



# Good News from Grace

**February 2025**

**Our Purpose**

*The purpose of our church is to make a difference by serving others through God's love and our faith.*

Did you know that February 11th is "National Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk Day?"

Well it is, I am not even making that up, and I think it is fantastic. It is probably a very well known idiom, but in case you did not know; it means that it is pointless to be upset about something that has already happened and cannot be changed. It is that old wisdom reminding us that mistakes happen, and we should just move on, without dwelling on the past. I think this is wonderful advice, and in my opinion, very Biblical. The past is not something we should forget, but it is something we need to move on from. When we dwell in the past, we forget to live in the present, and move to the future. So much of what has happened, is unchangeable. Our past is our past, and all we can do is learn to move forward. Our scars, mistakes, whoopsies, all make us who we are, for better or for worse. We can learn how to use those past mistakes as a learning tool for future interactions or we can dwell on them and allow them to be barriers to living today. Jesus died on the cross so that our sins, our past, no longer hold us back from living today. God has said that we are forgiven, giving us a free path forward to a better life, a future that is worth exploring and moving toward.

When the blinders of resentment are removed, our eyes can see clearly how much more hope and opportunity there is if we just keep moving forward. God does not want us to stand still, or try to go backwards. God wants us to keep moving forward, keep doing our best, and keep striving for the future where the difference between earth and heaven are indistinguishable. "Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk", because the future holds so much more for you and for this world, than

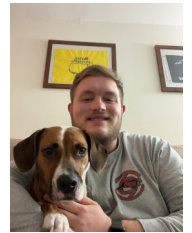
the mistakes of the past. Be blessed and remember, Christ died for you, forgave you, and loves you, forgive yourself, forgive your neighbor, and keep moving forward.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Chad Butz

## **Welcome to the New Children, Youth & Family Ministry Director**

We are pleased to welcome Ethan Lentz to the Staff at Grace as the new Children, Youth & Family Ministry Director. His first day at Grace is January 26 and he will be at worship as well as the Annual Budget Congregational Meeting that day. There will also be a Meet & Greet for him on Sunday, February 2 at 10:25am.



Hello everyone! I am so excited to get to meet and know each and every one of you! A little about me, I grew up in the area and graduated from Central Dauphin High School. Growing up I attended many of the youth events we still host today such as Alive, Winterfest, Confirmation Camp, and Leadership Training Camp or LT Camp. I am an alumni of Penn State University and am a huge Nittany Lion's fan. We Are!!! Through my time in college and to recent I was an advisor at my childhood youth group Palm Lutheran Church or PYG. My passions include Youth and Family Ministry, golf, missions work, fishing, and playing with my dog Kaia. I feel so grateful for this opportunity, youth ministry was an integral part of my youth and growth into the adult I am today; and I cannot wait to see how the spirit will move in this community too.

Ethan

## ***Steward healthy relationships***

There's no escaping love in February, is there? Everywhere – valentines, red roses, heart-shaped boxes of chocolates and other sweets for the ones we love.

This is all good and right, because ever since God declared that it is not good for a person to be alone (Genesis 2:18), people have found comfort, excitement, safety, companionship, joy, contentment and fulfillment in the company of others.

That's why February is perfect for celebrating healthy, loving relationships of all sorts. Good stewards care for every gift God gives us – healthy, loving relationships especially. And because Jesus commanded us to love our neighbors and our enemies alike, we do well to work on relationships beyond our immediate circles.

Suggestions:

**Couples:** Give flowers and chocolate, sure, but also spend quality time with one another. Talk deeply and listen intently. Pray and read scripture together. Hold hands during worship. Talk often and listen deeply. Read Gary Chapman's "The 5 Love Languages" to improve your relationship.

**Families:** Rejoice in the love that holds you together – parents, grandparents, children, siblings, cousins -- everybody. Organize Sunday family dinners. Say, "I love you." Talk through problems and work together.

**Friends:** Enjoy time with buddies, but also cultivate deeper and more spiritual friendships. Share problems and successes. Grow together in faith.

**Church neighbors:** Send friendship valentines to everybody in church. As a congregation designate "love your neighbor" Sunday at which you have a potluck. And/or movie night or game night.

**Community neighbors:** Send a valentine and a piece of candy to immediate neighbors or everybody in your address book to let them know that friendships and neighbors are important. Start – or revive – block parties, community cleanup days, yard sales or fellowship gatherings.

God gives us relationships of all kinds so that we can have companionship, friendship, security and joy. As stewards of all that God gives us, we can nourish and celebrate healthy, strong relationships.

--Rev. Rob Blezard

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[Click here](#) for a complete and up-to-date bio for Pastor Blezard.



***Join us for Worship!***

**Saturdays at 5:00PM**

**Sundays at 9:30AM**

**or Sundays**

**[via Live Stream](#)**

**You can also find the service posted on Grace's [YouTube](#) page on Mondays.**

***Faith Formation***

**Twice a month on Sunday**

**at 10:45am**

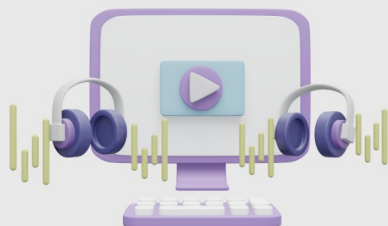
**September to May**

**Watch worship on YouTube**

Sunday Worship Services available on YouTube at Grace Camp Hill.

<https://www.youtube.com/@GraceCampHill>

They are currently being posted on Mondays.



**Grace's Senior Helpers**

Grace's Senior Helpers are here to get you where you need to go. Contact the church office Monday - Thursday from 8am - 12noon by phone 717-737-0439 or by email [office@gracecamphill.org](mailto:office@gracecamphill.org) for a list of members who are available to drive you.

If you wish to become a Senior Helper contact the church office.

**This Month at Grace...**

The Sanctuary Lamp Sponsorship for **February** is given by Jan Utter to honor her church family.

The Special Benevolence Offering for **February is BSA Troop 54 on February 2 and the Harrisburg Food Pantry the rest of the month.**

To contribute please list the dollar amount next to *Special Offering Ministry* and write your choice under comments.

**2025 Sponsorship Opportunities**

**Changes to Altar Flower Sponsorships**

Starting January 1, 2025 fresh flowers will only be purchased for the Altar if that Sunday is sponsored. You can sign up to sponsor any Sunday throughout the year on the bulletin board by the elevator or by contacting Diane in the church office.

All Altar Flower sponsorship request **must** be received two weeks prior to the date you wish to sponsor.

Altar flowers will remain at \$45, Bulletin & Mailing sponsorships remain at \$30 and the Sanctuary Lamp sponsorships remain at \$21. All sponsorship can be paid for online, by mail, or dropping an envelope in the offering at a worship service.

**[CLICK HERE](#)** to see available dates for 2025. If you are interested in sponsoring one of these weeks you can either sign up on the bulletin board across from the elevator or contact Diane in the church office at 717-737-0439 x15 or [ddeppen@gracecamphill.org](mailto:ddeppen@gracecamphill.org).





### **Prayer List Additions**

Everyone appreciates prayer but not everyone wishes to be added to the “out loud” prayers. If you are aware of a member of Grace who could benefit from being added to the prayers, please let the pastor know. He will contact the individual to find out whether they wish to be added to the “out loud” prayers, ongoing prayers or prayed for “quietly” by the Community Prayer Group.

### ***We hold in prayer especially this week...***

Susan Atwood, Eva, Scott & Manix, Carol Bartoski, Stacey Wilkinson, Bruce Hafer, Tammy Blauvelt, The Runkle Family, Dean Jury, Austin Snavely (Active Military) and the friends & family of Sandy Yetter.

### ***We hold in ongoing prayer...***

N. Harris, Jessica Ambrose, Tracey Alfano-Douty, Shannon, Sabita & Vinita Aidipatti, Nancy Whitcomb, Rebecca Westenberger, Pete Psychogis, Deb Overly, Beverly Earhart, Sheri Snyder, Kevin Wright, Paul & Linda Glance, and Kay King.

### ***We also hold our homebound in prayer:***

Betty Bennett, Gladys Cline, Joan Harman, Frank Hills, Howard Lauver, Lou Lore, Patti Reed, Bob Rhodes, Mary Louise Shetter, and Dorothy Shreffler.

### **Praying for our Homebound Members**

The pastoral staff wishes to lift up this special group of members on a regular basis during the prayers. Each week, a group of homebound members will be included in the out loud prayers.

### ***Prayer List Policy***

*...sometimes we forget to tell others that someone has healed...*

Let's be good stewards of our prayer list. If someone has healed, or if someone has moved on to eternal life, please let the church office know. Names will automatically be moved to the ongoing prayers after a month on the weekly prayers, which are read out loud during worship. They will then be removed from the ongoing prayers after another month unless you let us know to keep praying.

### **For Pastoral Assistance or At Home Communion**

Please contact Pastor Chad (717-737-0439 x10 or [pastorchad@gracecamphill.org](mailto:pastorchad@gracecamphill.org)). If you have a pastoral emergency outside of normal working hours you can contact Pastor Chad on his mobile phone at 610-297-2514. A pastoral emergency would be a death, or life threatening circumstances.

**“Pray, and let God worry.”  
— Martin Luther**



## Faith Formation Children & Youth

*September - May*

*Sundays 10:45 - 11:30am*

Our Faith Formation program for Children & Youth is held Sundays September - May after worship at 10:45am. Classes will be provided for K, 1st & 2nd grades, JYG (3rd - 5th grades) and a combined middle school & high school class. Faith Formation explores topics related to major bible stories. We always read the scripture and do a hands on craft or activity.

Sunday, February 2	<i>No Faith Formation by age group</i>
Sunday, February 9	Faith Formation by age group
Sunday, February 23	Faith Formation by age group

To see the complete Winter/Spring 2025 schedule [HERE](#) or on the website under the Children/Youth Tab.

## Confirmation Class

Confirmation is a two year program. Confirmands may join at any point of the year, but we will ask that each confirmand complete two complete years of education. Confirmands will meet with a clergy member or spiritual leader at least once a month. Confirmation Camp is heavily encouraged, but not required. Confirmation is open to those entering 7th or 8th grade. Any questions contact Pastor Chad at [pastorchad@gracecamphill.org](mailto:pastorchad@gracecamphill.org).

Sunday, February 15	Confirmation at Trinity Lemoyne
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## Faith Formation for Adults

Meets approximately twice a month on Sunday mornings in the Conference Room. The study uses the book "Seculosity" by David Zahl. It discusses how Career, Parenting, Technology, Food, Politics and Romance became our new religion, and what to do about it.

Sunday, February 2	<i>No Faith Formation</i>
Sunday, February 9	Faith Formation
Sunday, February 23	Faith Formation

## Tuesday Bible Study

Bible Study resumes on **Tuesday, January 7th**. Every Tuesday at 1pm in the Library. The study will be Biblical Exegesis based on groups chosen text.

## Pub Theology

Pub Theology start date was delayed a month! The first meeting will be **at Grace, Tuesday, February 18 at 6:30pm in the Social Hall**.

Pub Theology will meet once a month to discuss theology and various topics around faith and life. If you would like to be kept in the loop of topics and locations, please inform Pastor Chad and provide him your email address.



## Grace Youth Group (GYG)

### What is Grace Youth Group?

Grace Youth Group is a place where relationships are relished by fellowship, service, worship and prayer. It is a place where youth can be themselves and be not only accepted but challenged to grow in what God is calling them to do. In this loving environment, youth will grow towards seeing Christ in one another and discerning His place in their daily lives.

The Grace Youth Group (GYG) and Junior Youth Group (JYG) will have an abridged schedule. They will be meeting once a month at their normal sessions on the dates listed below. For more information please contact Pastor Chad at [pastorchad@gracecamphill.org](mailto:pastorchad@gracecamphill.org).

DATE	EVENT
February 2	10:45am Ethan Lentz Meet & Greet NO JYG
February 23	4:45pm GYG
March 2	10:45am JYG
March 30	4:45pm GYG

### Boy Scout Sunday - February 2 with Boy Scout Troop #54 & Cub Scout Pack # 54

We are very grateful to Grace Lutheran Church for its continued sponsorship and support since 1947. We meet every Monday evening from 7:00 – 8:30 in the Social Hall.

We are excited to announce the reintroduction of our Cub Scout pack this year. We welcome any interested families to visit one of our upcoming meetings. Additional information will be available in the library on February 2.

The Troop has awarded 78 Eagle Scout ranks during its existence.

Troop and Pack 54 have been active in numerous community service projects during the past year, including improvement projects for Lower Allen Township, Mount Olivet Cemetery, and Lemoyne Fire Company. Our contribution to the annual Scouting for Food drive collected over 2,300 lbs. of food for the needy. The Troop competed in the annual district Klondike Derby competition, and went on a variety of camping trips, including a bicycling trip in the Lehigh Valley, canoeing trip on the Juniata River, and week-long summer camp at Hidden Valley Scout camp. The Scoutmaster is David Nelson and the Cubmaster is Frank Cavataio.



*From the Church Council*



### Council Actions January 2024

1. Council approved the installation of the new Treasurer, Kelly Walker.
2. Council approved the installation of new parking lot lights.
3. Council approved the continued use of Grace Church as an Emergency Shelter for Family Promise.
4. Council approved a 3% raise for Grace staff.
5. Council approved the 2024 Budget as presented by the treasurer.
6. The 2025 Budget will be presented to the Congregation at the Congregational Meeting on January 26, 2025.

#### FROM THE TREASURER



Members and Friends of Grace,

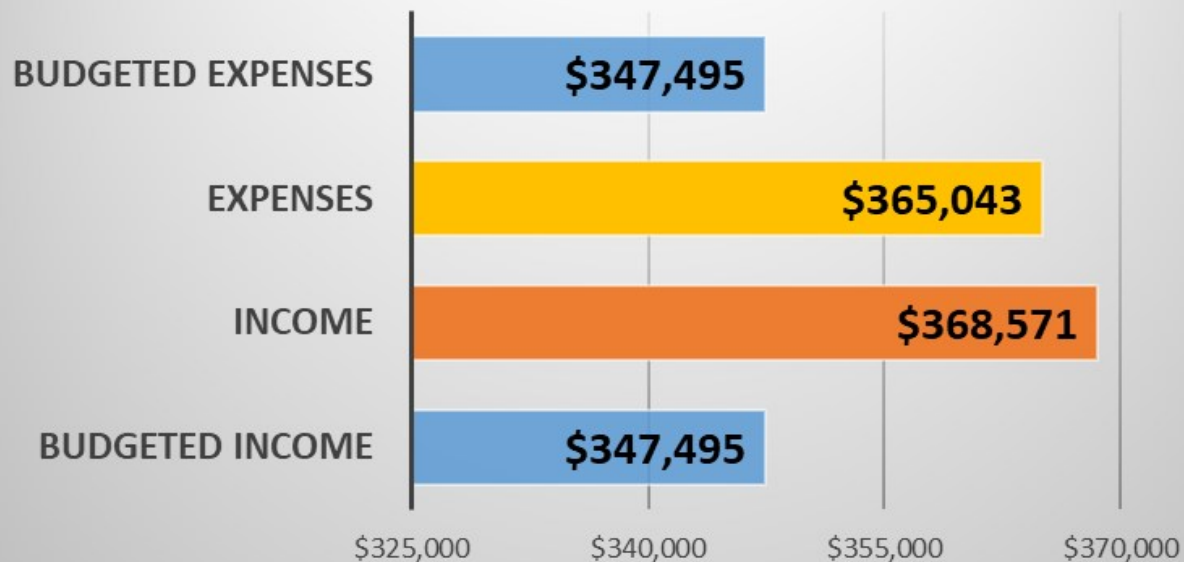
2024 was full of surprises but we finished the year in good standing. Our ability to meet challenges comes entirely from you. It is awesome to see the support we show for each other.

Thank you to everyone who made a Stewardship pledge. It helps the Council plan for next year and is much appreciated.

After five years as Treasurer, I am turning over the responsibility to Kelly Walker. I have been honored with your faith, trust, and support these 5 years and I look forward to us offering the same support to Kelly.

Susan Dickinson  
Treasurer

### Grace Lutheran Church thru December 2024





## Thank you for Your Pledges

Thank you! Thank You!

The Finance & Stewardship Ministry thank those of you who have made pledges to our 2025 Stewardship Campaign. To date we have received 82 pledges totaling \$227,199.00. While we have yet to reach our stretch goal of 100 pledges, we did exceed our 2024 pledge total. Again, we thank you.

The Finance & Stewardship Ministry will celebrate our congregation's accomplishments on February 8 at the Sabbath Service and February 9 at the Sunday Coffee Hour.

For those of you who have yet to pledge, it's never too late to submit your pledge form to the church. Extra blank forms are on the Resource Table in the church library, in Barclay Chapels narthex, in the kiosk inside the front doors in the main sanctuary narthex or you can request one be sent to you from by calling the church office at 717-737-0439.

Bill Robison  
Chair

Grace Tech Ministries



The committee's responsibility is to continuously evaluate technology within the church. Since this is a large endeavor and requires more people than just the committee, any comments, suggestions, or thoughts are welcome from the congregation.

Please consider financially supporting the tech improvements by contributing to "Grace Tech Ministry" online, by mail, or dropping in the offering at a worship service. You can also provide suggestions or feedback to Bryan Weber at

[bweber98@hotmail.com](mailto:bweber98@hotmail.com).

## Paper Grocery Bags



Grace can now recycle paper with our weekly trash; however we are in need of brown paper bags (with or without handles) for the paper for recycling. If you have extra bags laying around and wish to donate them to the office please place in the black cart next to the mailing center outside the interior office door. Thank you!

## Lost & Found



Don't forget to check the Lost & Found tub & coat rack in the

Library if you are missing items. **Grace will** hold the items for one month. If they are not claimed by then the items will be donated. Unable to stop in then call the office (717-737-0439) and we'll look for you.





# Braver Angels Debate

**Saturday, February 8  
9am - 12 noon**

Grace Lutheran Church  
1610 Carlisle Road  
Camp Hill, PA 17011

Each presenter will give his comments on the topic: *The government's role when addressing solutions for Climate Control is to protect the climate without intruding upon an individual citizen's freedom.*

In this type of debate there will be a chair and two presenters who address their comments to the chair and do not personally challenge the opposing side. After addressing the questions the presenters will then answer 2-3 audience questions. This event is FREE.

Registration is requested, but not required. To register you can email Rick Keen at [rkeen24@aol.com](mailto:rkeen24@aol.com) or call the church office at 717-737-0439.



## Let's Celebrate Monumental Birthdays!

**Nancy Whitcomb** turns **93 years old** on **February 8**. Please take a moment to wish her a happy birthday with a telephone call or mail a card to:

Nancy Whitcomb  
335 Wesley Drive  
Apt. 403  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

*Let her know you are thinking of her on this very special occasions.*

2/1 Emily Hartman (Kris)  
2/2 James Hoover  
Star Peiffer  
2/3 Thomas Boyer (Gloria)  
David Hawkins  
2/8 Nancy Whitcomb  
Molly Youse  
2/9 Leah Allewelt  
Melinda Bechtel  
2/11 Landon Flook  
2/12 Judy Zeiders  
2/13 Youbo Woodrow  
2/18 Jarryd Erb

2/19 Beverly Lerew  
2/20 Noel Caron  
2/22 Samuel Hartman  
2/24 Lori Greenly-Small  
Jeff Painter  
2/25 Sarah Erb  
Lauren Weber  
2/26 Mary Banaszewski  
Dylan Moser  
Aaron Shenck

## The Community Meal at Grace



2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month

The Community Meal  
2nd & 4th Wednesday each month from  
5:30 - 6:30pm in the Social Hall.

**February 12 & 26**

More information at <https://www.gracecamphill.org/service>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Carlisle's Ice Art Fest 2025**

**January 31 - February 2 | Hanover, High & Pomfret Streets in Carlisle**

There will be over 100 ice sculptures in Downtown Carlisle! The 9th annual Ice Art Fest will begin at 4pm on Friday, January 31st. There will be two live ice carving demonstrations on Saturday at 11am and 1pm. Horse & Carriage rides by Benchfield Farms will be available as well. Reservations are recommended but not required. To reserve your date and time contact Traci at 717-448-8464. The hours for Ice Art Fest are Friday 4 - 9pm, Saturday 9am - 9pm and Sunday 10am - 3pm.

### **Trinity Concert Series - Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestra**

**Monday, Feb. 10 | 7:30pm | Trinity Lutheran Church (2000 Chestnut St., Camp Hill)**

The future of beautiful and inspired music lies with wonderful young people like those in the Harrisburg Symphony Youth Orchestra. Come and support them in this FREE Concert.

### **Music at the Spring - Millersville University Jazz Ensemble**

**Sunday, Feb. 16 | 3:00pm | Trindle Springs Lutheran Church (14 State Rd. Mech)**

Don't miss a great afternoon of music consisting of contemporary fusion, classical jazz and jazz standards performed by the exemplary Millersburg University Jazz ensemble!

Doors will open at 2:30pm. All concerts are free and open to the public, although a free will offering is taken. If you have any questions, please email [concerts@trindlespringlutheran.org](mailto:concerts@trindlespringlutheran.org)

### **Youth Food Cards**

Karns, Weis and Giant grocery cards in the dollar amounts of \$25, \$50, and \$100 are available at the church office Monday - Thursday from 8am - 12noon.

If paying with cash please have exact change. Checks should be made to GELC.

### **Grace's Inclement Weather Policy**

In the event of inclement weather regarding weekend services and special events, staff will post closings or delayed openings on the church phone 717-737-0439x14, on the website, Facebook and via eblast and most will, also, appear on CBS 21 and ABC 27 as well. Please note that during the week the office will follow the West Shore School Districts delays and closings.

**Good News from Grace** articles are due by **12 noon on the 15th of the month** for the next month's newsletter. Grace Notes information is due by **12 noon on Tuesdays**.

Email to [ddeppen@gracecamphill.org](mailto:ddeppen@gracecamphill.org)

## **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

1610 Carlisle Road  
Camp Hill, PA 17011

717-737-0439  
[office@gracecamphill.org](mailto:office@gracecamphill.org)

Visit us on Facebook at [Grace Lutheran Church](https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranChurch) or on the web at: [www.gracecamphill.org](http://www.gracecamphill.org)

Check out our YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/@GraceCampHill>