

# Good News from Grace

June 2025

# Our Purpose

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

"And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." <sup>20</sup> Immediately they left their nets and followed him." -Matthew 4:19

What does it mean to be a Christian? Is it about perfection? Is it about justice? Is it about obedience? Is it about love? If you ask the right person, I am sure that someone will say 'yes' with one or all of these questions. But what does it truly mean to be a Christian? In the early church, this was a very big question. Do you have to be Jewish to be Christian? Many thought yes, and many thought no. So who is right? Well, we know who won the argument, but are we sure that we know who was right? What does it mean to be a Christian? Many people would say that it is all about a personal relationship with Jesus, that is what makes one a Christian. There are issues with this however, because many people confuse personal with private. We are not meant to live out our faith in just our own individual hearts. We are called by Christ, to be in community. So there is more to being a Christian than just our personal faith. Many people would say being a Christian is about social justice. It is about righting the wrongs of the world and forcing God's kingdom on earth. However, Jesus never forced anything on anyone. Jesus also did not heal every human, fix every social injustice or take control of oppressive Rome. Jesus fought for justice and spoke truth to power, but it was not his only mission. What does it mean to be a Christian? Is it about removing sin and working toward perfection? This one sounds great until we break it down. What does perfection look like? Is it following the Torah and the old testament Law perfectly? Is it loving people perfectly? Is that even something that we can do? And at what point

in this pursuit do we stop needing God? If we can save ourselves, than what was the point of Christ? What does it mean to be a Christian? I do not know if there is a perfect answer to this question. But for me, to be a Christian, is not about an individual pursuit of being perfect, or fixing the world, or having the strongest personal faith. To me, being a Christian is about a community that does their best to work toward living lives that Jesus calls us into as a community. For me, Christianity doesn't work on an individual basis. Christianity, being a Christian, is less about having perfect faith or individual perfection, and more about sharing in this call to fish for people. To bring people into the fold of following the life and work of salvation our Lord Jesus provides to us. It is more about the journey of growing collectively as a Christ centered group, than reaching a self defined goal of perfection or individual enlightenment. We fight for justice, because Christ calls us to love our neighbor. We seek obedience of Christ, following his message of love and salvation, not as a means of control, but of freedom. We see the perfection of God, not so that we can become that, but that so we know that the one who is perfect, is capable of loving us in our imperfection. Making the love of the imperfect, perfect. We love, because God first loved. So what does it mean to be a Christian? Well I am not sure that I gave a great answer, or an answer at all. But we can be certain, that to be a Christian means to say yes to a journey. A collective journey that leads to the only thing that truly matters in this world, Christ Jesus, our Savior and our God.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Chad Butz

# Rooted in Christ, Growing in Stewardship

The heartland is now awash in various hues of green. The doldrums of winter give way to the colors of spring. Now, the promise of spring gives way to the growth of summer. Fields are planted and sprouted. Gardens are planted. Flowers adorn the beds of neighborhood homes and roadside ditches. Green is the shade of life!

Green growth is also the hue of the faithful steward. The seed of faith planted in human hearts in the waters of Holy Baptism grows as it is nurtured in the Word proclaimed and ingested in the Holy Supper. This faith does indeed save. But our stewardship of the Gospel is also designed to bear fruit for God's glory and the benefit of our neighbor.

To consider this, let us look at the hymn, "Fruitful Trees, the Spirits Sowing" (*LSB* 691). It is very much a stewardship hymn!

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing, May we ripen and increase, Fruit to life eternal growing, rich in love and joy and peace.

- The tree of faith is not planted in us by us. It is the Spirit's work! We do not claim the title "steward." Rather, we are created for it (Gen. 1:26–28).
- He is the One who makes it grow in us. The fruits of the Spirit are borne out because we, by grace through faith, are connected to the vine that is Jesus (John 15).

Laden branches freely bearing Gifts the Giver loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by sharing, Patience, kindness, gentleness.

- Our stewardship is NOT about what we do. It is about what the Holy Spirit does in and through us. That is the fruit that we bear. His fruit for His purposes.
- But that fruit is lived out through us. The world sees the fruit of our stewardship of the Gospel in lives lived connected to Word and Sacrament.

Rooted deep in Christ our Master, Christ our pattern and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly faster, Goodness, faith, and self-control.

- Stewards have been created and redeemed to reflect the image of Jesus in the world. He is the pattern. We reflect to others around us the Light of the Gospel He has shone on us.
- This reflection comes when Christ's goodness flows from us to others.

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's tending, May we grow till harvests cease; Till we taste, in life unending, Heaven's love and joy and peace.

- Just as the Spirit has created us for stewardship of the Gospel, so also does He cause our faithfulness! He calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies and KEEPS us in this faithful stewardship of the Gospel.
- The ultimate goal of our faithful stewardship is eternity. For us. For our neighbor. All worked out by the Spirit.

Green is the color of the world right now. It is also the color of our stewardship and it is growing in us as we are connected to the vine, Jesus! God grant our growth in Him!

<u>The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod</u> LCMS Stewardship Ministry – <u>lcms.org/stewardship</u> 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 <u>YouTube</u> page after Sunday worship.

Faith Formation
Twice a month on Sunday at
10:45am
September to May



Join us as we celebrate our graduates during the Outdoor Worship Service. Then stick around after worship for Outdoor Games, a Cornhole Tournament and Potluck meal.

Please only bring Sides. Burgers will be provided.



#### This Month at Grace...

The Sanctuary Lamp Sponsorship for **June** is given by Judy & Richard Zeiders in honor of their 30th Wedding Anniversary.

The Special Benevolence Offering for **June is Lutheran Camping Corporation.** 

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

# 2025 Sponsorship Opportunities

Fresh Altar flowers will only be purchased if a 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 requests **must** be received two weeks prior to the date you wish to sponsor.

Altar flowers sponsorships are \$45, Bulletin & Mailing sponsorships are \$30 and the Sanctuary Lamp sponsorships are \$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 <a href="mailto:ddeppen@gracecamphill.org">ddeppen@gracecamphill.org</a>.

# **COFFEE** Coffee Hour on Hiatus



Coffee Hour is on Hiatus from June - August. We will resume having Coffee Hour in September 2025.

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If you and/or your family would be interested in hosting a coffee hour please contact the church office by July 31, 2025. The fall

schedule will be sent out the beginning of August.

PRAYERS Page 4



#### 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.

# We hold in prayer especially this week...

Marti Bert, Patti Reed, Josie Knoll, Judi Fenicle, Helen Titzel, Jessica Ambrose, Dave Rowland, Nancy, Alice M., Mark Weber, Bruce Hafer, Dean Jury, the friends & family of Jennifer Runkle, the friends & family of Rick Behr, the friends & family of Carl Fritz and the friends & family of Lee Fenicle.

# We hold in ongoing prayer...

Tammy Blauvelt, Toby Hershey, Dale Wintermyer, Susan Atwood, Pete Psichogis, Paul & Linda Glance, and Kay King.

# We also hold our homebound in prayer:

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

#### **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.

# 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 <u>pastorchad@gracecamphill.org</u>). 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.

When you are in the dark, listen, and God will give you a very precious message.

-Oswald Chambers

#### Faith Formation Children & Youth - September - May

Our Faith Formation program for Children & Youth is on hiatus for the summer and will resume in September 2025. Watch the Good News from Grace Newsletter and Grace Notes in late summer for the updated schedule.

# ADULT FAITH FORMATION Faith Formation for Adults

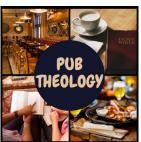


Sundays 10:45 Small Conference Room

Steve Behr is holding a weekly Faith Formation for Adults on in the small conference room.

They are discussing the gospel of Mark. It is the first known gospel written about AD 55 maybe in Israel. It has no Christmas stories, no shepherds and sheep, and no appearance of Jesus after his burial only the empty tomb. Lots to talk about and puzzle over.

It is not written in western newspaper style, so we have to read it in middle eastern style. That is hard for modern folks. Come and have your mind opened to how folks might have heard the good news in 55 AD.



# **Pub Theology:**

There are currently two groups for Pub Theology.

Group 1

June 2 at 6:30pm

Location: Wolf Brewing Co. (100 Legacy Park Drive, Suite 400,

Mechanicsburg)

Group 2

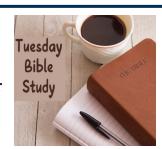
June 17 at 6:30pm Location: TBD

For more information regarding Pub Theology please reach out to Pastor Chad at pastorchad@gracecamphill.org.

# **Tuesday Bible Study**

Bible Study will be on hiatus for the Summer.

Bible Study will resume in September 2025 after Rally Day. Look for more information in the September Good News from Grace newsletter and Grace Notes for the date & topic of the first meeting for the Fall.





## Wine & Cheese Night Saturday, June 14 | 4:30pm | Library at Grace

Join us in the Library at 4:30pm for Wine & Cheese prior to the 5:00pm Sabbath Worship service. If you wish to sponsor a Wine & Cheese night in July, August or September sign up in the Library outside the Barkley Chapel entrance.

COUNCIL NOTES

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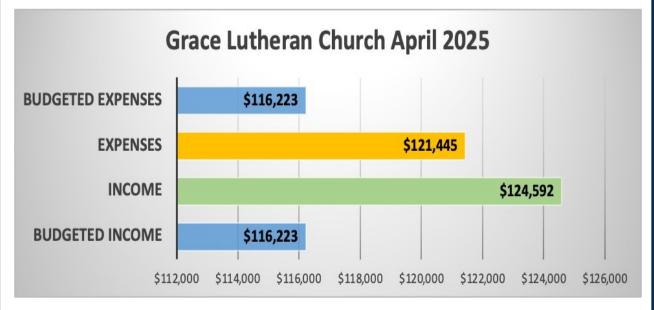
From the Church Council

#### **Newsletter Council Actions May 2025**



- 1. Motions by E-Vote, both motions were APPROVED
- 2. Set the date for the Congregational Meeting June 29, 2025.
- 3. Withdraw \$1000 from Council Endowment for the Pastor's Benevolence Fund.
- 4. The Giving Pantry will now be managed by Grace Church and will be named "Grace Giving Pantry".
- 5. Rental Property update: The tenant's lease is ended as of 7/31/25
- 6. Council approved the Tech Upgrade at about \$45,000. Will be presented to the Congregation for a decision in June.
- 7. Library Refresh Planning is ongoing. We will start with painting and carpeting. Volunteers are welcome!
- 8. Office AC will be replaced with window units, rather than replacing the system.







Dear Grace Lutheran Church Family,

We are filled with gratitude for the outpouring of love and support you've shown us during this special time in our lives. Thank you so much for the beautiful baby shower, the generous gifts, and monetary donations you gave in celebration of baby Hartman. Each thoughtful

present and kind word has meant so much to us as

we prepare to welcome our little one into the world.

We feel truly blessed to be part of such a caring and faith-filled community. We appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we navigate this pregnancy journey. Thank you to Carolyn Houck, Bonnie Barton and Karen Jury for covering Sabbath services, and thank you to Carolyn Houck and Bonnie Barton for filling in on Sunday mornings as substitute organists while Emily has been on bed rest.

Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity have touched our hearts deeply, and we look forward to raising baby Hartman surrounded by your love and guidance.

Olivia Rose Hartman made her debut on Monday, May 12 at 7:56am weighing 6lbs, 11oz and 19 inches long!

With heartfelt thanks,

Kristopher & Emily Hartman





Pastor Chad and the people of Grace,

Your cards, calls, emails, and especially prayers have uplifted us following the death of our son, Scott, in March, and we are deeply grateful.

Keith & Linda Lippert

### 2025 GRADUATES

# **Grace's 2025 Graduates**

Join us in celebrating those members of Grace that have graduated this year on a job well done and wish them blessings as they start their next adventure. Graduation Sunday is June 1st.





#### **Andrew Snavely**

Andrew is graduating from Cedar Cliff High School. He plans to either go to College or a Trade School.

#### Parker Graf

Parker is graduating from Cedar Cliff High School. He plans to attend Juniata College to study natural sciences.





#### Addie Weber

Addie is graduating from Red Land High School. She plans to attend Shippensburg University to major in Environmental Biology.

#### <u>Megan Goetz</u>

Megan is graduating from PA Leadership Charter School. She will be attending Harrisburg University for Esports Management, Production and Performance.

#### <u>Arianna Heidingsfelder</u>

Arianna is graduating from York College of PA with a bachelor degree in Forensic Chemistry with a math minor. She'll be headed to graduate school at Towson University in the fall.





#### Jocelyn Little

Jocelyn is graduating from Gettysburg College and is looking for a job in the environmental field.

#### Will Youse

Will is graduating from Montclaire State University and plans to pursue a career in Music Therapy while continuing to play in his band, Goldie.



#### Kevin Budzinski

Kevin is graduating from The City College of New York with a major in Economics with a concentration in Finance and a minor in Computer Science. Kevin plans to pursue a career in Data Science.



6/5	David Hurst
6/7	Sean Allewelt Sarah Easton
	Joan Harman
6/9	Scott Barlup Penelope Brosius Debbie McNamara Virginia Myers Richard Storey Addison Weber
6/10	Marti Bert
6/11	<b>Gregory Saggers</b>
6/12	Henry Angus, III
6/14	Isabella Weber Kim Yoffee
6/17	Tracey Alfano-Douty Julia Freimuth Alan Gabel Jocelyn Little Miranda Shiley
6/18	Dean Jury Pamela Rickert Scott Rickert
6/19	Kathryn Vollmer William Youse
6/20	William Blair Darlene Cline
6/22	Jennifer Caron

Janet Utter

# Let's Celebrate Monumental Birthdays!

Joan Harman turns 96 years old on June 7 and Louis Stapf turns 91 years old on June 26. Please take a moment to wish them a happy birthday with a telephone call or mail a card to:

Joan Harman 824 Lisburn Road Room 314 Camp Hill, PA 17011

Louis Stapf 19 Paddock Lane Camp Hill, PA 17011

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

6/23	Richard Keen Chloe Meador Sasha Shenck
6/24	Connie Flook Nolan Stopfel
6/25	Denise Ozimok
6/26	Louis Stapf
6/27	Cooper Miller Madison Snyder
6/29	Mary Bernstein

# **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 Book Club has selected to read "Lumina" by Mary Flinn.

In the summer of 1928, Lumina, known as the "Palace of Light," is only reachable from Wilmington, North Carolina by trolley car or boat, where it occupies the entire southern tip of Wrightsville Beach. The grandest beach pavilion on the East Coast creates the backdrop for this fictional

tale of young people from all walks of life falling in love—not only with each other but with Lumina itself, where everything is magic from eight until midnight on Saturday nights.

LUMINA is a story about change. Change in attitudes in a decadent time—of the flappers, the new jazz, National Prohibition, the invisible black population, and modern conveniences—but it's also a love story.



Lit by over 6,000 lights, Lumina creates a magical backdrop for romance. The story is told in alternating letters from twenty-year-old Kip Meeks and from diary entries of his naïve sister, seventeen-year- old Sylvie, who both unexpectedly meet and fall in love with people at Lumina whom they wouldn't otherwise encounter. For Kip, it's Catherine Carmichael, an heiress with a secret, and for young Sylvie, it's Catherine's older brother, the mysterious Clifton. Kip and Sylvie quickly learn that people aren't always who they appear to be.

Fast forward ninety years to summer 2018. While going through her late mother Sylvie's possessions, Anne Borden Montgomery (known from the pages of Flinn's A Girl Like That) discovers an unpublished manuscript, a novel, compiled from her mother's diary and her uncle's letters. AB shares the story on her own front porch with her eager friends, Mr. May, Elle, and Nate, who take turns reading the story aloud, finding interesting parallels in their own lives while becoming acquainted with "new" old friends.

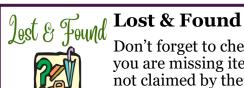
For the Summer, Grace's Book Club will hold their meetings on Tuesdays. So join the book club on TUESDAY, JUNE 10 at 7pm to discuss this book via Zoom. CLICK HERE for login information.



# **Family Promise Host Week**

Grace will host Family Promise families the week of July 6. YOU can help with this week by making a meal, hosting a meal or driving the Family Promise 15-passenger van to and from the Day Center in Camp Hill. During this week Grace has an opportunity to directly impact family homelessness and offer love and hospitality to families during the most stressful time in their lives.

Sign up here Family Promise: July 6-13 Grace Lutheran Church, Camp Hill. Contact Susan Ryder with any questions ryder.susan@comcast.net or 717-574-1960.



Don't forget to check the Lost & Found basket & 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 removed. If you are unable to stop in call the office 717-737-0439. for staff to look for you.



#### **Grace Giving Pantry**

We have some exciting news to share - The Giving Pantry has a new name! We are now Grace Giving Pantry and are proud to become an official part of Grace Lutheran Church. As we step into this new chapter, we want to take a moment to thank Garri Ann Hearn for her incredible dedication and service over the past several years, helping the pantry grow into what it is today. We remain 100% donation-based and will continue to welcome support from our generous congregation. Grace Giving Pantry will be

open every Wednesday from 3-5pm. We are deeply grateful to each and every one of you who continue to support our mission - thank you! Jackie Behney & Susan Ryder



#### **Volunteers Needed at Grace**

Have you been considering finding a way to contribute to Grace's Ministry? Are you someone who is comfortable with technology? Or maybe you are looking for a way to participate, but don't have a lot of evenings free. Maybe, you are a good planner or interested in helping those in need.

There are many ways you can help support the ministries at Grace, but right now we have four ministries that are really in need of some additional volunteers. Please take a moment to pray about servicing with one of these ministries:

#### Senior Helper

Our senior helpers are unsung heroes who are here to get you where you need to go. In the last year our list of people available has dwindled. This is a great way to get involved in a ministry where you set your own schedule. A list of names is kept in the church office to be provided to those who have a need. From there it is up to you whether or not you are able to assist that person on the date needed. If you would like to be added to our Senior Helper list please contact Diane at 717-737-0439 or <a href="mailto:ddeppen@gracecamphill.org">ddeppen@gracecamphill.org</a>.

#### **Grace Giving Pantry**

The Grace Giving Pantry is looking for volunteers to help with the Fruit & Veggie Weekly pickups. Pick-up is Monday mornings at 11:00am at Weis Markets located on Linglestown Road. The produce is then brough to the church and placed in either refrigerator in The Giving Pantry room or the refrigerator downstairs in the kitchen. They are looking for a least a one time per month commitment. If you would like more information or to sign up to participate in this ministry please contact Sudan Ryder at <a href="mailto:ryder.susan@comcast.net">ryder.susan@comcast.net</a>



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

June 11 & 25

More information at <a href="https://www.gracecamphill.org/service">https://www.gracecamphill.org/service</a>



# Fort Hunter Park (5300 N. Front Street) Fridays June - August 2025

The 12-week series will highlight local performing arts organizations and a summer movie series. Pack a picnic basket (or purchase from our food concessions), bring your blankets and lawn chairs, and enjoy an evening of family fun!

These events are FREE for everyone to attend, thanks to the support of our sponsors. On movie nights, The Friends of Fort Hunter will sell popcorn, candy and beverages to benefit Fort Hunter Park. On performance nights we will have a dessert/snack food truck, which will vary be event.

#### Friday, June 6 at 7pm \*

Dwennimmen African American Dance Community presents "Roots in Rhythm, Strength in Movement"

Food Trucks: 6-8pm

#### Friday, June 13 at 8:30pm \*

Inside Out 2 PG Rated 1 hour, 36 min Movie Snacks: 7pm

#### Friday, June 20 at 7pm \*

The Blues Society of Central Pennsylvania presents "Lowry Blues Band"
Food Trucks: 6-8pm

#### Friday, June 27 at 8:30pm \*

Wicked PG Rated 2 hour, 40 min Movie Snacks: 7pm

\* Note: In the event of inclement weather, we will decide whether to postpone the event on that day around 1pm. Typically, the rain date will be on Sunday of the same weekend. Any updates due to weather can be found on the **Dauphin County Parks & Recreation Facebook** page.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

### Concert on the Lawn: The Maxwell Project June 5 | 7pm | FREE | Fredricksen Library (100 N. 19th Street, Camp Hill)

With a five-piece horn section, three strong lead vocalists, and a driving rhythm section, The Maxwell Project (TMP) is best known for its creative interpretations of 70s and 80s R&B, funk, and soul music as well as standout renditions of Earth, Wind, and Fire classics. Blending "old school" R&B with contemporary dance music, TMP always brings the party to the dance floor (or lawn, in this case).

Come early, bring your lawn chairs and blankets! We will have food trucks and our Teen Advisory Group will be selling popcorn and refreshments or feel free to bring your own. All Concerts are FREE to the public. Concerts are held on the west lawn next to the lower parking lot.

#### **Foundry Day**

June 7 | 9am - 4pm, rain or shine | FREE | Boiling Springs, PA

More than 100 juried craftsmen and artists will showcase their wares along the west side of Children's Lake at the 37th Annual Foundry Day Arts & Craft Festival. At this free event in addition to the 100 juried craftsmen, you will find food concessions along Third Street. You will also enjoy live music while shipping and eating. Please, no pets permitted. For more information go to <a href="mailto:facebook.com/foundrydayboilingsprings">facebook.com/foundrydayboilingsprings</a>

#### **Heritage Days**

June 8 | 12 - 5pm | FREE Admission| Kings Gap Environmental Education Center (500 Kings Gap Road, Carlisle, PA)

Celebrate the Early 1900s at the Historic Cameron-Masland Mansion! There will be fun for the entire family such as Historic Games, Crafts, Scavenger Hunts, Live Music from Shippensburg Swing Band, Ice Cream Making & Tasting, Mansion & Carriage House Tours, Historic Log Sawing and much more! There will also be Food Trucks on Site as well.

"In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explode, and every sunset is different."

- John Steinbeck

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 <a href="mailto:ddeppen@gracecamphill.org">ddeppen@gracecamphill.org</a>

# **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

1610 Carlisle Road Camp Hill, PA 17011 717-737-0439 office@gracecamphill.org

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