



The BEACON

Shines with Grace Lutheran Church News

August, 2014

Give a smile,
Get one back,
Give a hug
And see the smile...

It's Happening at Grace
Lutheran!

From the Pastor's Desk TIME FLIES

I must say, I'm not quite sure where the time has gone, yet here we are. August 1 will mark a year that we have been doing the work of the gospel together, and I wanted to take a few moments to say "thank you" to all of you. Last summer, when it became clear that our journeys were very near to merging together, I was filled with nerves and excitement. I didn't know any of you, but I felt certain that together, we could make a difference in God's world. It was a joyous feeling for Ben and I, knowing that we got to return to Central Pennsylvania, a place that is indelibly home to us both, a place where we knew we wanted to build our future. I will never forget the first time I walked into this place. I was meeting with the call committee, right in the middle of a Worship and Music committee meeting, and now when I think back on that night, I realize that that table was filled with people that I would come to love dearly. I remember that night being taken down into the food bank and being introduced to Jack and Cara, and being completely bowled over that a church could take on such a large ministry, and do incredible things with it. The excitement was already starting to grow that this could be a place I called home.



In many ways, I cannot believe just how many things that have happened over the last twelve months, but if this year is indicative of what the future years shall be, then I can do nothing but rejoice. It has been a year of discovering just how late our youth can stay up, and just how many snacks they can consume. It has been a year of sharing meals together at Thanksgiving, the Super Bowl, and simply when we have something to celebrate. It's been a year of trusting the children of this congregation to challenge me in preaching, by putting a myriad of items in a box and trusting that I'll come up with something remotely related to the gospel from it. It's been a year of celebrating the lives of beloved members who have entered into the glorious company of the saints. It's been a year of welcoming in new families and new members, of baptisms, confirmations, and affirmations of faith. It's been a year of laughter, movies, and thought-filled conversation in Bible study. It's been a year of spending time in your homes, learning about just who the people of Grace Lutheran Church are, and what their hopes for the future hold. It's been a year of rejoicing at the generosity of those who see the wonderful work of our food bank, and who are helping make our ministry here bigger and stronger. It's been a year of all of you making

Ben and I feel so welcome, that we can't imagine having been someplace else with any other group of people.

So to all of you who make this wonderful congregation what it is, thank you. Thank you for welcoming Ben and I into your lives. Thank you for the love and welcome you give to my family whenever they are able to be here to worship with us. Thank you for your trust and your patience, as we continue to figure out who we are called to be in ministry together. Thank you for the amazing ideas and ministries you bring into this place each and every day. I am so grateful to be able to call this place home, to be your pastor, and to know that we have years to come where we can continue to pursue the work of the gospel. Thank you for making this a year I will never forget, for all the joys and challenges, for all the laughter and tears, for the food shared and the food distributed, for the faith that fills this place each and every time we gather together. May this only be the beginning. May we continue to grow together in love, hope, and faith. May we, the people of Grace Lutheran Church, continue to be disciples of God's overwhelming grace and love to all who come through our doors. I cannot say thank you to all of you enough.

Peace it Together,
Pastor Tina

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The Council met on July 10.

Committee Reports:

TOGS -Youth Group is planning a car wash in August.

Human Resources has completed the treasurer's and assistant treasurer's reviews.

The IT committee has received quotes for upgrading the computer hardware and software. A decision will be made at the next meeting.

Mission & Discipleship has reviewed information for online giving through Thrivent and will be recommending to Finance Committee. The Seeding the Future Campaign for Camp Nawakwa will be held August 3, 10, 17 and 23. The photo directory photo settings are set for August 21-23. Stewardship Sunday is scheduled for October 19.

Old Business:

Audit Committee nominations are needed by the November meeting.

God's Work, Our Hands, has been rescheduled for September 14. A list of possible projects is to be provided by Red Lion Borough Council. We will reserve the pavilion in the park for lunch and closing worship that day. See the article on this on page 6.

Oktoberfest is scheduled for October 5. A German band has been lined up and two types of beer from local microbreweries. Spread the word; advertising will be appearing soon.

New Business:

There are old boxes of files and records located on the balcony. We will need volunteers to decide if the documents will need to be scanned before have them shredded.

The Women of Grace will meet August 7 in the Welcome Area at 7:00 p.m. We will have a planning meeting for our October Gift Card Bingo.



 Pastoral Acts

There were no Pastoral Acts this month.

DIRECTORY PICTURES ARE THIS MONTH

Life Touch is doing our church directory. Be a part of our new family directory. It doesn't matter if you are a member of the church or not. If you attend, we want to see your family in our 'family album.' The photographer is open to you being yourself. You can bring your own unique props that express your individuality. You can also invite family and friends who do not attend Grace Lutheran to be a part of your photo. Each family will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and free directory for participating!



Schedule your photography session today, because it is so easy. The photographer will be at Grace Lutheran in the third and fourth week of August. See the bulletin or call the office for open days of the week. Due to overwhelming interest, new dates have been added. There will be tables set up during Sunday services to reserve a time or you can sign up online. You can sign up online anyday except Sundays, so there are no duplicate appointments during the table signups. Here's how you go about online sign-ups:

1. Link: <https://www.securedata-trans14.com/ap/gracelutheranchurch29/index.php?page=10>
2. From the drop down menu on the left, select the number of people in your group.
3. From the calendar on the left, select the date you wish to have your photos taken.
4. That will open up the time slots for that day. Available time slots are the WHITE boxes, while times that are unavailable are in GREY.
5. Click on your desired time slot, and that will take you to an online form to fill out.
6. Once you've completed the form click "Finalize Portrait Session" and you are DONE!

Once you have done this, when we print out the sign-up sheets for Sunday morning, your family's slot will be filled, and there won't be any chance of someone signing up during your time slot.

If you and your family cannot make the above listed times, there are also some other churches that are having photographs taken where you can sign up to get your portrait. You will be given a code that will place your photo with us. Those locations are: St. Catherine in Harrisburg on August 5-9 or Aldersgate in Mechanicsburg on August 13. Both alternate locations are walk-in; just say you are from Grace Lutheran in Red Lion and they will do the rest.

If neither option works for you, it is still possible for you to submit a family photo either digitally or in hard copy to Pastor Tina. The deadline for submitted photos is August 23.



STRANGERS IN KENYA

Grades are submitted, awards are passed out, final exams are burned (out of a need for warmth--not spite!--it's cold here in the Southern Hemisphere!), classrooms are cleaned...all that's left to be done is walk those seniors across the stage and put them on planes for their next phase of life!

Graduation was on July 17 for the 75 seniors in the class of 2014! What's been keeping us so busy that we haven't sent out an email update in four months? Well...

1. We have three awesome children to keep us on our toes!
2. Department head stuff (that's the simple version of this one)...creating internal measures that can be used across grades 7 through 12 in our individual subject areas (the long version)
3. Teaching full-time (Ryan) and part-time (Heather)
4. Did I mention we have three awesome children (including a talkative three-year-old girl)?
5. Discipling two students each
6. Coordinating Sunday morning worship teams (and leading twice a month)
7. Did I mention we have three awesome children (including a precocious seven-year-old boy)?
8. Mentoring counselors for our JR HIGH ministry (weekly dinners and Sunday set-up)
9. Leading the women's retreat committee (Heather)
10. Did I mention we have three awesome children (including a talented ten-year-old boy)?

Thanks for your prayers during the four-month silence. We know you are there for us!

One last inspiring story...yesterday was "Senior Sunday" and four senior boys were chosen by their classmate to give mini-sermons to the whole community (600+ people). One boy (a Sudanese missionary kid whose dad was a "Lost Boy" from Sudan in the 80s) shared a story of how his dad and his friends all woke up at 4:00 a.m. during the rebel attacks to be prepared to flee if the rebels came to their village. He said that they pinched each other if anyone fell asleep. His analogy was that as Christian we need to "pinch each other" to remind each other why we're here...to remind each other what we should be doing...to remind each other who (or what) is our enemy as believers.

May you find someone to pinch today for the good of the Kingdom!
Ryan for us

The pictures we have included are Ryan leading worship at baptism with two seniors, Asher acting as a moose with a loose tooth in his class drama, Ryan coaching Micah's basketball league, Claire looking cute, Micah at his piano recital, and Heather on her Saturday excursion to Mt. Longonot!



If you want to contact us, there are several ways:
Skype--africamurphy (free calls!)
Blog— strangersinkenya.blogspot.com/
Book—
facebook.com/africamurphy
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Africa Inland Mission address for financial support—
P.O. Box 3611
Peachtree City, GA 30269-7611
Checks made out to Africa Inland Mission

Field Address--
Rift Valley Academy
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Kenya, East Africa



MUSICAL NOTES

Bell Choir is Reforming

It is that time of year again. Come one and all to ring bells with the handbell choir here at Grace. The choir is open to all ages and all musical abilities. We will rehearse on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. after the Spirit Cellar Rehearsal and before Senior Choir Rehearsal. We will begin these rehearsals after Labor Day on September 3. All are welcome! Contact Wicky for details.



Wicky
Assistant Director of Music

BOOK CLUB IS FORMING IN SEPTEMBER

Are you an avid reader? Do you want to read fiction that has elements of Biblical reference or historical context, or has a Christian theme? If so, join our book club. We will be meeting in September to organize. We will decide at that meeting what books we may want to read and how often to meet. Then we will choose a novel and discuss it at the next meeting. Our first novel may be *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant. We will be able to furnish copies courtesy of the York County Library System. If you are interested in joining or suggesting a book, contact Jennifer Rudolf or Pastor Tina.



"GANGWAY TO GALILEE" VBS IS ALMOST HERE! HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET?

Join us on the "Gangway to Galilee" this month! It's almost time for Vacation Bible School (VBS), and we are excited to provide this event for the children of our church.

To make 2014 the best year ever for the kids, we need lots of volunteers! Jobs include teaching, supervising groups, or helping with crafts or snacks. You do not need any special skills – just a love of children.

VBS week will be August 11 – 15, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. each night. All lesson plans and equipment will be provided for teachers and other volunteers.

We have a multitude of ways to sign up for VBS! There are sign-up sheets around the church, in the bulletin, online, or you can call the office.

Please contact Kendra Shaffer or Maigan Gideon for details. Call Maigan with any questions at (717) 817-4133 (cell) or by dropping her an email through our Web site's contact form, using the option "Vacation Bible Studies."

To sign up online to be a volunteer, go to www.gracelutheran.com, click on "Kids & Youth" at the top, choose "Vacation Bible Studies 2014," and fill out the contact form. You may also include a message on this form.

If you prefer to print the online form, there is a .pdf file of the registration form posted. Return the completed form in an envelope labeled "VBS" to the church's mailbox outside the office.

Can't wait to see you there!



The next Grief Support Group is August 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the kitchen. All are welcome to attend.

WHAT'S IN THE DISPLAY CASE?

Pat and Janet are doing a display on Grace Lutheran Church History in August. Take a look at some of our historical items, including a silver Communion set which was donated to us by Catherine Meyer, who is one of the founding members of Red Lion. Also on display will be the earliest picture of the church, and pictures of all the ministers that we have had, including Pastor Tina. Old choir pictures and much more historical material from our church will be included. Take a look into our history.



School Days! is our theme for September and back-to-school. The cabinet will feature school pictures of Grace members before 1999. Please put the name on the back of the picture, preferably in a frame. If you would like to participate, give your picture to Janet or Pat or leave it in the office. August 17 is the cut-off date to receive pictures. Thanks.



HAPPENINGS IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you from Dick Rhine- I want to thank all of those in my Grace Lutheran family for their cards, well wishes and prayers during my recovery from my second hip replacement surgery. All were greatly appreciated.

HAIR TODAY...GONE TOMORROW

Karen Heindel, daughter-in-law of the late Rodney Heindel, our former organist, has recently been diagnosed with cancer. She has been undergoing chemotherapy and now sports a very short hairdo. In support of Karen, Debbie Hoover and Scott Hildebrand have cut their hair short also. Debbie has challenged others to support Karen by adopting the "short do" but Pastor Tina suggested that, if you are a long hair lover, you grow it longer and donate your hair to Locks of Love for other cancer survivors. Karen and her husband, David, need our support and prayers during this difficult time. Please remember to include them in your daily meditations.



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO THIS WINTER?

We are looking for a group of people who would be interested in going through the old church files that are currently housed in the balcony of the sanctuary. We would like to sort through the documents that are up there to discover what is best archived, and what can be disposed of properly. This is a great project for those who have a deep interest in our congregation's history and for those who would be able to bring knowledge to the project, pertaining to our older documents. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Tina.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! OKTOBERFEST COMES TO GRACE!



Put a big circle around Sunday, October 5 on your calendars, because that's when Grace will be celebrating Oktoberfest! We will be hosting an afternoon of music, food, and fellowship, immediately following 10:45 a.m. worship that Sunday. German music (and dancing if you feel inclined), will be provided for entertainment throughout the afternoon, as well as providing special music during worship. There will be bratwurst and sauerkraut, as well as other German specialties. Locally made beer will be available for everyone over 21. There is no cost for the event, but donations would be appreciated, to help offset some of the costs. If you have any questions, or would like to help coordinate the event, please contact Larry Tudor or Pastor Tina.

FAMILY SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES

Have you caught one of our Hollywood blockbuster performances from the kids and Ellen. August's themes are:

- August 3-Calling of the disciples
- August 10-Daniel and his Escapade
- August 17-Zacchaeus
- August 24-Wedding at Cana
- August 31-The Last Supper



Don't miss a chance to laugh with our kids and see them having fun learning the Bible.

HOW TO SUBMIT TO THE NEWSLETTER

We welcome all submissions to the newsletter. The newsletter is a great place to ask for help, publicize an event you are planning in the church, tell people about something you or your family is doing, thank members, celebrate a victory. The possibilities are endless! The vision for the newsletter is to communicate between members in a clear and interesting format. If you would like to submit to the newsletter or help in any way, here is what you can do:

*If you are comfortable with computers, you may email Jennifer Rudolf at: swimmerjenusa@yahoo.com. Please make sure your document is either a .doc or .pdf file. If you are including digital artwork, make sure it is at least 300KB in size.

*If you prefer paper, just drop off your submission in the mailbox marked 'newsletter' outside the office door. The mailboxes are located on a table across the hall.

Please keep in mind that the deadline for submission is the 20th of each month for the following month's newsletter. If you have pictures or graphics that complement your submission, include them along with directions or suggestions on their use. Please include your contact information in every submission so the editor can get in touch to clarify or fact-check. If you are interested in a monthly submission or article, we welcome that as well.

SEEDING THE FUTURE

For decades, the Lutheran Camping Corporation has sought to provide meaningful experiences for Lutheran youth at the numerous church camps around the country. We, of Lower Susquehanna Synod, are especially lucky because we are surrounded by three different camping locations, all providing vast and various experiences for children, youth, and adults who want to get away from the hustle and bustle and connect with God in nature.

In order to better serve their community, in 2007 Camp Nawakwa, near Arendtsville, purchased 231 acres of land to embark upon an expansion of the camp. The new land has allowed Camp Nawakwa to provide more playing fields, a new adult retreat center, a new high ropes course, and many other opportunities for summer campers.

As part of our endeavor to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us, as well as stewards of the church's future, we at Grace are joining Camp Nawakwa's Seeding the Future campaign, to help them pay off the purchase of the new land, which cost \$2 million. For the first four Sundays of August, there will be Temple Talks held at each worship service, so that we as a community can learn more about the camp, and the opportunities they provide for our youth. On August 24, we will be joined by Michael Youse, the executive director of the Lutheran Camping Corporation, who will share with us how each of us can support this campaign.

You might be wondering, "How can I participate in the new activities at Camp Nawakwa? How do I get my children or myself involved?" If you go to www.lutherancamping.org you can find all the information you need to get involved with the camping programs. Every week of the summer, Nawakwa has programs for children as young as kindergarten-age all the way through senior high youth. There are day camps, there are explore camps, there are camps for any age group you can find. There is even a week of family camp, where your whole family can go to camp together, learn about God, and connect with creation. Unique to Nawakwa is also a camp for adults 55+ who are interested in spending some time with other adults and connecting with their faith.

We hope that through this campaign you and your family might be inspired to give back to this wonderful program that is providing unique ways of connecting life and faith together in the midst of God's creation, as well as getting excited about the possibility of getting to camp yourself next summer to see what all the excitement is all about!



BACK TO SCHOOL! BRING YOUR BACKPACKS!

Sunday, August 17: It will be back-to-school time before we know it! All students – big and small – teachers, school professionals, and administrators are invited to bring their backpacks, briefcases, or other symbols of their vocation to worship on Sunday morning to receive a special blessing and token of grace to send them off into a new school year.



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY (MARK YOUR CALENDARS!)

Last year, the ELCA embarked on a new program called "God's Work, Our Hands Sunday." The goal of this program was to set aside a specific Sunday every year, where Lutherans all around the country get out into their communities and serve. This year, we hope to be a part of this wonderful program, so that we can be God's hands in our little corner of the world. On Sunday, September 14, we will be gathering together after 10:45 a.m. worship to clean up Fairmount Park. The borough will be giving us a list of tasks they would like us to do, such as planting trees, and general beautification of the park in preparation for fall. Lunch will be provided, and we will close out the day with a small worship service. Please mark your calendars; it is going to be a wonderful day of service and fellowship.



TOGS Fall Kick-off!
 The TOGS will be kicking off the fall
 with a sleepover on
Saturday, September 6.
 More details will be available in
 mid-August.



"RISE UP:" NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING UPDATE

If you or your youth are interested in attending the National Youth Gathering in Detroit next summer, registration begins on September 15. Registration forms (available from Pastor Tina) and \$150 are due by September 11, so that they can be submitted in time.

There will be another informational session for the Gathering on Sunday, August 17, immediately following 10:45 a.m. worship. Parents are highly encouraged to attend this meeting, as there have been updates to the information that we received in May. If you are interested in chaperoning with our group, please also attend this meeting. We would love to have any and all who are willing and able to participate to come. If there are any questions, please see Pastor Tina.

August Celebrations



- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 01-Kevin Grim | 10-J. Kenneth Laucks, Jr. |
| 02-Colleen Grove | 11-Alvin Brown |
| 03-Cindy Golden | 12-Dawn Coeyman |
| 05-Philip Golden | 16-Ronald Golden |
| 05-Isaac Phillips-Cary | 19-Wendy Dellinger |
| 06-Cassandra Anderson | 22-Chase Traina |
| 06-Taylor Guhr | 25-Denise Kerr |
| 07-John Fishel | 27-Deborah Warntz |
| 08-Kaitlyn Germick | 29-Dick Rhine |
| 08-Sara Stauffer | 30-Jud Stauffer |
| 10-Betty Laucks | |

Wedding Anniversaries



- 04-Joyce and Robert Arnold
- 08-Cora Sue and Lynn Herbst
- 10-Betty and J. Kenneth Laucks, Jr.
- 12-Carol and William Coeyman
- 15-Deborah and Andrew Warntz
- 16-Jackie and Michael Atkins
- 18-Janet and Charles Murphy
- 19-Connie and Gerald Heiss
- 20-Wendy and Edward Dellinger
- 20-Alana and Robert Haag
- 24-Wendy and Bradley Mummert
- 25-Kathleen and Freeland Shaffer
- 27-Connie and Dennis Walters
- 27-Ellen and Jack Warntz
- 30-Darla Ray and Greg Hodson



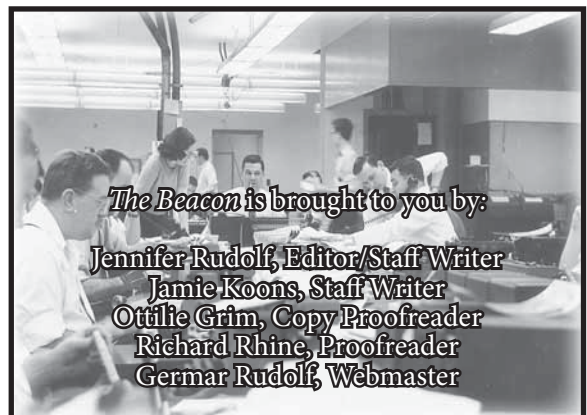
Each month, The Beacon reports who is sponsoring the flowers in the Sanctuary.

August's flowers are sponsored by:

- 03-Gary Krout (altar)
- 10-Jack Jones (altar)
- 17-George McCallum (altar)
- 24-Jean Grim (altar)
- 31-Grace Lutheran Church (altar)

September's flowers are sponsored by:

- 07-Richard Rhine (altar)
- 14-Mrs. Edward Arnold (altar)
- 21-Connie Heiss (altar)
- 28-Helen Shellenberger((pedestal)



The Beacon is brought to you by:

- Jennifer Rudolf, Editor/Staff Writer
- Jamie Koons, Staff Writer
- Ottile Grim, Copy Proofreader
- Richard Rhine, Proofreader
- Germar Rudolf, Webmaster

August

						1	2
3 9:00 am - 11:00 am: "Seeding the Future" Temple Talks 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service	4 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Vacation Bible School - Gangway to Galilee	5 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Vacation Bible School - Gangway to Galilee	6 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm: Spirit Cellar Practice	7 7:00 pm - : Women of Grace	8	9	
10 9:00 am - 11:00 am: "Seeding the Future" Temple Talks 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service	11 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Vacation Bible School - Gangway to Galilee	12 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Vacation Bible School - Gangway to Galilee	13 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Vacation Bible School - Gangway to Galilee 7:00 pm - : Finance Meeting	14 6:30 pm - : Church Council Meeting 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Vacation Bible School - Gangway to Galilee	15 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Vacation Bible School - Gangway to Galilee	16 8:30 am - : Food Pantry Packing	
17 9:00 am - 11:00 am: "Seeding the Future" Temple Talks 9:00 am - : Blessing of the Backpacks 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - : Blessing of the Backpacks 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service 12:00 pm - : National Youth Gathering Info Session	18 7:00 pm - : Property Committee	19 6:30 pm - : Worship and Music	20 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm: Spirit Cellar Practice	21 2:00 pm - 9:00 pm: Pictorial Directory Photos	22 2:00 pm - 9:00 pm: Pictorial Directory Photos	23 8:30 am - : Food Pantry Packing 10:00 am - 5:00 pm: Pictorial Directory Photos	
24 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service	25 2:00 pm - 9:00 pm: Pictorial Directory Photos	26 6:30 pm - : Parish Education	27 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm: Spirit Cellar Practice	28 6:30 pm - : Mission & Discipleship Committee	29	30 N/A - : Private Party - Reserved - Approved	
31 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service							