

AMAZING GRACE

a weekly newsletter of

Grace Lutheran Church & School

1200 Charles Street • La Plata, MD 20646 • 301-932-0963 • www.growingwithgrace.org

Rev. Ed Huber, Pastor

Jeff Burkee, Principal

Amanda Bell, DCE

WORSHIP TIMES & LOCATIONS

Sunday 8:30 am

Liturgical with Holy Communion
(sanctuary)

Sunday 11:00 am

Contemporary Praise with Holy Communion
(family life center)

Education & Fellowship Hour: 9:45—10:45 am

Nursery Open: 8:15 am—12:15 pm

Wednesday: 6:30 pm Worship & Prayer with Communion



Baptized this morning is William "Liam" Peter Hoffman, son of Billy and Cathy Hoffman and grandson of Bill and Becky Hoffman.

Mite Boxes Due Next Sunday

LWML District Mites for 2018-2020 are due by the end of March. Please remember to turn in your LWML Mite Box next Sunday so that the Mites can be counted and forwarded to the district by the end of the month.



There will be a Voter's Meeting in the form of a Call Service today at 3:00pm in the Family Life Center, for the purpose of electing a Senior Pastor for Grace Lutheran Church and School. This is a special Voters Meeting and only matters directly related to calling a Senior Pastor will be on the agenda.

The schedule for today is:

8:30 am –Liturgical worship service

10:00 am –Town Hall Meeting

11:00 am –Praise worship service

3:00 pm – Voters Meeting / Call Service,
Family Life Center

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***NEW* YOUTH EVENTS—SEE PAGE 5**

Statement on Holy Communion/The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an usher.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34. Faith in Christ and His word is necessary for a blessed reception including Baptism in the name of the Trinity and faith in [1] Christ as Savior, [2] Jesus' clear words that the Sacrament is His body and blood, [3] the Lord's promise that in the Sacrament his or her sins are forgiven, and [4] receipt of the promised forgiveness reaffirmed and strengthened in his or her union with Christ and other Christians. The unbaptized and uninstructed person who does not yet know or believe in Christ and His promises is unprepared and should not commune. The unrepentant person who does not seek Christ's forgiveness for sins—either general or particular—or refuses to forgive someone is unprepared and should not commune. The doubting person who denies or is unconvinced of what Jesus says of His bodily presence in the sacrament or its promised forgiveness is unprepared and should not commune.

Prayer Before Communion

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Let us pray for you . . . prayers@growingwithgrace.org

Those Who Sorrow: Family and friends of Harold Gardiner

General: Carolyn Weimert, Brenda and Archie Schoenbeck, Nick Cooper, Donna Moore, Les Wilson, Gerry Burkee, Donnie Hatsell, Jennifer, Bill Lakner, Cindy Bohmann, Liesel Weimer, Larry, Alice Morrill, Addie, Matt, Pete Gehris, Robert, Carl Fletcher, Dean Elliott, Linda Otto, Chris Otto, Bob Kidwell, Steve Lindsey

Those Battling Cancer: Gary and Carol Whitsell, Cindy Bohman, Bert Ferren, April Ellis, Alicia Cordelle, Michael, Brenda, Bruce Rowe, Dave Gehris, Gale Elrod, Dorothy Maddox, Gloria Spicer, Don Shisler, Rev. David Percy, Denise Clark Hall (hospice), Chuck Wilson, Jean Nelson, Laura Decker, Kevin Bobish, Jon Gehris, Mary Nelson, Adam Lumpkins, Merry Dawson, Carrie Wyman, Paul Proctor, Tim Motz, Muriel, Dana, Ken Ritch, Peter Tretner, Christina Allen, Rob, Alice Levine, Lois Hookham, Jesse Stump, Chris Moorhouse, Nichole Garner, Megan Jenkins, Carol Ann Sowers

Those in Nursing Homes/Shut-Ins: Delores Steinhilber, Shirley Biondi, Jill Esancy, Connie Hein, Del Riege, Bob Springer, Dan Waltz

Our Military/Civilians Overseas: Jeffrey and Jackie (Mozingo) Downie, Troy Dupont, Marshall Gibbs, Rebecca Mozingo

Missionaries: Bob and Salme Bugenhagen, Mark and Megan Mantey (Uganda) Matt and Caroline Edelen (Papua Indonesia).

Sunday School & Bible Studies

CHILDREN/YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Opening—9:45am, Sanctuary

We meet as a group in the sanctuary and then move to our respective rooms at 10am.

Preschool – Rm #120

Ann Stine & Dawn Cartwright

Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grades – Rm #215

Linda Samara

3rd & 4th Grades – Rm #212

Dan Stine

5th & 6th Grades – Rm #210

Frank Cartwright

7th Grade Confirmation – Rm #213

Rev. Ed Huber, Amanda Bell, DCE

8th Grade Confirmation – Rm #116

Rev. Ed Huber, Amanda Bell, DCE

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fellowship and Coffee Hour

Rm #112 (café)

Today's Bible Readings: Digging deeper into the Scripture readings for the day.

Rm #208 (library)

The Daniel Plan: Biblical based approach to a healthy lifestyle.

Rm #203

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Digging Deeper

Join Any Time

All adults are invited to join the Sunday School class. We meet in the school library ~9:45 and spend about 40-45 minutes reviewing the Bible readings for the day and other related biblical topics. Hope to see you there.

Contact: Curt Springer at curtaspringer@comcast.net or 301-848-2642.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY

Men's Fellowship Group and Bible Study

6:30pm, Rm #112 (café)

Dan Stine, 301-645-8956

Frank Cartwright, 301-674-0772

Study of 1 and 2 Peter

7pm, home of Bill & Cheryl Swartzwelder
301-934-4713

MONDAY

Women's Bible Study

Dinner 6pm, Study 6:30pm

Rm #112 (café)

Susan Gastler, 301-751-4867

TUESDAY

Ladies Bible Study

9am, Rm #116

Judy Knott, 301-743-3156

WEDNESDAY

Daniel Plan

7pm, Rm #112 (café)

Cathy Burkee, countrygrandmab@gmail.com

Jean Nelson, jcnelson1066@gmail.com

THURSDAY

Crossways

6:30pm, Rm #112 (café)

Curt Springer, curtaspringer@comcast.net



Our Lenten meals will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 26.

The meal for that evening will be a pancake supper and will be prepared by the church and school staff.

The Crossways Bible Study group has the meal on March 4—friend chicken and mac & cheese.

March 11—the Scouts will prepare and serve spaghetti, salad and garlic bread.

The Youth Ministries program will serve soup and sandwiches on March 18.

On March 25, the Daniel Plan and Sunday evening Men's Bible Study will serve Chili and Cornbread. They are interested in partnering up with another small group for this meal.

The Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Study will prepare Sloppy Joe's for our final Lenten meal on April 1.

We hope you'll plan to join us for meals, fellowship and worship on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

Meals begin at 5:30pm in the family life center.

Worship begins at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary.



Sunday, February 23, 2020

(Continued from page 1)

Rev. Chris Ogne, Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Bryans Road, MD and our circuit counselor, will lead the service.

Child care will be provided starting at 3:00 pm and continuing until the end of the Call Service.

While members and friends may attend this meeting, only those listed as members of Grace Lutheran Church in the official membership directory and who are age 18 or older may vote, as specified in our governing documents.

We look forward to your participation in this extremely important event in the life of our church!

If you have any questions, please contact Bill Evans (Board President) at 301-643-3505 or wjevansjr@gmail.com or Curt Springer at 301-848-2642 or curtaspringer@comcast.net (Call Committee Chair).



GOLF TOURNAMENT

WICOMICO SHORES

June 4th 2020

9:00am Shotgun Start

Entry Fee: \$90

Includes: Golf, food, drinks, prizes, & mini-games

One Player will win a New TV!

Bring maternity clothing, children's 0-2T clothing, baby supplies, baby food, diapers and formula to earn/receive mulligans

SIGN UP AT
ABOVEPARGOLFTOURNAMENTS.COM

YOUTH NEWS

Lenten Meal

Youth Ministries will be preparing and serving the Lenten meal on March 18. We will be doing soup and sandwiches plus desserts.

Make sure to sign up!

Any questions talk with DCE Amanda Bell.



March Madness



Lets watch some basketball and talk about what it truly means to compete.

Sunday, March 22

6pm - 8pm

Family Life Center

Dinner Provider needed

Make sure to sign up!

UBUNTU



Let's get to know each other!

Sunday, March 8

6pm - 8pm

Family Life Center

Dinner Provider needed

Make sure to sign up!

SAVE THE DATE!



VBS July 13-17



**Fellowship for ALL
members and friends of
Grace Lutheran Church
and School**

March 7th 6pm-8pm

Where: FLC

Cost is \$1

**Themed Costumes
are Encouraged**

**Sign up link available at
www.growingwithgrace.org
or talk to**

**DCE Amanda Bell—
abell@growingwithgrace.org**



URGENT Need: Compassion Center Volunteers

The Southern Maryland Compassion Center provides household items, clothing, food and support to those in need in our community. The center, staffed solely by volunteers, is facing a critical shortage in people available to serve. If we don't have volunteers, the center is not able to open and those who stop by are turned away—individuals and families who have been referred to us through the Department of Social Services, LifeStyles, local churches and other community based organizations.

Do you have a hour or two a week you can spare? Can you work one Saturday a month? Whatever your availability, we need you!! This could be a great opportunity for service hours for older teens or as a family ministry project. Days & times are listed below:

When the trailer is here:

Thur-Fri-Sat: 10am—2pm

When the trailer is not here:

Thur and Sat: 10am—12pm

* We are also in need of a Handyman/Mr. Fix-it for small repairs and maintenance.

Would you like to learn more? Ready to volunteer? Please contact Barbara Hays, 301-518-7321.

This is a vital resource to our community. But it's only available if we have the volunteers. Please prayerfully consider whether the Lord may be calling you to this ministry.

12TH ANNUAL GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Wine & Cheese

SOCIAL AND AUCTION

Saturday, May 2, 7-10PM

FEATURING:

- Upscale Wines and Craft Beers
- High-End Served Hors d'oeuvres
- Decadent Desserts
- Musical Entertainment

Non-Alcoholic Beverages Included

TICKETS: *Ticket Sales Begin April 1*

- \$45/person (advance)
- \$48/person (online)
- \$50/person (door)



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Able-Bodied Volunteers Needed

Each Sunday at 2pm, a group of dedicated volunteers lead a worship service at the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.

Residents who can, eagerly make their way to the worship area each Sunday afternoon. Those with no or limited mobility can only attend if someone helps them. Some have family or friends to do that, many do not. That's where we need YOUR help.

We need people who can move residents via wheelchair to the worship area and then back to their room once the service is over.

Can you volunteer once a month? Once a quarter? Whenever you are available—WE NEED YOU. This is a great service opportunity for youth and a great way for families to serve together.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Bill Eckman at eckman4@verizon.net or 301-934-4874.



Stay Informed

The best way to stay up-to-date with all the news and events at Grace is through our email lists.

We currently have 2 lists:

Prayer Warriors: Used solely for prayer concerns

News & Announcements: Everything else (including weather closings).

If you'd like to add your email to our lists, please contact Andi in the church office at 301-932-0963 or aroctor@growingwithgrace.org.

Volunteer
do good, feel good

Children's Bags are available in the back of each service. If you would like to keep your children in service with you but they may need something to keep them occupied, please pick one up and return it after the service.



Grace is proud to use Equal Exchange coffees and teas. These products are also available for purchase and make great gifts and items for gift baskets. Please see the display in the café or contact Becky Hoffman, bhoffman@growingwithgrace.org.

GLC&S Projects Awaiting Full Funding

- Parking Lot Paving (\$95,000 - \$131,937.00) contributions received: \$0
- FLC Chair Replacement (\$14,000) contributions received: \$0
- Upgrades to trash receptacles & hand towel units in school and FLC (\$3,000) **contributions received \$100**
- Black out shades for FLC (\$6,000) **contributions received: \$100**
- LED Light replace for all remaining parking lot poles contributions received: \$0



NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

JOY:FULLY LUTHERAN

1 THESS 5:16-24

MARCH 1-7, 2020



June 15th - August 7th

Fun Activities!

Arts & Crafts
Sports
Science Experiments
Water Play
Drama Club
Cooking
Dance & Tumbling
Humane Society Visits
Kona Ice Truck
Themed Dress up Days
and SO much more!!

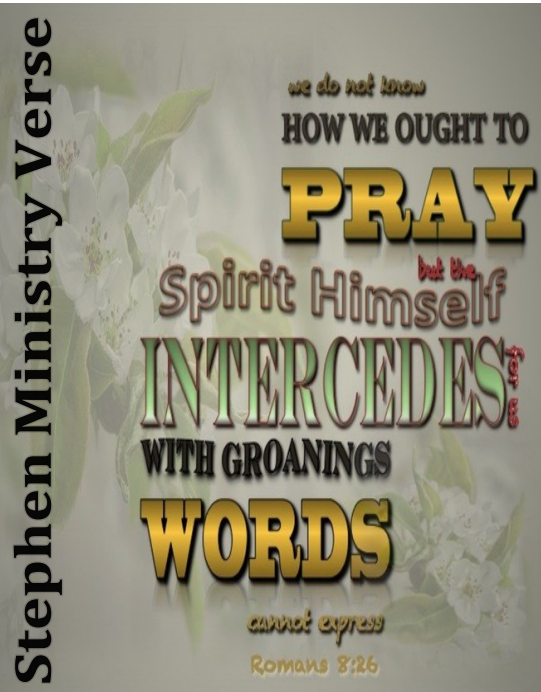


For more information contact Lindsey Shafer at

lshafer@growingwithgrace.org

Stewardship Verse

Matt. 17:8 – “And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.” Jesus is enough. Moses and Elijah point to Jesus and are happy to fade into the background. With our eyes focused on Him – and Him alone – the rest of our lives come into focus. He is primary; all else is secondary. When that order is right in our lives, things truly fall into place.



Altar Flowers

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God by Jim and Terri Anderson in celebration of Michelle's birthday.

Facilities Update

Thank You to our dedicated servants who keep our facility and grounds in working order.

- Grounds Crew: Bill Burroughs, Scott Gingerich, Jerry Miller, Bill Swartzwelder and John Funk
- Butterfly Garden: Paula Grant and Nigel Wyllie
- Lightbulb Replacement: Bill Burroughs
- Electrical and Lighting Upgrades: Billy Hoffman
- Kitchen Equipment Maintenance and Misc: Bill Hoffman
- Emily Ferren who has been researching, completing and submitting grant applications.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Replacement of windows and doors in preschool (pending grant funding)
- Solar panels – audit to be scheduled this spring after reviewing references
- Scout shed
- AC and heating repair and maintenance – ongoing
- Sanctuary carpet repairs (insurance)
- Repairs to dry chemical suppression system (ongoing)
- Fire strobe light and fire horn replacement (ongoing)
- Rehab of playground benches
- Gutter installation on 8th grade modular
- Inspection under all modular for standing water

NEWLY COMPLETED PROJECTS AND REPAIRS

- Modular roof repair and replacement
- Carpet cleaned in café and church hallway
- Phone system provider change due to VoIP availability/savings
- Curtain rod repair and curtain maintenance in the FLC
- Mop sink room between church bathrooms received a new faucet, paint and flooring.

The Transfiguration of Our Lord: Suffering Before Glory [Matthew 17:1-9]

The Agony and the Ecstasy is a novel-biography of Michelangelo.

- The history of Jesus is more complex taking an opposite turn.
- Yet in the transfiguration, we catch a glimpse of the glory and majesty Jesus shared with the Father before coming to earth to save us

Our Matthew text is in lock-step with Exodus and Deuteronomy

- Moses reflects the glory of God - Jesus shines as the glory of God
- God speaks from a cloud in Exodus 24, Deuteronomy 18, and here in Matthew with one consistent message – *listen to my son*

Peter, James, and John probably think they are going to pray w/Jesus as they ascend the mountain

- Larry Walters
- Jesus takes the disciples to the doorstep of eternity.

Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³ And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Do you see the difference in the two responses to the manifestation of divine glory and presence?

- The human response of Peter versus the response of God

The transition of Jesus back to the Father requires suffering after the glimpse of transfiguration glory

- *When the disciples heard the voice of God, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, Rise, and have no fear.” ⁸ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus*
- The order is intentional: *Rise and have no fear*
- Peter, James, and John will again accompany Jesus on an important mission to the Garden of Gethsemane

The greatest agony is ahead for Jesus

- *The Son of Man is delivered into the hands of men and they will kill him* [Matthew 17: 22-23]
- Like Peter; you can hear God’s voice from heaven
- Not on a mountain top but in the Word of God by faith alone in Christ

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY (23)

10 am	Town Hall Meeting	Sanct.	Curt Springer, curtaspringer@comcast.net
2 pm	Ch. Hall Vets Ministry	off-site	Bill Eckman, 301-934-4874
3 pm	Call Service	FLC	Curt Springer, curtaspringer@comcast.net
6:30pm	Men's Bible Study	112	Dan Stine, 301-645-8956

MONDAY (24)

6 pm	Women's Bible Study	112	Susan Gastler, sgastler@growingwithgrace.org
6 pm	Choir Practice	sanct	Marty Staub, cmstaub@juno.com
6:10 pm	Yoga Basics	FLC	Annah Rinaldo, annahrinaldo@gmail.com
7 pm	Stephen Ministry	112	Paul Lenker, dcministry@growingwithgrace.org
7:20 pm	LutherRingers	sanct	Marty Staub, cmstaub@juno.com

TUESDAY (25)

9 am	Ladies Christcare	116	Judy Knott, 301-743-3156
6:30 pm	Men's Aftercare	209	Paul Lenker, dcministry@growingwithgrace.org
6:30 pm	Women's Aftercare	112	Paul Lenker, dcministry@growingwithgrace.org
7 pm	Venture Scouts	116	Ivan Cunningham, ivancunningham@gmail.com
7:30 pm	N.A.	FLC	<i>contact main office</i>

WEDNESDAY (26)

8:45 am	Ash Wednesday Chapel	FLC	<i>contact main office</i>
5:30 pm	Lenten Meal	FLC	Becky Hoffman, x 112
6:30 PM	Ash Wednesday Worship	sanct	<i>contact main office</i>
7 pm	Praise Team Practice	FLC	Jake Pomrenke, 240-346-3215
7 pm	Daniel Plan	112	Jean Nelson, jcnelson1066@gmail.com

THURSDAY (27)

12:45 pm	Nursing Home Ministry	off-site	<i>contact main office</i>
6:30 pm	BSA #1321	FLC	Cris Purnell, 301-502-1720
6:30 pm	Crossways	112	Curt Springer, curtaspringer@comcast.net
6:30 pm	Cub Scout #1799	203	Jane Cunningham, janecunningham@verizon.net
7 pm	A.A.	116	<i>contact main office</i>

FRIDAY (28)

7:30 pm	N.A.	116	<i>contact main office</i>
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SATURDAY (29)

