



Good News from Grace

July 2024

Our Purpose

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

*"It takes preparation, but of a paradoxical kind. God is not in a place you can get to with your body. God is not reached by your intellect alone, even if you study Scripture and theology. Feelings and emotions will not bring you to God. To approach God, one must bring all of one's self, with the intellect drawn into the heart, a unified whole." -Gary Neal Hansen in *Kneeling with Giants**

For us Lutherans, much of how we come to faith is through reasoning in both the theological and the philosophical. Our cerebral dependence on faith can sometimes cause deep and unsettling questions of unanswerable natures, to cause tensions in our ability to believe. For many Lutherans, and especially Lutheran Pastors and Theologians, the way to true faith is through true scriptural exegesis or study and rational thinking. But as many scientists and atheistic or agnostic thinkers will explain to us, one can easily make a case for the non-existence of God through study of the sciences and also rational thinking. For me, however, it does make rational sense that God exists, but unlike the sciences I am unable to provide factual and repeatable studies that prove that God exists. Which is why I think that our approach to how to find God is flawed. God, as Pastor Gary Neal Hansen explains, is not One that can be reached with our body, our intellect or our emotions alone. God is beyond and greater than the experiences that we have here on this earth. We can see this reality in the form of Jesus Christ. We saw Jesus, we saw God as human. But there was another element to Christ that we were and still are unable to see and comprehend. If we focus on just what was presented to us in the form of Jesus as Christ, then we will see only a man, who did some good things, and then died. But if we expand beyond what is experientially known, beyond what can be comprehended or understood in this temporal realm, we see an eternal being, not a man. We see Christ who was in existence before we knew what existence was, Christ who helped

create and guide the cosmos, who lives both among us and beyond us. And who was resurrected, in both physical and spiritual forms, all at the same time. In this world we have limits, but in the realm beyond this world, there is limitlessness, of which our limited minds are incapable of comprehending. I bring all of this up to show that our attempt to "prove" the existence of God or our faith in God is an impossible task. Not because God does not exist, but that we cannot prove the existence of a being that is not fully of this world, and one that is not constrained to the limitations of this cosmos we find ourselves in. So the question then becomes, how do I know what I believe is true and how do I experience what it is that I say that I believe? Well, we first have to reshape what we mean by truth. Are we looking for scientific fact, or spiritual and metaphysical truth. Are we looking to prove that something exists or how something works, or are we looking for why things exist the way they do, and how we find meaning in it all? To experience God, is to see beyond what is in front of our faces. To see that the human Jesus, did not come to just heal the sick, or give us some good advice on how to live, but to save us from spiritual famine and give us insight into our purpose on this earth. To experience God, we must be willing to allow God into our whole selves. To come to God with our intellect, our knowledge, our emotions, and our bodies, and allow God to shape us the way God wishes to shape us. When we only let God in to parts of our souls and bodies, we restrict how God is felt and experienced within us. When we think that God will judge us or condemn us for what we think is unworthy of Holy Ground, we limit our freedom. But if we can learn to come to God in prayer with full openness, full trust that God has got us, that is when we can start to experience true transformation, true faith, and true belief. To see that this world is only a sliver of what God has to offer us. To see that

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

this is our planet, our creation that God gifted to us, to be good stewards of, but only for a short period of time. This world is broken and fallen, but never unredeemable or unworthy of love. To come to God with our unified selves, as Pastor Hansen said, we will learn that no matter what happens in this life, no matter how unworthy we may think we are of salvation or love, God is greater than any wrong doing that we could ever do. So if we come to God, unified in ourselves, ready to see beyond what can be seen, God's presence and love will permeate and expand our view of the world and our capacity for love of self and others, and of course God.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Chad

The magic of 10-10-80 budgeting

When my twentysomething daughter recently got her first *real* job— one that paid good money and benefits – she asked me how to handle her finances.

It's a good question, a responsible question, and depending on your appetite for detail and complexity, one that could have dozens of answers. And certainly, there are lots of financial advisors and services that can provide help (often for a fee!)

But my advice was simple: Follow the 10-10-80 formula. It has been my financial pole star for years, and it has enabled me to live free of financial stress. Here's how it works:

When you craft a budget (and you DO craft a budget, right?) spend it in this way:

- ◆ Save 10 percent.
- ◆ Give away 10 percent.
- ◆ Live on 80 percent.

Following the formula takes discipline, but don't all worthwhile endeavors – reading the Bible, daily prayer, losing weight or learning a language?

And like any good effort, getting into the formula is best accomplished gradually. Think long term. First, analyze your finances to find out the percentage that you save, give away, and live on. Then set goals and adjust your finances accordingly.

For instance, if your current spending is 1 percent giving, 2 percent savings, 97 percent living, set a goal to increase savings and giving over time until you reach 10-10-80. One or two percentage points a year will get you there in just a few years.

When you're living the formula, you're in the sweet spot of financial freedom. You have enough to pay your bills, save for the future, and be generous.

–Rob Blezard

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If the first of July be rainy weather,
It will rain, more or less, for four weeks together.
– John Ray (English Proverbs)

Join us for Worship!

Saturdays at 5:00PM

Sundays at 9:30AM

or

via Live Stream

Sunday School

Sundays at 10:45am

September to May

LET'S WORSHIP TOGETHER



Saturday, July 13 at 5:00pm in-person
in Barkley Chapel

Sunday, July 14 at 9:30am Outdoor
Worship in parking lot**

**There is no Live Stream, but service will be recorded and posted on website the next day.

This Month at Grace...

The Sanctuary Lamp Sponsorship for **July** is given by Nancy Whitcomb in memory of Paul and Greg.

The Special Benevolence Offering for the **July** is **New Hope Ministries**.

To contribute please list the dollar amount next to *Special Offering Ministry* and list New Hope Ministries under comments.

2024 Sponsorship Opportunities

CLICK HERE to see available dates for 2024. If you are interested in sponsoring one of these weeks you can either sign up on the bulletin board across from the elevator or contact Diane in the church office at 717-737-0439 x15 or ddeppen@gracecamphill.org.

Note: Other Altar Flower dates are available for sponsorship at special request by contacting the church office two weeks prior to the date you wish to sponsor.

If you sponsor a week, but do not plan to take the flowers home please let the church office know prior to that week. We have a member who will deliver flowers to Grace's homebound members.



Senior Helpers

Grace's Senior Helpers are here to get you where you need to go. Contact the church office Monday -

Thursday from 8am - 12noon by phone 717-737-0439 or by email office@gracecamphill.org for a list of members who are available to drive you. If you are interested in joining the Senior Helper team please contact the church office.



THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED JULY 4

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

Sunday School

September - May

Sundays 10:45 - 11:30am

Sunday School is on hiatus for the summer. Watch the August/September 2024 newsletters for information for the Fall Sunday School Schedule.

GYG Upcoming Events

JULY

14 - 21 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA

You can view the complete GYG schedule [HERE](#). You can view the complete JYG schedule [HERE](#).

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School (VBS)

July 8-11 | 6:00 - 7:45pm | Free | Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 509 Hummel Avenue, Lemoyne

Join us for "Start the Party: Celebrate the Good News" vacation bible school. This is open to all children entering K-5 grade.

Please sign up at signup.com/go/cOTuHNM. Questions? Contact Melissa Hughes at 510-439-1561 or hughesm@pfm.com.



Trindle Springs Vacation Bible School (VBS)

July 8-12 | Trindle Springs Lutheran Church, 14 State Road, Mechanicsburg

This year's curriculum comes from Illustrated Ministry and is entitled, "Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs!". It will run from Monday, July 8—Friday, July 12. Each evening will begin with a kid-approved diner at 5pm, and then a night filled with stories, crafts, games, music and service projects will begin in the Sanctuary at 5:45pm. There will be classes for kids ages 3 through those who have just finished 5th Grade as well as a class for adults. Register at <https://vbsmate.com/events/trindlespringlutheranvbs/28480>



Youth Food Cards

Karns, Weis and Giant grocery cards in the dollar amounts of \$25, \$50, and \$100 are available at the church office Monday - Thursday from 8am - 12noon.

If paying with cash please have exact change. Checks should be made to GELC.

Prayer



Prayer List Additions

Everyone appreciates prayer but not everyone wishes to be added to the “out loud” prayers.

If you are aware of a member of Grace who could benefit from being added to the prayers, please let the pastor know. He will contact the individual to find out whether they wish to be added to the “out loud” prayers, ongoing prayers or prayed for “quietly” by the Community Prayer Group.

We hold in prayer especially this week...

Pete Psychogis, Lou Wright, Kevin Wright, Rick Keen, Beverly Earhart, Brian Bookshar, Debbie Aldridge, Dr. Robert Little, Shirley Davis, Bob Little, Dean Jury and Austin Snavely (active military).

We hold in ongoing prayer...

Madelyn Kase, Jeff Turner, Rose Keller, Mike Hillegas, Kelly Ackley, Alyssa England, Paul & Linda Glance, Bonnie Peechatka, Marcie, Eric Rome, Dana Moore, John McNichol, Kay King, and Justin Minnich.

We also hold our homebound in prayer:

Betty Bennett, Gladys Cline, Yvonne Gettys, Joan Harman, Janice Hench, Frank Hills, Sis Hoffman, Shirley Hughes, Howard Lauver, Janice Light. Lou Lore, Patti Reed, Bob & Ruth Rhodes, Mary Louise Shetter, Dorothy Shreffler, and Sandy Yetter.

Praying for our Homebound Members

The pastoral staff wishes to lift up this special group of members on a regular basis during the prayers. Each week, a group of homebound members will be included in the out loud prayers.

...sometimes we forget to tell others that someone has healed...

Let's be good stewards of our prayer list. If someone has healed, or if someone has moved on to eternal life, please let the church office know. Names will automatically be moved to the ongoing prayers after a month on the weekly prayers, which are read out loud during worship. They will then be removed from the ongoing prayers after another month unless you let us know to keep praying.

For Pastoral Assistance or At Home Communion

Please contact Pastor Chad (717-737-0439 x10 or pastorchad@gracecamphill.org). If you have a pastoral emergency outside of normal working hours you can contact Pastor Chad on his mobile phone at 610-297-2514. A pastoral emergency would be a death, or life threatening circumstances.

When you are in the dark, listen, and God will give you a very precious message. —Oswald Chambers

Council Actions for June 2024

From the Church Council



Council approved a third Braver Angels event to be hosted at Grace in February, 2025.

Council voted to present Jared Weber to the congregation at the Congregational meeting to fill the remainder of the term of Joel Ryder.

Council voted to approve the use of the church by Family Promise to host families from June 23 – July 6, 2024.

FROM THE TREASURER

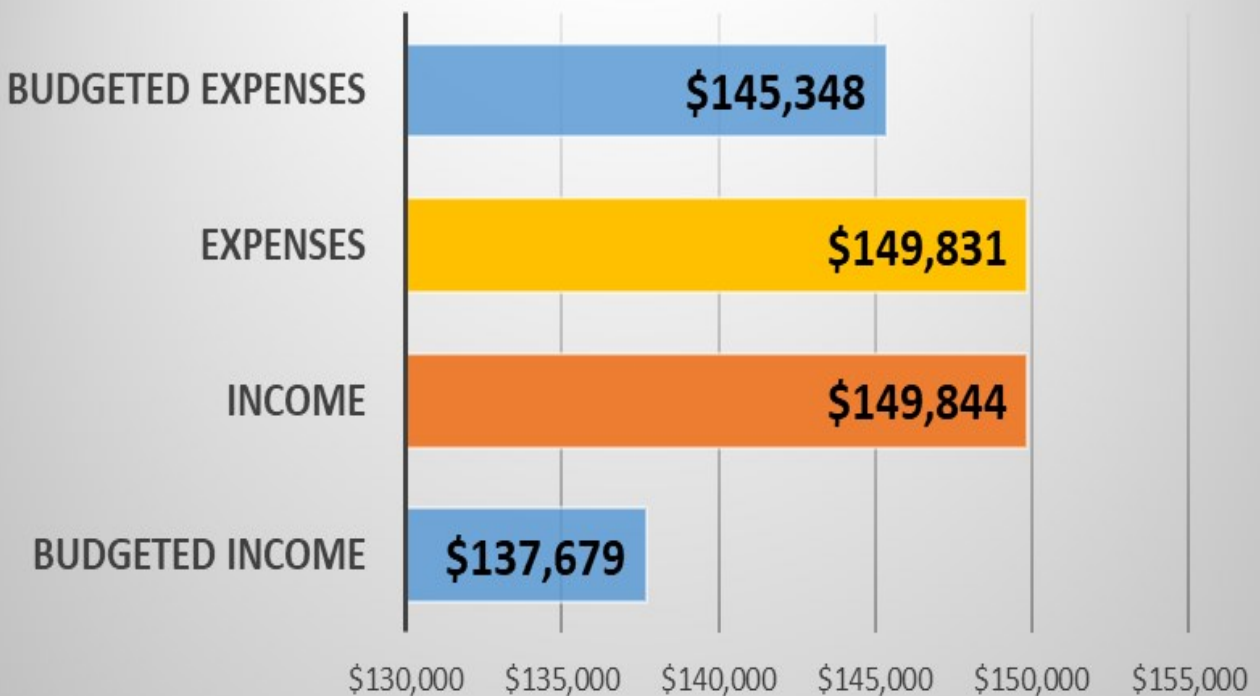


Members and Friends of Grace,

Summer is here! It's time for fun and travel. While you're enjoying the fine weather, please remember to keep up with fulfilling your pledges. This is the time of year when giving toward our operational budget (Fund 1) tends to drop as service attendance is lower. To make giving easier, there are electronic options on our website for automatic donations. Enjoy your summer!

Susan Dickinson, Treasurer

Grace Lutheran Church, May 2024



Carlisle Area Religious Council Sponsors

SUMMER FAITH NIGHTS

3 remaining opportunities to learn about our neighbors' faiths, and a reminder that we are all united in community.

THU. JULY

18

7:00 p.m.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Harrisburg

Location: LeTort Park

260 East Pomfret Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

The event will be held in the park's large pavilion.

THU. AUG.

22

7:00 p.m.

The Bahá'í Faith

Location: LeTort Park

260 East Pomfret Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

The event will be held in the park's large pavilion.

THU. SEP.

12

6:00 p.m.

The Ray of Hope Nepali Congregation with Pastor Chandra Gurung

Location: LeTort Park

260 East Pomfret Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

The event will be held in the park's large pavilion.

As we come together and build relationships, we gain understanding and respect for all our faith traditions.

The informal 60m services will be held outdoors in a sheltered space in case of rain. All are welcome.



**Carlisle
Area
Religious
Council**

Events are free. Donations of laundry products such as detergent and dryer sheets to support Free Laundry Night are welcome.

Grace's
Book Club



Grace's Book Club

Grace's Book Club will next be reading "Miss Morgan's Book Brigade" by Janet Skeslien Charles.

Description

"1918: As the Great War rages, Jessie Carson takes a leave of absence from the New York Public Library to work for the American Committee for Devastated France. Founded by millionaire Anne Morgan, this group of international women help rebuild devastated French communities just miles from the front. Upon arrival, Jessie strives to establish something that the French have never seen--children's libraries. She turns ambulances into bookmobiles and trains the first French female librarians. Then she disappears. 1987: When NYPL librarian and aspiring writer Wendy Peterson stumbles across a passing reference to Jessie Carson in the archives, she becomes consumed with learning her fate. In her obsessive research, she discovers that she and the elusive librarian have more in common than their work at New York's famed library, but she has no idea that their paths will converge in surprising ways across time. Based on the extraordinary little-known history of the women who received the Croix de Guerre medal for courage under fire, Miss Morgan's Book Brigade is a tribute to the resilience of the human spirit, the power of literature, and ultimately the courage it takes to make a change."

Join the book club on **Tuesday, July 9 at 7pm via Zoom** to discuss this book.

[**CLICK HERE**](#) for login information.

**WE NEED YOUR
HELP!**



The church needs 2-3 voting members to attend the Synod Assembly as representatives of Grace June 5-7, 2025.

The Lower Susquehanna Council is requiring churches to provide these voting member names to them by December 2024.

Please prayerfully consider serving in this capacity. If interested contact the church office at 717-737-0439 or office@gracecamphill.org.

New HOPE Ministries
Sharing Christ's love by meeting human needs

BACK TO SCHOOL

Most needed items:

- binders (1" and 2")
- backpacks
- calculators (including scientific ones)
- colored pencils
- crayons and markers
- dry erase markers
- erasers and pencil sharpeners
- folders
- glue sticks and bottles
- highlighters
- index cards
- lunch boxes
- notebook paper
- notebooks
- pencils and pens
- pencil cases (zipper pouches)
- Post-it notes (square)
- rulers
- scissors
- Sharpies
- tissues (individual packs)

Please drop off at your nearest New Hope Center by August 1st - thank you!



LS SWO Women of the ELCA 32 Annual Camp Hebron Retreat October 25–27, 2024

With retreat experience as a deacon and pastor over the past 20 years, Molly has international experience that help shape the listening, learning and faith sharing experience. During this retreat, we will use the letters from Paul to explore the early ideas of the Christian church and how women were instrumental in shaping our church.

The power of a letter to build community, teach God's mission and teach a community of followers of Christ will be explored.

What do our words mean today and how are we still forming and informing the church?
Bring a bible, sense of curiosity, humor and creativity to open this topic together!

Retreat Theme: *"We've Got Mail"*

Scripture: Based on a letter from Paul: "Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things." Ephesians 3:7-8

Registrations must be received with payment by **Monday, September 9, 2024.**

Registrations postmarked after Monday, September 9 will not be accepted. Registration forms can be requested from Grace's office at 717-737-0439 or office@gracecamphill.org.

Questions regarding registration or the retreat should be directed to Chris Todd (717-652-0729 H / 717-439-6071) or Shirley Keister (717-362-8666).



Lost & Found



Lost & Found

Don't forget to check the Lost & Found tub & coat rack in the Library if you are missing items. Grace will hold the items for one month. If they are not claimed by then the items will be donated. Unable to stop in then call the office (717-737-0439) and we'll look for you.



Let's Celebrate a Monumental Birthday!

Earl Mellott turns 91 years old on July 1. Take a moment to wish him a happy birthday with a telephone call or mail a card to:

Earl Mellott
1607 Kent Road
Camp Hill, PA 17011

Let him know you are thinking of them on this very special occasion.

- 7/1 Robert Bozart
Frederick Klingensmith
Earl Mellott
- 7/2 Nathan Robison
- 7/3 Harry Clark
Randall Kaufmann
- 7/7 Daniel Rohde
- 7/8 Michelle Knight
- 7/9 Kristopher Hartman
- 7/11 Ellisa Briel
Arianna Heidingsfelder
Janice Hench
Debra Hoover
- 7/12 Dominique Johansen
Garret Meador
- 7/13 Richard F. Miller
- 7/14 Justin Leer
Bonnie Welch
- 7/15 Terry Stopfel
- 7/16 Jaxson Gunnett

- 7/17 Ann Castillo
Dana Little
- 7/18 Rebecca Easton
Lucy Leer
Mark Weigle
- 7/19 Larry Edwards
- 7/20 Jacob Weigle
- 7/21 Anna Allewelt
Jan Haas
- 7/23 Jacob Hartman
Carolyn Houck
Sherry White
- 7/24 Larry Sorensen
- 7/25 Kirsten Hyatt
Eric Madden

- 7/26 David Lebo
- 7/27 Nevin Shenck
- 7/28 Wendell Harris
Sarah Mazan
Michael Youse
- 7/30 Melissa Brouse
- 7/31 Logan Campbell
Nicholas Campbell
Heather Kauffman



The Community Meal at Grace



2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month

The Community Meal
2nd & 4th Wednesday
each month from
5:30 - 6:30pm
in the Social Hall.

July 10
&
July 24

More information at
<https://www.gracecamphill.org/service>

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 4 Food Truck Festival

The City of Harrisburg will host the July 4th Food Truck Festival & Fireworks at Riverfront Park from 1-9pm. The event will feature 45+ food trucks, live music, free kids activities and one of the largest fireworks displays in Central PA. The fireworks display will start at approximately 9:15pm.

Harrisburg Symphony Summer Concert Series

HSO will hold free concerts in July. Each concert is held outdoors. In case of inclement weather, including excessive heat, concerts will be performed in an indoor location announced on the Harrisburg Symphony's website, social media channels, and local media. The two closest concerts to Grace are on **Friday, July 5 at 7:30pm:** Reservoir Park, 100 Concert Drive, Harrisburg (Rain location: The Forum Auditorium, 500 Walnut Street, Harrisburg) and **Sunday, July 7 at 8:00pm:** Dickinson College, Campus Quad/Old West, 230 Louthier Street, Carlisle (Rain location: Anita Tuvlin Schlecter Auditorium, 360 W. Louthier Street, Carlisle).

Sunset Music and Movie Series

Fort Hunter Park | 5300 N Front Street, Harrisburg

Friday, July 5* at 8:30pm
Movie Night—*Elemental* (PG)
7pm Movie Snacks Available

Friday, July 19* at 8:30pm
Movie Night—*Migration* (PG)
7:00pm Movie Snacks Available

Friday, July 12* at 7:00pm
The Greater Harrisburg Concert Band
6:00 - 8:00pm Food Trucks

Friday, July 26* at 7:00pm
Central PA Friends of Jazz present
"Ben Mauger's New Orleans Jazz Band"
6:00 - 8:00pm Food Trucks

Bring your blankets & lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of family fun!

**In event of inclement weather go to the [Dauphin County Parks & Recreation Facebook page](#).*

Trindle Springs Lutheran Church Second Saturday Meal

July 13, 2024 | 4-6pm | 14 State Road, Mechanicsburg

Join us for Pulled Pork on a roll, Potato Salad, Greek Pasta Salad w/Vegetables, Coleslaw, Watermelon/Cantaloup with blueberry garnish, Assorted Muffins/Breads/Rolls, Assorted Desserts and Hot & Cold Beverages.

Good News from Grace articles are due by **12 noon on the 15th of the month** for the next month's newsletter. Grace Notes information is due by **12 noon on Tuesdays**.
Email to ddeppen@gracecamphill.org

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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