



Grace
Lutheran

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14, 2014

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WORSHIP SERVICES

5:00 pm – Saturday in the **Sanctuary**

7:45 am – Sunday in the **Sanctuary**

9:00 am – Sunday in **Grace Hall**

11:15 am – Sunday in the **Sanctuary**

10:15 Education Hour

*** Nursery is available for children under 3 during the Education Hour in Room 100.*

WELCOME VISITORS

We welcome all visitors worshipping with us today. Please stop by the Visitor's Table to pick up a Welcome Bag. We invite you to sign the RCR card or fill out a visitor's card at the Table so we can get to know you.

Christmas by The Book December 14 at 3:00 pm



Please join us this Sunday afternoon for Grace's Annual Christmas Program. Our Sunday School children, Luther Choir, and Festival Choir have all been hard at work preparing a wonderful program for us. Please support them with your attendance at this special event. The program will be followed by cookies and punch in the Fellowship Hall.

Christmas Neighbor Project

Once again this Christmas the Social Ministry would like to give gift bags of personal items to our neighbors who visit the Table of Grace and Ardent Folk meals. Once again, we are asking the help of the congregation to fill the bags. This Sunday, December 14, we will be handing out bags. We are asking you to decorate the bags and shop to fill them with items suggested on the list included in the bag. The bags should be returned to the church by Sunday, December 21. This can be a great family project which will bless our neighbors and our church.



Christmas Caroling



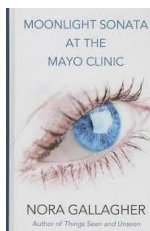
Please join us for some good old fashion Christmas fun as we sing to some of our church's shut-in members. The confirmation students, mentors and families invite you to join them for an afternoon of Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 21. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30pm. You are welcome to bring cookies to package for the shut-in members. All ages are welcome!

Fairly Traded Gift Baskets

Members of the Social Ministry Committee will be selling Fairly Traded Christmas Gift Baskets in the Gathering Spaces each weekend in December prior to Christmas. These Gift Baskets make great Christmas presents and contain various Fairly Traded Products including Coffee, Tea, Hot Cocoa, Divine Chocolate Bars, Roasted Cashews, Fruit & Nut Bars, Honey or Jam. Some baskets also contain a nice Christmas Mug or a wooden Christmas Ornament. Proceeds from the sale of the baskets will support small coffee farmers and their families in developing regions of the world, as well as the work of Lutheran World Relief. Please help support our Coffee Ministry this Christmas Season by purchasing Fairly Traded Products.



Thursday Evening Book Club



In January, the Book Club will be reading "*Moonlight Sonata at the Mayo Clinic*" by Nora Gallagher. This book is the author's memoir of her time as a patient, a place she never expected to be. She shares honestly her experiences, feelings, faith and doubts. The Washington Post said of this book, "Part medical mystery, part critique of the American health-care system, and part commentary on modern faith." Nora Gallagher has been a popular writer and speaker on faith and spirituality, but the sudden arrival of illness caused her to take another look at things we often take for granted.

Book Club will meet on January 8 and 22 and February 12 to discuss the book. If you plan to participate, please sign the RCR card so Pastor Martha will know how many books to order. The cost is \$12 per book.

F(und) **O**(ur) **R**(oad) to **D**(etroit)

Advent is a season of preparation and as we prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus the youth at Grace are also preparing for our trip to Detroit in July! We are very excited to participate in the National Youth Gathering and your support both financially and through prayer is what will make this trip a success! We continue our envelope fundraiser which has brought in almost \$2,000 to date and we cannot begin to thank you for all of the support! We will continue to run this fundraiser along with others in the New Year so that you can get to know the students you are supporting for this incredible opportunity! They cannot stop talking about how excited they are for the trip and we are looking forward to sharing our experience with everyone when we return! If you would like to make a donation all you have to do is ¹take an envelope, ²put cash or check (made out to Grace Lutheran Church) into the envelope, ³write your full name and Grace envelope number (if known), and ⁴place the envelope in the offering plate! Thank you for all of your prayers and support!



Earthbound Bible Study

In the beginning, God created Earth and gave humankind dominion over it—dominion meaning caring, protection, preservation and stewardship. We know that Earth is being damaged by human activity. The 2014 Living Planet Report, recently released by the World Wildlife Fund, shows the number of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish across the globe has decreased by 50% between 1970 and 2010. Additionally, fossil fuels (coal, oil and natural gas)—non-renewable energy resources—are rapidly being depleted.

The Earthbound series takes Martin Luther's understanding of Justification and Vocation and applies it across God's magnificent creation. We will learn to recognize God's call to us to relate to the whole creation as our vocation and respond with appropriate action. Learning during the seven-week study will be reinforced by journaling and drawing mandalas.

The study will be held from February 1 until March 22 during the Christian Education hour, following the 9:00 worship service. It will be led by Laura Heller. Please fill out the RCR card if you are interested in participating.

2015 Flowers

Worshippers are invited to provide flowers for our worship spaces each weekend. The basic cost is \$40 per weekend. Those who provide flowers in Grace Hall sometimes choose to add an additional amount of money so that the basket will be larger and more visible. Flowers can be given to honor or remember a loved one. Please sign the flower chart if you'd like to help the church in this way. The chart for Grace Hall is on the bulletin board in the Upper Gathering Space and the chart for the Sanctuary is on the bulletin board in the Cloister. Many Sundays of the year fill up quickly, so please sign up soon if you want a particular date.



Conversation and Dessert for Women **Saturday, January 10** **2:00 – 4:00 p.m.** **in the Fellowship Hall**

All women are invited to gather together for an afternoon of tea, coffee, and dessert. The weather, no doubt, will be cold and gloomy, but our hearts will be warm as we spend time with one another. Each person is invited to bring a "finger food" or dessert to share. The beverages will be provided.

If you'd like to wear your favorite hat or scarf, don't be afraid to dress up!!!!

So that we can adequately prepare, we are asking for reservations. Please make your reservation by signing the RCR card today!

Readings and Carols

Saturday, December 27 and Sunday, December 28 will be our annual celebration of Readings and Carols for Christmas. Please note that three worship services will be held at the following times: Saturday, December 27 at 5:00 p.m., Sunday, December 28 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. As we did last year, a time of food and fellowship will be held immediately following the 5:00 service on Saturday. A reception of cookies and beverages will take place on Sunday between the services. Please sign the RCR card if you can help with either of these receptions.



**Readings
& Carols**

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS DEADLINE TO ORDER: DECEMBER 14

This year we will again be decorating the Sanctuary and Grace Hall with beautiful poinsettias. Helping to decorate the worship areas with flowers is a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one this holiday season.

Poinsettias are \$10.00 each X _____ = \$ _____

My gift to Carroll Food Sunday \$ _____

Checks payable to **Grace Lutheran Church**

TOTAL \$ _____

(Please return order form and check to church office)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

I will pick up flower(s) **AFTER** Christmas Eve services: 6:00 in GH 10:30 in Sanctuary
 On Christmas Day Later in the week **OR** Donate flower(s) to a shut-in

Name/Given By (as shown in dedications) _____

Phone _____

DURING WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Preacher: Pastor Martha Clementson

December Altar Guild: Cyndy Beckhardt, Lisa Schuster (S, GH)

Worship Assistants: (5:00) Bob Lichtfuss, **(7:45)** Kathy Bare, **(9:00)** Joette Campanello, **(11:15)** Rich Schuster

Communion Assistants: (9:00) Tyler Snyder, Janet Bowersox, Steve Crews, Nancy Crews, Karyn Baust

Ushers: (9:00) John Yarish, Randy Bachtel, Chuck Lowman, Tammy Lowman

Acolyte: (11:15) Amelia Dowling

DAILY READINGS

Sun (14) John 1:6-8, 19-28

Mon (15) Hebrews 1:1-4

Tues (16) Hebrews 1:5-14

Weds (17) 2 Samuel 6:1-11

Thurs (18) 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Fri (19) Luke 1:46b-55

Sat (20) Romans 16:25-27

Sun (21) Luke 1:26-38

SERVING NEXT WEEK (December 20-21, 2014):

Worship Assistants: (5:00) Kay Betz, **(7:45)** Craig Giles,

(9:00) Jan Mickey, **(11:15)** Anna Tschiegg

Communion Assistants: (9:00) Ron Fairchild, Taylor Glass Button, Rich Chaney, Stacie Dowling, Amelia Dowling

Ushers: (9:00) Jocelyn Spreitzer, Bob Spreitzer, Jeff Barnes, Adam Barnes

Acolyte: (11:15) Erin Sherlock



The flowers in the **Sanctuary** are given in honor and in memory of our loved ones by the Schuster Family.

December 7-8, 2014 (All Grace Service) Attendance – (5:00) 31 (10:00) 275 (TOTAL) 306



Please remember in your prayers...

Names will remain on the Continuing Prayer List for four weeks unless otherwise requested.

Names will then be removed unless another request is made. Please contact Dawn Stem in the church office (410-848-7020) with any prayer requests or email dstem@gracelc.org.



Those who are serving our country: Marshall Brown, Captain Ryan Chaney, PFC Tyler Czarnowsky, Steve Haines, Nathan Karlson, Jeff Kelly, Adam Miller, Leah Miller, Steven P. Miller, Jr., Paul Roberts, Ben Weber, Joel Whitson, and for all those unnamed individuals serving in our military, especially in war-zone areas

Those in Convalescent, Nursing or Rehab Centers: Sarah Barnes, Elinor Causey, Trudy Hirt, LaRue Long, Mildred Markle, Donald and Nancy Michael, Alice Midttun, Ilona Ries, Lillian Rosenberg, Ellen Terry

Continuing Prayers: Matthew, Charles Adams, Kelly Adams, Barbara and Mike Bellgnau, The Bollinger Family, Brian Bowersox, Kathy Casper, Kelly Davis, Rocky & Bonnie Davis, Joseph Flemming, Peggy Fogle, Philip Kirk, Arlene "Eenie" Logue, Sandy & Walter Long, Mary Lowman, Don Ludwig, Marge Novak, Dail Pease, Kayla Platteel, Fred Puhl, Zach Sinor, Michael Snyder, Joy Still, Karen Stoner, Lacey Stoner, Jessica Young

Seminarians: Beth Clementson and Don Myers

Global Ministry Partners: Pastors Eric and Wendolyn Trozzo serving in Malaysia, Annie Bunio, ELCA Missionary in Tanzania and The Lutheran Church, Paide, Estonia.

Also please pray for our pastors, the members of the Church Council, the staff and all of God's children at Grace Lutheran Church.

NOTE: *If you or someone you know is going into the hospital please call the church office as soon as possible.*

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, December 14

DEADLINE for Ordering Poinsettias

- 7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)
- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School (L)
- 9:00 am Praise Worship (GH)
- 10:15 am Christian Education Hour (various)
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)
- 3:00 pm Christmas Program (S)



Monday, December 15

- 2:00 pm WELCA Meeting (CLV)
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts (Various)
- 6:00 pm Girl Scouts (FH)
- 7:00 pm Agape Handbell Rehearsal (MR)
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393(Legacy)
- 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting (108)
- 8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

Tuesday, December 16

- 12:00 pm Office Closing–Staff Christmas Lunch
- 12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH/T)
- 7:00 pm Christian Education Meeting (107)
- 7:00 pm Shepherd’s Staff Board Meeting (108)



Wednesday, December 17

- 5:45 pm Luther Choir Rehearsal (MR)
- 7:00 pm T.E.C.T. Youth Group (Legacy)
- 7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)
- 7:30 pm Men’s Bible Study (Johansson’s)

**Deadline to order:
Sunday,
December 14**

Thursday, December 18

- 5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (UGS)
- 6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)
- 7:00 pm Ardent Folk Debriefing (L)
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)
- 7:00 pm New Beginnings NA (Legacy)
- 7:30 pm Trudging the Road AA (109/110)



Friday, December 19

- 6:30 am Men’s Brkfst & Bible Conv (Bob Evans)
- 9:00 am Connect Bible Study (112)
- 8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)

(CLV) Carroll Lutheran Village **(FH)** Fellowship Hall **(T)** Theater **(S)** Sanctuary **(GH)** Grace Hall **(UGS)** Upper Gathering Space **(LGS)** Lower Gathering Space **(MR)** Music Room **(L)** Library

Saturday, December 20

- 5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)

Sunday, December 21

- 7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)
- 9:00 am Adult Sunday School (L)
- 9:00 am Praise Worship (GH)
- 10:15 am Christian Education Hour (various)
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)
- 12:30 pm Christmas Caroling (FH)



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

- 12:00 pm Sanctuary
- 4:00 pm Grace Hall – especially for children
- 6:00 pm Grace Hall – Carols & Candle Lighting and Holy Communion
- 8:00 pm Sanctuary – Carols & Candle Lighting and Holy Communion
- 10:30 pm Sanctuary – Carols & Candle Lighting and Holy Communion