

December/
January/February
Winter 2025

Grace Notes



Pastor's Message

The Light We Share: Generosity as an Overflow of Christ's Gift

As we begin to light the Advent candles and we prepare to celebrate the glorious light of Christ's birth, the air is filled with carols, candlelight, and the immense joy of the Incarnation. The Christmas season is the ultimate reminder that God's love is a gift of radical, boundless generosity, given freely and fully to us in the manger.

The miracle of the Christ child is the wellspring of all our giving. Because God first gave us the ultimate gift— God's own self —our own generosity becomes a natural, joyful overflowing of that divine love. This profound truth, central to our Lutheran identity, reminds us that we are called to share the abundance we've received with a world often touched by cold and darkness.. Generosity is not a secondary task; it is how we actively hold up the light of Christ for our neighbor and live out our baptismal promise.

The practice of generosity ensures that we remain open channels for God's grace, moving us beyond mere holiday sentiment to genuine service. We exercise generosity so to practice showing grace to others, to separate ourselves from that which holds us so God may enter our lives more fully. This Christmas season, we invite you to practice this faithful stewardship in tangible ways that directly impact our congregational life and sustain our mission.

Through sustained and thoughtful giving, we strengthen the core of our ministry. When you commit to generous financial support, you are ensuring that we have the resources necessary for our year-round ministries, from heating our building for worship to supporting The Wellness Center. Your year-end gifts, offered as an act of faith, allow our church to stand ready to meet needs—providing warmth, fellowship, and the Gospel message far beyond the Christmas day itself. These gifts also further propel our mission – to worship God, make friends and uplift people.

A second way we practice generosity is through the gift of our presence and skills in service to one another. Being generous means stepping forward to serve our actual neighbors here in the community and each other. Can you assist with Christmas Eve hospitality, ensuring every person who walks through our doors feels the warmth of Christ's welcome? Or perhaps you can offer dedicated help for our Wellness Center, providing a warm, encouraging space for our community during the darkest evenings of the year. Your willingness to give your time transforms the life of our church and brings tangible support to those who need it most, truly fulfilling the call to serve our neighbors.

Let us step into this beautiful season with profound joy. Your continued faithfulness, whether in resources or direct service, makes tangible the love of Christ in our community and ensures our mission thrives. Thank you for being the warm, welcoming heart of our congregation this Christmas.

Karl Dinkelacker turned 100 years old!

On September 25, Karl celebrated this significant milestone. His family of course celebrated him, and he shared his secret to a living long life – drink a lot of scotch! He sends his best to his church family at Grace.





Celebrating Sister Paula

On September 28th, Sister Paula hosted a meet and greet coffee hour immediately following worship. This time of fellowship helped us get to know Sister Paula a bit better and hear her wishes for the Wellness Center

as she was eager to hear ours.

Then again, on October 19th, we celebrated Sister Paula's ordination to the Ministry of Word and Service, thereby making her an official deacon in the ELCA. She was also officially installed to Grace on this day.



The worship service was joyous and celebratory and was attended by so many from across the synod and Sister Paula's life. Sister Dottie Almoney, directing deaconess of The Deaconess Community, preached an inspiring

sermon, and Bishop Bryan Penman presided at communion and the ordination. So many brought well wishes for Grace, The Wellness Center, and all of us, as this call signifies yet another significant faithful path in our ministry together.



First Community Dinner Is a Success



Thanks to a grant from ELCA Domestic Hunger, we hosted our first Community Dinner on October 12th. These grants are intended to fund anything that addresses root causes of hunger, including community building. So, we invited as many folks as we could to engage in meaningful conversation modeled after The People's Supper. That is, we had three prompts for conversation at each table. This month focused on welcome.



Chef Dad's Table provided a delicious taco bar and great hospitality. A good time was had by all. In fact, so many folks have asked when we are doing such a dinner again; they felt connected to people they had just met and recognized the need for such an opportunity to connect and build community. We hosted 55 people in our fellowship hall!



All Saints' Day Goes Full Circle



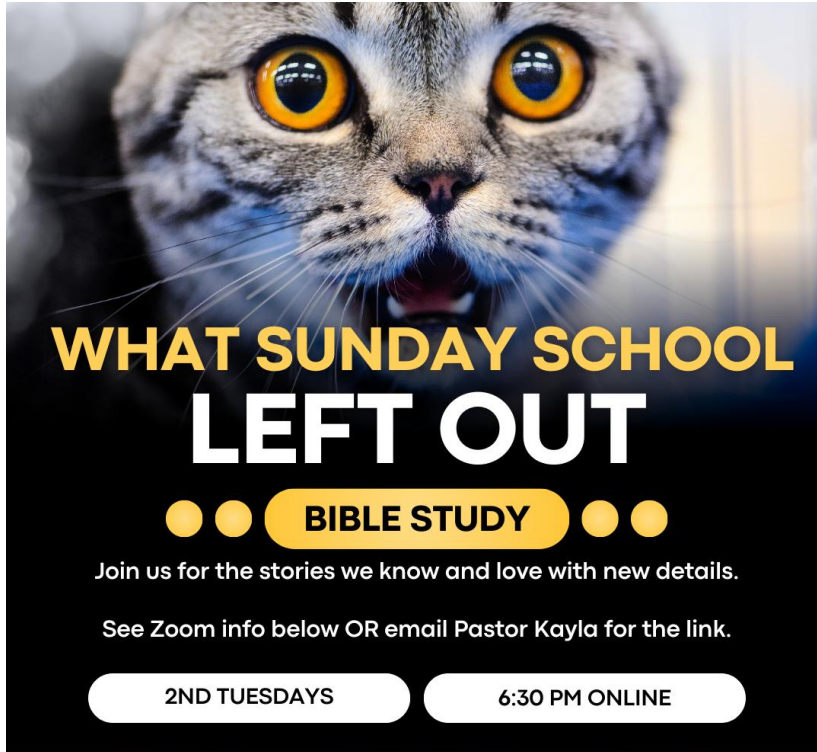
We always celebrate All Saints' Day on the first Sunday in November. We typically light candles and read the names of the saints we want to remember. We celebrate baptism and its fulfillment at death. This year we did all of that. And, this year felt extra special as we celebrated, though.

We were blessed with special music this day from Gabe Feldt. And, youth served in key leadership roles. Maddy helped with communion, and Ben had his debut as co-preacher. To add to the bittersweetness of the day, we welcomed Everett

Francis Morley into the body of Christ through the sacrament of baptism. Everett's parents are Kyle and Danielle (Ehret) Morley.



Mark Your Calendars!




**WHAT SUNDAY SCHOOL
LEFT OUT**

●● **BIBLE STUDY** ●●

Join us for the stories we know and love with new details.
See Zoom info below OR email Pastor Kayla for the link.

2ND TUESDAYS **6:30 PM ONLINE**

 zoom.us/join then enter 610 356 1824 as the meeting number



GRACE
Lutheran Church

PUB THEOLOGY

WHERE CURIOSITY IS ALWAYS ON TAP


**THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
5:30 PM AT THE ALE HOUSE IN
NEWTOWN SQUARE**

You may leave with more questions than answers
and more fellowship than facts.




Be there for each other.

Grief Support Group



2nd and 4th Wednesdays • 6:30 PM • Enter
on Mather Ave • Suggested \$10 donation*



GRACE
Lutheran Church

2191 W. CHESTER PIKE, BROOMALL
GRACEBROOMALL@GMAIL.COM FOR MORE INFO

**No one will be turned away for lack of donation.*



Partnering with Chef Dad's Table To Help Our Neighbors

We will be inviting the community to participate in a Reverse Advent Calendar again this year. You are welcome to participate as well, or team up with someone else in the congregation as the list of items can get long. Follow along to see the items either on social media starting November 30th or in these Wednesday emails.

But! Where we could use the most help? Distribution days! Those few days right before Christmas can be oh so busy, which is exactly why we need the most help then. Can you be at Grace during drop-in hours when folks might come for their items? Sign up with Pastor Kayla.

December 21 - 11 am - 1 pm

December 22 - 10 am - 12 pm

December 22 - 3 pm - 5 pm

December 23 - 10 am - 12 pm
(if needed)

December 23 - 3 pm - 5 pm
(if needed)



December

- 9 – Bible Study online at 6:30 pm
- 10 – Grief group at 6:30 pm
- 14 – Council meeting immediately following worship
- 17 - Pub Theology at 5:30 pm at The Ale House in Newtown Square
- 24 – Christmas Eve with special music at 7 pm and candlelight service at 7:30 pm
- 28 – Service of lessons and carols during worship at 10 am

January

- 4 – Epiphany (observance) 10 am worship
- 11 – Council meeting immediately following worship
- 13 – Bible Study online at 6:30 pm
- 14 – Grief group at 6:30 pm
- 21 – Pub Theology at 5:30 pm at The Ale House in Newtown Square
- 28 – Grief group at 6:30 pm

February

- 8 – Council meeting immediately following worship
- 10 – Bible study online at 6:30 pm
- 11 – Grief group at 6:30 pm
- 18 – Ashes to Go 4:30pm – 5:30pm (weather permitting and
- 18 - Ash Wednesday service - holy communion and with imposition of ashes at 7pm
- 25 – Grief group at 6:30 pm

Upcoming Guest Musicians at Grace

- December - 7 Sendi Vartanovi, violin
- December - 14 Harris Banks, cello
- Christmas Eve - Erik Potteiger, baritone, Sendi Vartanovi, violin, & Harris Banks, cello
- January 4 - Karlis Graufelds, viola
- February 8 - Zandis Graufelds, cello

Prayer Requests

<u>Concerns</u>	<u>Requested by</u>
Lily Walker	Trish Young
Brandon & Bobby Gill	Kevin Hartman
Drew & Christine Kertis	Christine Kertis
Tina McGinley	Jeannette Hunter
Bob Schramm	Keith & Maureen Jones
Bryan Johnson	Trish Young
Kyle Gantz	The Gantz Family
Bob Tschinkel	Keith & Maureen Jones
Jackie Light	
Jim	Butch Wetzel
Rev. Donald Schwarz	Kassandra Benson
Tom	Butch Wetzel
Chris Cimbala	Butch Wetzel
Sue Gavigan	The Young Family
Jerry Kookan	Keith Jones
DB	Linda & Butch Wetzel
Donna Zinni	Bonnie & Mike Young
Ann Sommer	
Eric Taylor	The Young Family
Eric Peoples & Family	Ruth Moyse
Mary Ann Jordan	Sue Gicking
Frances Meehan	The Young Family
Sue	Butch & Linda Wetzel
Patty Roesch	Ruth Moyse
Chris	Butch & Linda Wetzel

We welcome prayer requests for people, places, and concerns. Please be mindful to notify us at a time when that person, place, or concern could be removed from the prayer list. If a prayer concern is private, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Kayla. for confidential support.

Christ In Our Home is now available the next quarter. Pick up a free copy from the table near the West Chester Pike doors for your daily devotionals.

**Important
Dates**

Worship Assistants

	Communion Assistant	Greeter/Usher	Lector	Advent Wreath Lighting
December 7	Kevin Hartman	Jeannette Hunter	Kelsey Hess	Dave Ehret & Keith Jones
December 14	Maddy Nardello	Frank Breson	Christine Kertis	Christine Kertis & Kevin Hartman
December 21	Sue Gicking	Steve Young	Trish Young	Trish Young & Steve Young
December 24	Dave Ehret	Young Family	Mike Young	
December 28	No communion	Butch Wetzel	Kevin Hartman	
January 4	Ruth Moyse	John Lyon	Keith Jones	
January 11	Dave Ehret	Kevin Hartman	Christine Kertis	
January 18	Trish Young	Steve Young	Ruth Moyse	
January 25	Sue Gicking	Mike Young	Kelsey Hess	
February 1	Maddy Nardello	Frank Benson	Dave Ehret	
February 8	Keith Jones	Steve Young	Trish Young	
February 14	John Lyon	Kelsey Hess	Kevin Hartman	
February 18	Jeannette Hunter	Dave Ehret	Mike Young	
February 22	Ruth Moyse	Christine Kertis	Butch Wetzel	

Birthdays and Anniversaries

December

- 12/11 – Christopher Kneizys**
- 12/15 – Brian Young**
- 12/16 – Frank Benson**
- 12/21 – Kassandra Benson**
- 12/23 – Trish & Steve Young**
- 12/27 – Pat Irwin**

January

- 1/2 – Evan Sommer**
- 1/7 – Maddy Nardello**
- 1/25 – Alex Januszewicz**
- 1/28 – Corinne Kneizys**

February

- 2/8 – John Ervin**
- 2/8 – Sue Gicking**
- 2/10 – David Cimbala**
- 2/16 – Deanna Stissi**
- 2/19 – Andrew Young**
- 2/20 – Heidi Rohrer**
- 2/25 – Tami Wylie**

Mission

Worship God. Make Friends. Uplift People.

Worship God.

Worship with us Sundays at 10 am

All are welcome to worship with us every Sunday in person or online. There are no pre-requisites to participating. Check us out at youtube.com/@gracebroomall

Make Friends.

Join us to learn and live in community.

Bible Study, Pub Theology, and more – there's always something happening at Grace! Check out our social media or join our email list to stay in touch.

Uplift People.

Love and serve your neighbors.

We serve our neighbors through an ongoing food and supply collection for our local pantry. We do many other service projects through the year that serve our neighbors and God's creation.



and the Wellness Center
2191 West Chester Pike
Broomall, PA 19008