00pm via Zoom online or by phone

Please note that the Tuesday Bible Study will continue over the Summer; however, there **will not** be any Bible Study on **June 30th or 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.*

## THIS MONTH AT GRACE

The Altar Flowers for **Sunday, June 14th** have been given by Sherry Warfel in honor of her wonderful husband, Mike.  
Love Always!

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.



## CHRISTIAN CHURCHES UNITED 2020 HIGHMARK WALK

This year the walk is a "choose your own adventure" affair, meaning there is no large group gathering but you can register as a walker, get

people to sponsor you, and then choose your own time and place to walk between now and June 30th. The 2020 Highmark Walk benefits these three residential homelessness programs...

**Susquehanna Harbor Safe Haven (SHSH)** long-term residential program for men who were chronically homeless

**Men's Winter Overnight Safe Haven** at SHSH

**Winter Overnight Shelter for Women and Non-Binary**

**Individuals** at Grace United Methodist Church, downtown Harrisburg

To walk, Form a Team, or Sponsor a Walker/Team: [http://hcf.convio.net/site/TR/HighmarkWalk?fr\\_id=2971&pg=entry](http://hcf.convio.net/site/TR/HighmarkWalk?fr_id=2971&pg=entry)

Can't Walk? You can sponsor the guys walking for Susquehanna Harbor Safe Haven: [http://hcf.convio.net/site/TR/Harrisburg/HighmarkWalk?pg=team&fr\\_id=2971&team\\_id=12699](http://hcf.convio.net/site/TR/Harrisburg/HighmarkWalk?pg=team&fr_id=2971&team_id=12699)

## VIRTUAL CONFIRMATION CAMP EVENTS

Every evening that Confirmation Camp would've been held, there will be activities for everyone! We ask you to take advantage of these events whether you have attended or have thought about attending before. You can get a peek at what the evening events look like at camp! All evening events are scheduled to start at 9:00pm and will be followed up by an images project every evening. I hope to see you all there!

Fun Ideas!

- ♦ Send in a video of you skit or talent to be played on Wednesday Night!
- ♦ Have your own campfire while tuning into the campfires!
- ♦ Have a dark room ready for the dance with snacks galore!
- ♦ Have a candle lit and consider a peaceful, possibly dark setting for the Compline Wednesday night and Closing Friday night
- ♦ Consider viewing with other friends or family where save

**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**

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