



The BEACON

Shines with Grace Lutheran Church News

November, 2016

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

It's Happening at Grace
Lutheran!

From the Pastor's Desk: We Are in This Together

Grace to you and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Dear Friends:

This is my first "Pastor Ed Letter" to you all via our newsletter. I imagine that you already know that I have been called to serve Grace Lutheran as your interim pastor

in the time between.....the time between Pastor Tina's departure and the time when your next regularly called pastor is at work in your midst. Your Call Committee has already initiated its work to step you forward to that time of calling a regularly called pastor, and it certainly appears to me that the Call Committee is working with strength of purpose and good activity and energy.

In the meantime I am delighted to be serving here at Grace to assist you through this time of transition. I experience strengths in your congregation: two services, each different from the other in particular respects of musical style and liturgical presentation, but both commonly and mutually grounded in what is quintessentially Lutheran - Word and Sacrament ministry. Each week at both services we have the opportunity to receive Holy Communion; each week at both services we hear scripture, we hear the Word proclaimed in the sermon content, we pray together, and together we receive Jesus who promises that where two or three (or more) gather in his name there He, our risen Lord, is.

You have other important strengths as well: a very strong reaching out into the community with your Food Pantry and the practices you embrace as you seek to minister to those in need through the bi-monthly distribution of the Food Pantry (and the clothing and other items available in the upstairs Sanctuary). I also have a sense as I have listened in some home and hospital visits made in these first weeks of serving at Grace that you have a disposition to reach out into the community and welcome folks into your shared life in Christ. I have heard more than one story in which the speaker has indicated that he or she has been encouraged "in" and is held in your care and presence as a disciple



community of the Lord Jesus Christ. Good for you!! Not every congregation chooses to do such outreach, and it is a beautiful thing when such outreach and ministry occurs. Your council president does excellent work and your council members take seriously in a good way their call to make discernments and decisions that

strengthen and give expression to ministry here at Grace, be it ministry directed to the spiritual needs of those who gather for worship in which space and service they do or ministry directed outbound to the community of Red Lion at large.

In this time of transition I am thankful that you have called me to serve as your interim pastor. In this time of transition you are in my prayers for a swift and strong process that brings you and your next regularly called pastor together in such a manner that you and your pastor will sustain and strengthen the excellent dispositions of this congregation: (1) to gather together to worship regularly, receiving the Word and the sacraments, AND (2) stepping out into the world to bring grace and good to other human beings in their need and longing for good, for life, for the presence of God and people with whom they can relate in safety and good humor.

In Christ, Pastor Ed

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Here are the highlights from the council meeting. It was held October 13, 2016:

It is the time of year that council is working to prepare for the annual meeting. It has been a very busy year. We have sent out a letter informing the congregation of a proposed change to the bylaws concerning the Treasurer's position. The new budget has been published and reviewed at both services on the 16th of October. Copies are available at the usual places around the church.

Our Investment Committee has been meeting and organizing, they sent a proposal to council for our investment strategy which was approved with minor changes so that the committee can move forward in the desire to move some of our trusts to obtain a more favorable yield from our resources.

I hope you have noticed our parking lot entrance on High Street. A member suggested doing something to make that entranceway more visible, especially in bad weather so reflective paint was purchased and the curbing was painted. Also two mounted reflectors were added to each side of the entrance. I didn't know our main gardener was also such a good painter! Thanks Ellen!

With the help of the survey sheets I hope you all filled out, our call committee has been busy and meets in our church usually on Sunday evenings.

Our Nominating Committee has announced the slate for next year's council members which are: Drew Walker, Cora Sue Herbst, Dylan Rexroth and Priscilla Turek.

Please do not forget the Annual Congregational Meeting which will take place in our sanctuary on November 13, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. Please plan to attend.

Lin Rotz – Council President

MUG CLUB



We have a little gathering on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Black Tap Brewery right down the street in the old Red Lion post office building. It is called Mug Club. We invite any and all over the age of 21 to discuss theology over a fine malted beverage (or glass of local wine). It was a tradition begun by Pastor Tina and we are eager to continue this unique ministry. Please come join us. We will not meet in November or December due to the holidays, but look for us to be huddled over our beers in January.

PROJECT PRIDE CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVING

The Red Lion Area School District has made a change in their Christmas gift giving program for selected children. Instead of having members of church congregations purchase gifts, they would like us to contribute the money (via checks) that we would have previously put into purchasing gifts. Make your checks out to "Red Lion Project Pride" with "Holiday Help" in the subject line. The contributions will be used for specific student needs, such as: Specific school supplies, Musical instruments for students who can't afford them, registrations for sports activities, toiletries, specific clothing needs (underwear, socks, jeans, shoes, etc) and extra-curricular activities. If you previously "gifted" a child, you can donate the same amount of money to this project but, if you are interested in supporting the children of Red Lion Area School District, you can donate any amount of money. There will be envelopes provided for your donations of cash or check with the above mentioned designation. All monies should be received by December 4. Thank you for your continued compassion for the children and their families who reside within the school district. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Ellen Warntz, 'Project Pride' contact person.



THE BEACON HAS A NEW EDITOR!

After a long search and interview process consisting of the acting editor/older sister begging and coercing, Chris Jacobs has agreed to assume the position of editor. Starting next month, any submissions can be directed to her via email: kndsis1@yahoo.com or leave a paper copy in the newsletter mailbox outside the office. Anna Mae also filters *The Beacon* submissions to Chris. We have updated the Submissions box to include Chris's email in case you forget. Chris is taking over for Jamie Koons, whose family moved to another parish reluctantly. We welcome Chris to the team!



ON MARTIN LUTHER'S "SMALL CATECHISM"



Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles Pastor Ed intends to write for The Beacon.

Martin Luther published his *Small Catechism* in 1529. Its intended purpose: to serve as a faith-building resource for parents to share with and instruct their children in

some very basic and very key elements of the Christian life and identity. Martin Luther desired that parents, whether over the dinner table or at night before bed, would share the content of the *Small Catechism* with their children of whatever age and help their children learn about and think about their faith tradition.

In the year 2017 we who are the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, along with Lutherans of other expressions across the face of the globe, will join in celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, an event which Martin Luther was instrumental in effecting. As an aspect of our celebration of the 500th Anniversary, the presiding bishop of our church, the Reverend Elizabeth Eaton, is encouraging us to immerse ourselves in Luther's *Small Catechism* to either re-acquaint or acquaint ourselves with this VERY rich resource.

Maybe you recall the book *The Purpose Driven Life*? From my perspective Dr. Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* is a superb resource to direct us to, and gift us, a deeply spiritual resource for how it is we can live a purpose driven life as Lutheran Christians in this world. I hope you will join with me and many of our sisters and brothers, whether in Grace Lutheran Church, Red Lion, or on the territory of the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA, or across the face of the globe with our many, many brothers and sisters of a diversity of Lutheran Christian expression in

immersion, or re-immersion, in the *Small Catechism*. To help us immerse, in the months to come portions of this excellent resource will be presented in this newsletter. We begin where Dr. Martin Luther began, with the 10 Commandments. This month I will present the 10 Commandments and then in the December and January issues I will provide the commentary Doctor Luther wrote in regard to each commandment.

The commandments of "The First Table," those commandments directed toward how it is we are to behave in relation to our God:

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.

The commandments of "The Second Table," those commandments directed toward how it is we are to behave in relation to our neighbors.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Taken from - Exodus 20:1-17 (NIV)

GIVE THANKS FOR THE MUSIC OF THE CHURCH!



November 20, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at the church

Dr. Mary Loyer, organ

Richard Rhine, baritone

Please come to this end of the church year concert to be held in the sanctuary. The concert will feature sacred organ and vocal music performed by Dr. Mary Loyer, organ, and C. Richard Rhine, baritone. Free will offering to benefit the bell choir.



BOOK CLUB

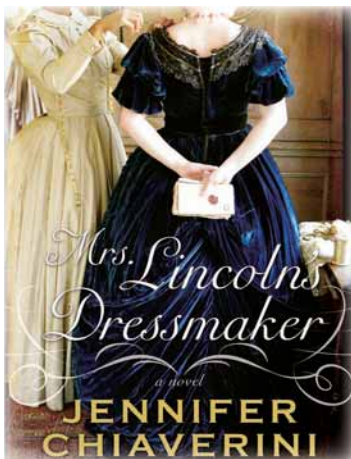
The next Book Club meeting will be November 17 at 6:30 p.m. The Book Club always welcomes new members and meets on the third Thursday of the month. This month, we are reading *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker*, by Jennifer Chiaverini. Goodreads.com says this about *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker*:

Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker presents a stunning account of the friendship that blossomed between Mary Todd Lincoln and her seamstress, Elizabeth "Lizzie" Keckley, a former slave who gained her professional reputation in Washington, D.C. by outfitting the city's elite. Keckley made history by sewing for First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln within the White House, a trusted witness to many private moments between the President and his wife, two of the most compelling figures in American history.

In March 1861, Mrs. Lincoln chose Keckley from among a number of applicants to be her personal "modiste," responsible not only for creating the First Lady's gowns, but also for dressing Mrs. Lincoln in the beautiful attire Keckley had fashioned. The relationship between the two women quickly evolved, as Keckley was drawn into the intimate life of the Lincoln family, supporting Mary Todd Lincoln in the loss of first her son, and then her husband to the assassination that stunned the nation and the world.

Keckley saved scraps from the dozens of gowns she made for Mrs. Lincoln, eventually piecing together a tribute known as the Mary Todd Lincoln Quilt. She also saved memories, which she fashioned into a book, *Behind the Scenes: Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House*. Upon its publication, Keckley's memoir created a scandal that compelled Mary Todd Lincoln to sever all ties with her, but in the decades since, Keckley's story has languished in the archives. In this impeccably researched, engrossing novel, Chiaverini brings history to life in rich, moving style."

Pastor Ed dropped in on Grace Lutheran's Book Club last month and enjoyed it. We invite you to do



the same. Just so you know, we have an account through the Collinsville Library and we get all our books for free (to borrow :-)). If you are a book lover, you will enjoy reading top quality fiction and having a great discussion with like-minded book worms. If you are interested in our choice for the month, please contact the office, or see Jennifer Rudolf or Geri Jacobs.



Food Pantry Ministry

HOLIDAYS ARE FOR GIVING

Packing boxes will be held on Saturday, November 5 at 8:30 a.m. in the food pantry room. Our pantry was blessed by the donation of nearly 1000 pounds of canned goods collected by the Senior High Student Council at the homecoming football game. Our pantry is constantly being called upon to help families, often receiving ten calls a week for emergency help so additional contributions are always appreciated.

The designated Thanksgiving distribution will be on November 14 with sanctuary set-up on the 13th following the traditional service. Instead of donating a turkey, consider giving money equal to the cost of a turkey. In this way, Jack can purchase turkeys that are all the same weight which makes packing the perishable boxes much easier for our volunteers. Your help and support for this outreach ministry is always a blessing to our church and the community.



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 are 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 Chris Jacobs at: kndsis1@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.

WHAT'S IN THE DISPLAY CASE?

This month we will have Cora Sue Herbst's collection of candles. She has graciously written an article about them. Her collection will be on display for the entire month of November.

In 1939, the Sacony Vacuum Oil Company (now Exxon Mobile) commissioned Franklin Gurley's W&F Manufacturing Company to create a way to use the paraffin left over from oil production. Gurley marketed wax lips and teeth (remember those?) and small candle figures for the Tavern brand.

In 1949, Franklin Gurley bought the Tavern and changed the name to Gurley Novelty Company. Under the Gurley Novelty Company name, the company continued to manufacture the candle figures with specific holiday themes (Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas). Gurley's candles were generally sold at 5 and 10 cent stores like Woolworth's. Sales were brisk through the 1950s and peaked in the late 1960s.

When I was a child my brother and I were each allowed to buy one candle (for 10 cents). I remember asking my mother to light my little Christmas angel. She said no, that would ruin it. When she left the room I used her lighter and lit my angel whose head started to melt and caved in. I was of course punished. I learned my lesson.

My collection now contains about 500 candles. I have had an article published in THE GLOW magazine and have run discussions and given talks about these "antiques" collectibles. Please look in the Welcome Center showcase to see some of my Thanksgiving candles. At Thanksgiving my mother always displayed a turkey, a Pilgrim man and a Pilgrim woman on our dining room table, and I continue this tradition.



GRACEFUL WOMEN

The Graceful Women invite you to their "Thanksgiving Blessing Buffet." On November 3 at 7:00 p.m. join the "meal" of thought. Here is the menu:

Appetizer: Think about... A special Thanksgiving Day in your life. What/when was it and why was it special for you?

Main course: Think about Blessings. Blessings you have given or received.

Side Dishes: Will you share some blessing you have received? Can you name a blessing(s) you have given?

Drinks: Have you ever heard a blessing being whispered in your ear or knew God was near? All of the questions above are meant to be personal although it may have been someone other than God who brought the thought to mind.

Desserts: Cake

Please come prepared to share your answers to the questions above. Write them down on separate sheets of paper so we can attach them to their perspective Buffet course and you can personally share them with those in attendance.



GIFT CARDS HELP THE CHURCH

As is true everywhere, budgets are tight. We are experiencing this in the church as well. There are many people trying to think "outside the box" to fund the church programs. One thing that doesn't cost anything extra is for our parishioners to buy gift cards to their favorite local grocery stores and use them in daily shopping or to give as gifts. The church gets a percentage and the member uses them for grocery shopping with no extra costs. The gift cards come in a variety of amounts. They are available at the early service in the back with Sandy Shaffer after services are over, or in the Welcome Center between services. You can call Dee at home (244-0083) to custom order your needs. If you are paying by check, please make it payable to 'Grace Lutheran Church.'



Pastor Ed's Contact Information

Email: pastored@nfdc.net

Phone: 724-272-2683



T.O.G.S. NEWS

Don't forget to buy your M&M cannisters from the T.O.G.S. and fill them with quarters once you eat all that lovely candy. (Or have a grateful kid eat all that lovely candy.) This is a fundraiser for their trip to the next youth gathering in Houston, Texas in 2018.

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as The Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

LUTHERAN CAMPING

The following events are listed online at www.LutheranCamping.org. Visit the website or call (717) 677-8211 for more information.



November 2016 Events

- Annual Quilt Auction at Nawakwa - November 6
- Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa - November 11-13



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

November's flowers are sponsored by:

- 06 - The Family of Arlene Smith
Ned & Julia Kinard (Pedestal)
- 13 - Celebrating God's Blessing
- 20 - The Keener & Curran Family
- 27 - The Jacobs Family

December's flowers are sponsored by:

- 04 - Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Schell
- 11 - For the advent of Jesus' birth
- 18 - Sara, Maggie, Kelly & Jud Stauffer
- 24 - Connie Walters
- 25 - Dean & Linda Anderson

Annual meeting will be held November 13 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. All annual report deadlines for committees will be Wednesday, November 9

November Celebrations

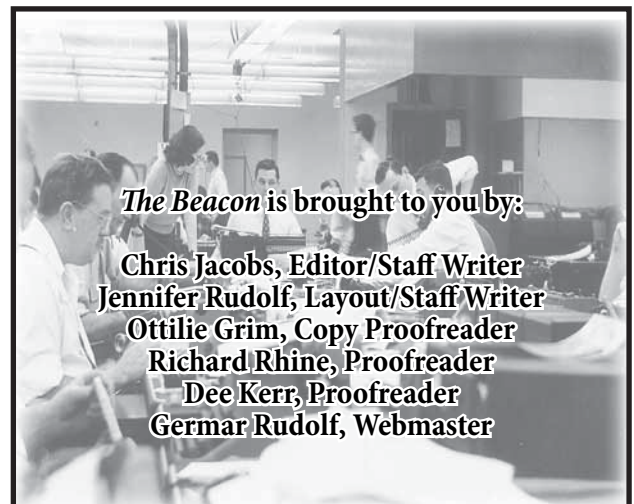


- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 01 - Daniel Davis | 20 - Otilie Grim |
| 01 - Jake Hanzlik | 20 - Amy Jerrard |
| 01 - Kern Pressel | 20 - Stephen Seitz |
| 02 - Chad Vigna | 22 - Jeanne Laucks |
| 05 - Andrew Crawford | 24 - Eleanor Gross |
| 05 - Drew Walker | 25 - Bobbi Jo Shaffer |
| 06 - Elizabeth Hanzlik | 25 - Ellen Warntz |
| 07 - William Coeyman | 26 - Billy May |
| 09 - Gerald Heiss | 26 - Wesley Smith |
| 09 - William Stein | 27 - Wendy Mummert |
| 13 - Jeremy Christenberry | 28 - Samuel J. Laucks |
| 13 - Stacy Frey | 28 - Wendy Miller |
| 14 - Mark Einsig | 28 - Amy Webster |
| 14 - Alex Johnston | 29 - Roberta Ebert |
| 15 - Robert Arnold | 29 - Jackie Golden |
| 15 - Robert E. Hammers | 30 - Kelly Jo Marshall |
| 17 - Brandon Ricci | |

Wedding Anniversaries



- 01 - Philip & Patricia Golden
- 05 - Gary & Barbara Krout
- 08 - Jeffrey & Lesa Arnold
- 09 - Andrew & Lisa Crawford
- 11 - Larry & Dolores Tudor
- 12 - Lisa & Stephen Germick
- 21 - Sharon & Andreas Hont
- 22 - Dick & Jean Rhine
- 29 - Jud & Kelly Stauffer



The Beacon is brought to you by:

- Chris Jacobs, Editor/Staff Writer
- Jennifer Rudolf, Layout/Staff Writer
- Otilie Grim, Copy Proofreader
- Richard Rhine, Proofreader
- Dee Kerr, Proofreader
- Geremar Rudolf, Webmaster

November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			6:00 pm: Spirit Cellar Practice 6:30 pm: Ringers by Grace Practice 7:00 pm: Senior Choir Practice	7:00 pm: Graceful Women 7:00 pm: Call Committee		8:30 am: Food Pantry Packing
6 Daylight Savings Time ends Noisy Offering 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service 6:30 pm - : Grief Support	7	8	9	10	11	12
			6:00 pm: Spirit Cellar Practice 6:30 pm: Ringers by Grace Practice 7:00 pm: Senior Choir Practice 7:00 pm: Finance Committee	6:30 pm: Church Council Meeting		
13 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service 12:15 am - : Yard Sale Setup	14 8:30 am - : Food Distribution & Yard Sale 7:00 pm: Property Committee	15	16	17	18	19
			6:00 pm: Spirit Cellar Practice 6:30 pm: Ringers by Grace Practice 7:00 pm: Senior Choir Practice	6:30 pm: Book Club 6:30 pm: Mission & Discipleship Committee		
20 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service 4:00 pm: Concert	21 6:30pm: Worship & Music Committee	22	23	24	25	26
			6:00 pm: Spirit Cellar Practice 6:30 pm: Ringers by Grace Practice 7:00 pm: Senior Choir Practice	Thanksgiving 9am - 5pm: Private Party-Social Room		
27 9:00 am - 9:45 am: Contemporary Service 9:45 am - 10:45 am: Sunday School 10:45 am - 11:45 am: Traditional Service	28	29	30			
			6:00 pm: Spirit Cellar Practice 6:30 pm: Ringers by Grace Practice 7:00 pm: Senior Choir Practice			