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MAY 2022

# Grace Notes

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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*“Grace Lutheran Church is a family united by faith in Christ,  
which seeks to grow in that faith and to share it with others.”*

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## From the Pastor’s Desk . . .

**May is the month for Easter.** For the entire month of May we will be in the section of the Church Year labeled as the *“Easter Season”* – where the paraments stay white and we remember and unpack the beauty, power, and goodness of all that EASTER entails... and May is the *perfect* month for it. *Why?* Because *“April showers lead to May flowers”* ... as the saying goes. Last month was frequently cold and wet. Now in May we get plenty of time to experience the Sun and see what benefit it gives to the earth – with all the new green growth that appears!

All of that is the perfect analogy for Easter. **One risen Lord plants and grows so much faith and new life in so many!** That’s the basic theme for all the Easter Season sermons. But even more than that, Easter is a time that invites US to growth – to learn more. So it’s also fitting that in May we’ll be offering a midweek **Foundations of Faith** class that will look at all the basics of the Christian faith and Lutheran doctrines. Contact me right away so that we can pick a day and time that works conveniently for everyone.

It’s not just a “study” – but a time for connection, growth, understanding, and mercy. It’s an invitation to go deeper than you have been. So let me invite you – ALL of you, ANY of you – to attend. You may know lots of the material already. You may have forgotten it all decades ago. You may have never heard the word *“sanctification”* in your life. Regardless, come and join us as we learn and grow together...

In Christ,

Pastor Josh

PS I'd like to offer a special **thank you** to all those who have worked behind the scenes during Lent – and especially Holy Week - to make all the worship services so meaningful and godly. Your efforts are appreciated!

**April Official Pastoral Acts:**

- 3 pastoral care visits
- 1 leadership meeting
- 1 evangelism contact
- 1 funeral (*Mary Dodson*)

<b>Upcoming Sermon Texts</b>	
May 1	Luke 24:13-35
May 8	Luke 24:32-48
May 15	Luke 7:1-10
May 22	Luke 13:10-17
May 29	Luke 22:44-53

## Worship Information

Pastor offers **Private Communion** at church the first Wednesday of the month from 1:00-2:30 pm OR by private appointment. People can contact Pastor ahead of time to “reserve” a time, but “drop-ins” are also welcome. Contact Pastor if you'd prefer a home visit with private communion.

If you or someone you know would like to receive a **mailed hard copy** of each Sunday's sermon, please contact Pastor Josh to be added to that mailing list.

**Coffee hour** has resumed after worship and we plan for it to be continued indefinitely. This is completely voluntarily and optional, and those who do not feel it is a safe option should feel absolutely no pressure to stay. But for those who would like to, it is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship together.

## Adult Bible Class

Pastor's Sunday morning Adult Bible Class meets at 9:00 am the first two Sunday of every month. The class will meet in the Fellowship Hall, where there is plenty of room for social distancing and more chairs. In **April** we discussed the ***book of James, the issue of Faith plus Works***, and ***the question of whether we are saved by grace alone***.

In **May** we will be studying ***Equality vs. Hierarchy in the Trinity***, then starting a discussion about ***Authority and Accountability within the Church***. Everyone is welcome.

## Children's Church

Unfortunately, **Children's Church** and **Sunday School** have been temporarily suspended until more teachers can be found. If you might be willing, please talk to Tom Monroe.

## Evangelism Updates

Currently, letters are being mailed to people who are buying real estate locally. In it, we invite them to join us on Sundays, or contact us with questions.

Our “Totes for Hope” are in and available in the Narthex. They are the navy and white tote bags with a Bible verse. I have attached a business card for the church. Please take some totes and pass them out.

Sue Walker

## GRACE 2022 Service Schedule

\*\*\*PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A REPLACEMENT SHOULD YOU BE UNABLE TO SERVE\*\*\*

DATE	Usher	Acolyte	Greeter	Counters	Altar Guild	Lay Reader
<b>May 1st</b>	Tom Monroe	Reilly Jones	Anita Saathoff	Jan Koepp & Lisa L.	Karen Huston	Anita S.
<b>May 8th, 15th</b>	Dale Rider	Carter Jones	Lisa Lalonde	Fred F. & Glen F.	Colleen Karp	David Jones
<b>May 22nd, 29th</b>	Bob Izold	David Jones	Sue W.	Jan Koepp & Lisa L.	Robin Turnbull	Paul Castle

<u>May Birthdays</u>		<u>May Anniversaries</u>	
Bev Hines	5/4	Wayne & Donna Perron	5/14
George Martin	5/15	Dale & Megan Swanzer	5/25
Kathy Sklarek	5/18	Ron & Jan Mertz	5/29
Susan Walker	5/20	Ken & Robin Jones	5/31
Kathy Knipper	5/27		
Simon Moldenhauer	5/29		
Elijah Moldenhauer	5/31		

\* If we accidentally forgot your birthday or anniversary, please tell Pastor and we'll add it to our list.

## Spring Recital

Our Resident Organist **Oziah Wales** has his Oberlin College Senior Recital on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 pm. The concert will be at two venues, starting at Fairchild Chapel and moving to Finney Chapel in the second half. Everyone is invited to attend. For more details, talk to Oziah. A quick reminder: masks are still required for all individuals inside Oberlin College buildings.

## Buildings & Grounds Update

- Church **riding mower** has been serviced and needs one small repair which will be done in-house and repaired within 2 weeks.
- A lawnmowing **sign-up sheet** will be posted in the church hallway soon. Please consider signing up if able.
- Tom Monroe has ordered a new Fellowship Hall **emergency door** which will be installed when it arrives.
- Tom has been in contact with **Supers Landscape** and a final decision on the type of foliage to be planted. Whatever the type it will be low-maintenance.

- Dale Rider -

## Ukraine Donations

As you know the war in Ukraine is raging on and millions are grieving or displaced from their homes. During the month of April we collected a **free-will door offering** for Ukraine humanitarian relief through **Lutheran World Relief** and Corus International.

<https://lwr.org/story-hub/corus-international-responds-humanitarian-crisis-ukraine-0>

Our Treasurer relates that there was a total of **\$ 1008** donated. Thank you!

## Ladies Aid (Previously LWL)

Ladies Aid is holding our next meeting at our Fellowship Hall, Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. We'll have desserts, coffee and tea for your enjoyment. I'm hoping many of the Ladies here at Grace will attend. You don't have to be a member of Ladies Aid (LWL) or even a member of Grace Lutheran Church. We'd love to have you attend to share your ideas for our future planning.

Sundays after services, we are once again having our **coffee hour**.

I'd like to encourage everyone to stop and enjoy goodies, coffee, sharing and fellowship.

During our last Ladies Aid meeting we discussed changing the name of coffee hour to something that might encourage interaction and fellowship.

If you have any ideas, be sure to share.

~ Lee Anne Christner

*Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful mom's  
who have done so much for so many!!!*

## LCMS News

One of the biggest topics in the LCMS these days is how to help the situation in Ukraine. The LCMS is primarily doing that through their partnership with the **Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine** (ELCU). You can read a short interview of the LCMS missional director of that region (Rev. James Krikava) that's been posted on the hallway bulletin board. For those of you reading this online, you can simply go to: <https://engage.lcms.org/q-a-james-krikava-spring-2022/> and read the article from the "Lutherans Engage" Spring magazine.

## Upcoming Church Events & Dates

- **Adult Bible Class:** Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.
- **Coffee Hour:** Every Sunday at 11:00 am.
- **Confirmation Class:** Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:30 pm.
- **Private Communion Service:** Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-2:30 pm.
- **Elder's Meeting:** Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.
- **Council Meeting:** Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.
- **Voters' Meeting Packets Distributed:** Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- **Quarterly Voters' Meeting:** Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:15 am.
- **June Newsletter Articles Due:** Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>

## 2022 Church Directory

Pictures have been taken for the **2022 Church Directory** – thank you, Jon Storr! Contact information has been gathered and double-checked by some in the narthex. This month all of that we be assembled together into one glorious new church directory by our website coordinator **Kendis Bender**.

But there's still time...! We need more pictures. If you haven't already done so, please email a recent family picture to Kendis ([dbender6@gmail.com](mailto:dbender6@gmail.com)) for her to include. The final deadline for her is Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Jon will also be trying to get a few more pictures the first two Sundays of this month. Please help in this little way...