

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
 The Reverend Janelle L. Kraus, Pastor
 Located at 6th Avenue & Main Street
 594 Church Street - 1st Fl. (Office & Mailing)
 Royersford, PA 19468



Growing Together Through God's Grace

DEADLINE FOR THE
 March 2018 ISSUE
 OF GRACEFUL GREETINGS
 IS Thurs., February 15th

Church Office: 610.948.3684; Fax: 610.948.3304
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday; 8:30am-noon & 12:30-2:30pm

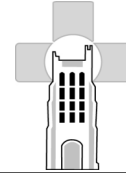
Visit us on the web at www.gracelutheranroyersford.com
 Email: GraceLutrn@verizon.net



**Greetings to Grace Lutheran Church,
 from your Discernment Team!**

We are excited to invite you to share your thoughts on LEADERSHIP here at Grace. We will be holding Congregational Conversations during the first week of February. We have tried to schedule a wide variety of days and times, to allow as many members as possible to attend – PLEASE, join us for one of these conversations! Everyone’s voice is important to us. We want to hear from YOU!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Wednesday, 2/7	9:30 am	All Purpose Room
Thursday, 2/8	7:00 pm	Sanctuary
Thursday, 2/8	7:00 pm	Welcome Center
Sunday, 2/11	9:30 am	Choir Room
Sunday, 2/11	9:30 am	Sanctuary
Sunday, 2/11	9:30 am	Parlor
Sunday, 2/11	12:00 pm	Sanctuary



February 2018 Issue
Graceful Greetings

**Worship Times: Sundays — 8:00 AM Traditional Service
 9:00 Faith Full Families & 10:45 AM Contemporary Service**

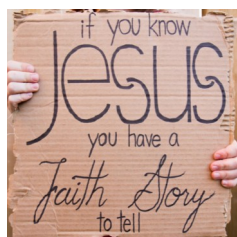
**Congregational Meeting
 Sunday, February 4, 2018
 9:00 Faith-Full Families Service
 10:00 Combined Worship
 Annual Meeting to follow – No Sunday School**



Pastor's Points:

Lent is coming and I invite everyone to use this time to be more attentive to your faith life. This year, instead of focusing on sacrifice and what you're going to "give up", let's try focusing on healing and wholeness. (Ok, honestly, for some of us, that might include giving up unhealthy things!)

Our Lenten theme for Wednesday evening bible study & devotions will be "Healing and Wholeness in Christ" because not a single one of us is without some kind of brokenness in our life. We will study God's plan of wholeness for creation and how our spiritual journey greatly impacts every aspect of our health- physical, emotional, intellectual, and relational. As we journey towards the salvation of the cross, let's also journey towards the wholeness we are given in Christ Jesus. Join us, starting Wednesday, February 21, for 5 evenings of discussion, learning, and maybe even practicing some spiritual practices that are good for our health!



Faith Stories - Here, we can share stories of faith & God working in our lives! What has your faith journey looked like? How has your relationship with God made a difference? Who is God to you? Please send your story of how God is working in your life to anchoredinhope@aol.com

WORD SEARCH

C H A L L E N G E S F N
R H E R M U N R E H O E
I F U E Y A E A R A U L
E Y A R M E D C U R M I
U S M I C X E E H E X F
V N L T T H Y U Q Y R E
J E S U S H E F F P F B
S C R I P T U R E I R E
L G H O L Y S P I R I T
H O P E U O P R A Y E R
A D V C D U A V W I I L
R N P E V R D S T O R Y

FIND THESE WORDS

Hope	Love
Holy Spirit	Challenges
Life	Prayer
Scripture	Church
God	Jesus
Grace	
Share	Your Faith Story

FEBRUARY 2018 WORSHIP SERVICES & SPECIAL EVENTS



Sat., Feb. 3—Prayer Vigil, 10AM-4PM: Sanctuary

Sun., Feb. 4—Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

9:00 Faithfull Families

One Service at 10:00AM; Congregational Meeting to Follow

Tues., Feb. 6—Church Council Reports Due

Wed., Feb. 7, 9:30AM Congregational Meeting: All Purpose Room

Thurs., Feb. 8—Grace Lutheran at Project Outreach

7-8PM Congregational Meetings: Welcome Center & Sanctuary

Sun., Feb. 11—Transfiguration Sunday

8:00am Traditional Worship & 10:45am Contemporary Worship

9:00 Faithfull Families

9:00AM Congregational Meetings:

Sanctuary, Parlor & Choir Room

9:15 Grace Place & 9:30am Adult Sunday School

Noon Congregational Meetings: Sanctuary & Parlor

Tues., Feb. 13—7:00PM—Council Meeting: Parlor

Wed., Feb. 14—Ash Wed./Valentine's Day

Noon & 7PM—Ash Wednesday Services

Sun., Feb. 18—First Sunday of Lent/Baptism Sunday

8:00am Traditional Worship & 10:45am Contemporary Worship

9:00 Faithfull Families

9:15 Grace Place & 9:30am Adult Sunday School

Wed., Feb. 21—6:30PM Lenten Dinner & Devotions

Sun., Feb. 25—Second Sunday of Lent

8:00am Traditional Worship & 10:45am Contemporary Worship

9:00 Faithfull Families

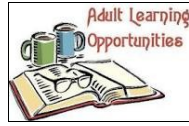
9:15 Grace Place & 9:30am Adult Sunday School

Wed., Feb. 28—6:30PM Lenten Dinner & Devotions

The monthly newsletter & church info is always available, anytime, on our website at www.gracelutheranroyersford.com.

Sunday AM Adult Faith Formation - - -

is a great way to grow your faith at any age. Join us at 9:30 for one of these spiritual growth opportunities



PRISM: Topics chosen by class members. Led by Mr. Richard Harshaw (choir room, lower level of church, rm. 4)

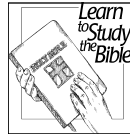
People of the Bible: Are the ancient women of the Bible relevant today? While we've studied these women previously, this year we'll look at them from a different perspective. Using the book, *Through Her Eyes*, we'll take the experiences of these women & apply them to our own lives. Each lesson is accompanied by an explanation from a seminarian at Eastern University, relating to how the experience is relevant to their life. Led by Dr. Judy Stryker (Parlor, lower level of church)

"Mothers & Their Cake", an adult class led by Jan Slack, is for mothers of all ages, meets in the Social Hall kitchen, from 9:30 – 10:30am. Join us for an hour of faith-based discussions, application of scripture & prayer.

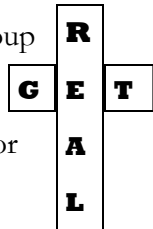


Faith First: Come find out how different your day can be when you begin it with God! Join this group from Grace at The Main St Café at 7am on Wednesday mornings for breakfast, prayer, and devotions. All are welcome!

Holy Grounds: WHO studies scripture? ... those who want to better understand God's relationship with creation throughout history...those who would like to grow in faith...those who see value in sharing ideas and learning from one another in our faith experiences. Could this be YOU? Join us on Thursday mornings in the parlor (lower level of church – room 5) from 9:30-11:00 for prayer, reading scripture, and discussion.



Get REAL! Join us on Monday, February 5th for dinner & a faith discussion at Giovanni's in Royersford. This monthly group enjoys great conversation about topics that matter most in our lives. Our topic for this month is Prayer" If interested, please RSVP to Angela Feist by Feb. 4th, at 570-498-5986 or anchoredinhope@aol.com.



Get ready for Lent! Mark your calendars for Ash Wednesday, February 14 to begin the season of Lent. There will be 2 worship services to receive communion and ashes on Ash Wednesday. The first will be a "soup & sacrament" service at noon in the All Purpose Room. Join us for lunch & worship! The evening service will be a traditional service at 7pm (please note the new time!), in the sanctuary. Beginning on March 21, please join us on Wednesday evenings for Dinner & Devotions, in the social hall. (dinner at 6:30, devotions and bible study 7-8 pm). Suggested meal donation: \$5/person or \$15/family. This year's Lenten topic will be "*Healing and Wholeness in Christ*". Each evening, we'll study & discuss how spiritual healing is linked to emotional, intellectual, relational & physical healing.

Ages 2 - 18 are invited to "Get Fit" during our Wednesday night programs, in the All Purpose Room. Do you like running? Do you like being active and playing sports? Do you think you are the fittest person? Come explore what it means to be fit physically, as well as spiritually and mentally! Just like any sport, we'll have a competition. For each Wednesday activity you complete, you will gain points. Wednesday, March 28th of Holy Week, we'll meet in the Social Hall and be doing a service project, by making a meal for a family or two in our community. During our service project, prizes will be given to our 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners of the "Get Fit" Wednesday night lent program!

If you give your regular offering through Simply Giving and changed your pledged amount for 2018 or if your banking information changed, please make sure to fill out a new Simply Giving form & submit it to the church office, or simply call the office as soon as possible to make the change(s). Thank you.



Prayer Chain Reminder - Please contact Jan Slack (prayer chain coordinator), 610-948-3539 or mjkk13539@comcast.net with your prayer concerns for the Prayer List. The weekly Ledger prayers will be kept to the new, more short term & immediate prayer needs of the church & community.



Prayer Lists are available on the back windowsill in the Narthex & in the pew racks. Please take a list home with you to enhance your daily devotions & prayer life; also use it to help you prepare your heart for worship with prayer. Prayer lists name our concerns & thanksgivings and are a way to stay connected to God & to the needs of others.

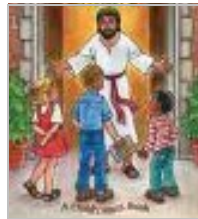


If you miss the opportunity to stop by one of the prayer stations, there is now a "prayer box" located in the narthex. Please complete the prayer request slip, place it in the box & the Stephen Ministers will pray for you. These can be anonymous or if you prefer you can include your name. Remember everything with & through the Stephen Ministry remains confidential. Always know we are here for you! In Christ's great love, your Stephen Ministry.

Children are welcome in all of our worship services at Grace!

The Tot Spot is lovingly & skillfully supervised by Mrs. Ellen Jones, where we provide childcare on Sunday mornings for both services, for parents who are worshipping with us. Children ages 5 and under may join us in room E08 of the Education Building.

Children's Church is for children in KG - 2nd grade, during the 10:45 worship service & is run by volunteers who do stories, games & crafts during the lessons and sermon time. Interested children go with the volunteer waiting in the narthex, after the children's sermon & return to parents in the sanctuary, during the prayers.



Parents – please make sure your child is in the age-appropriate place!



YOUTH NEWS!!!

Movie Night @ the theaters! Feb. 18th from 5-8ish pm!
More information to come! Watch your emails!

7th - 12th graders are invited to Box City Sat., April 7-Sun., April 8!
Registration fee is \$30 but it's also about fundraising money which will go to a non-profit that helps the homeless. Please see Kelsey for the fundraising/sponsorship forms. Keep your eyes out for the Registration date in late Feb - early March!



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Grace Lutheran Youth Group
"Like" us to see recent news & events

February is the month of love and thoughtfulness, share yours by giving a gift to St. Mary's Franciscan Shelter in Phoenixville. They are in need of grocery store gift cards, to help keep their kitchen stocked & allow them to continue serving the homeless women, children & families in our neighboring community. Please consider purchasing a grocery store gift card each time you buy groceries. You may give the gift cards directly to Dr. Janet Brown, or mail them in or drop them off at the church office. We'll get them to the Shelter.



This is an opportunity for you to share a Bible verse that is especially meaningful to you, with other members of our church family. The verse can be followed by a brief sentence as to the reason why you like it & may include your name or not. For now, please submit any suggestions to the church office.

FEBRUARY PRAYER FOCUS

1. Freedom for all (National Freedom Day)
2. Small creatures of creation (Groundhog's Day)
3. Good bakers (Great American Pie Month)
4. Our mailmen (Thank a Mailman Day)
5. National weathermen (National Weatherman's Day)
6. Being kind (Pay A Compliment Day)
7. African Americans (African American History Month)
8. Boy Scouts (Boy Scouts founded in 1910)
9. Children of Alcoholics (National Children of Alcoholic's Week)
10. Healthier habits (Heart Month)
11. Inventors (National Inventors' Day)
12. Abraham Lincoln (Birthday)
13. Change (Get A Different Name Day)
14. Love (St. Valentines' Day)/ASH WEDNESDAY: Lent begins
15. Brides and Grooms (National Wedding Month)
16. Kindness (Random Acts of Kindness Week)
17. World Human Spirit Day (2 minute of silence 3PM)
18. Favorite Things (National Wine and Chocolate Mint Day)
19. George Washington (President's Day)
20. Parents and Teachers (PTA founded this week in 1897)
21. Our Friends (Friendship Week)
22. Our pets (Love Your Pet Week)
23. Variety of people around the world (Girl Scouts Thinking Day)
24. Our Marines (Iwo Jima Day)
25. People suffering from eating disorders
(Eating Disorders Awareness Week)
26. Soldiers (Operation Desert Storm started 1991)
27. Nuts (National Pistachio Day)
28. Beautiful Flowers (Floral Design Day)



ABOUT PRAYER FEBRUARY 2018

Matthew 22:37 *Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."*

Whenever I hear "February", I immediately think of Valentine's Day and hearts and Love. Writing on prayer every month also takes me to that word Love. Because that is exactly what God is. He is LOVE!

The interaction He has with us through prayer is LOVE. His constant caring of us, even though we are not worthy is LOVE. His giving to the world Jesus was all about LOVE. This LOVE was the only way to save our souls. Because of this LOVE we can enjoy our lives for everlasting.

We do not have to do anything to have this prayer relationship, we only have to open our hearts and open our minds and let our God come in. We should use the hearts that we will see all month as decorations for February, be a reminder to talk to God.

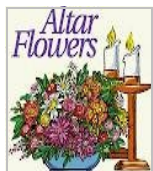
You can tell Him everything. Tell Him your sorrows; tell Him your joys. Say it out loud or say it silently. Then listen. Listen for His response. Feel His peace.

Our Lenten journey begins in February on Ash Wednesday, February 14th (Valentine's Day). Lent is the season for inter-reflection and for spending more time in prayer with God. Look for the Lenten devotional booklet that members of Grace are writing. Pick one up and use it for your prayer time. Healing and Wholeness In Christ 2018 Have a wonderful heart-filled/prayer-filled/LOVE filled February!

John 13:34-35 *"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

**Prayer Vigil this month: Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018 10AM-4PM
Grace's Sanctuary, Come in the front door!**

Sue Perry / Prayer Coordinator



**We have many sponsorships open for 2018,
including Flowers, Bulletins and more;
call the office (610-948-3684) to find out more.**

February 2018 Worship Assistants**Trustee:** Denny Asbert**Communion Asst.:****2/4:** One service 10am - Will Moyer, Karen Brown, Shawn Alloway,
Danny & Mandy Gonzalez**2/11:** 8:00 Carly Bauer & Joy Fraunfelter10:45 Kim Weaner, Cristen Nimmerichter, Darrell Lewis, John
Snyder & Kim Fretz**2/18:** 8:00 Cindy Henson & Mike Bauer10:45 David Mull, Shawn & Margie Alloway, Gary & Celeste
Peteritas**2/25:** 8:00 Terry Piersol & Karen Asbert10:45 Carol Marchesani, Kathy Mills, Carol Ferguson, Roxanne
Troiano & Margie Alloway**Acolytes/Crucifers & Torch Bearers****2/4:** One service 10am—Connor F/Eric M.**2/11:** 8:00 Christopher F./James F. 10:45 Aiden O./Kenny B.

TB: Pooja A./Ashely R. Grace B./Ryley T.

2/18: 8:00 Abby C./Lily C. 10:45 Kiersten I./Aiden O.**2/25:** 8:00 Alaina M./Gracyn M. 10:45 Sam L./Ryan F.**Ushers: 2/4:** Team 5, Kurt Meyers **2/11:** Team 6, John Groff**2/18:** Team 1, Rick Pennypacker **2/25:** Team 2, TBD**Counting Teams:****2/4:** Team A, Mike McGarry **2/11:** Team B, Open**2/18:** Team C, Ken Slack **2/25:** Team D, Will Moyer**Children's Church: 2/4:** No CC **2/11:** Abby Coath**2/18:** Julie/Ashley Reicher **2/25:** Amy Stebner**Faith Full Families: 2/4:** Danielle Lau **2/11:** Karen Thomson**2/18:** Kelsey Hlavac **2/25:** Brenda Johnson**Altar Guild:** Kelly Granato & Becky Fretz**Greeters****2/4:** One service 10am—Tom Weikel/Murray & Elaine O'Cain and
Karlee Roy**2/11:** 8:00 Tammy Epprecht & Jean Peterson/Phil & Julie Plotts

10:45 Team 6—Steve & Laurie Fodor/Judy Lukens

2/18: 8:00 Dennis Stuckey/Gladys Pouchan

10:45 Team 7—Stephanie McMullan/Bud & Tina Meredith

2/25: 8:00 David & Susan Firing/John & Hilde Holms

10:45 Team 8—Debbie Armstrong

Readers:**2/4:** One service 10am—Kurt Meyers**2/11:** 8:00 Gladys Pouchan 10:45 Darrell Lewis**2/18:** 8:00 Mark Rehrer 10:45 Will Moyer**2/25:** 8:00 Rose Nixon 10:45 Phil Coath**Tot Spot:****2/4:** One service 10am**2/11:** 8:00 OPEN 10:45 Jennifer Ruiz**2/18:** 8:00 OPEN 10:45 OPEN**2/25:** 8:00 Mary Murphy 10:45 Lisa Burgoon**Tech Table:****2/4:** 10am—Dan Feist**2/11:** 8:00 John Staub 10:45 David Mull**2/18:** 8:00 Gene Capor 10:45 Dan Feist**2/25:** 8:00 David Fritz 10:45 Barbara**Children's Sermons: 2/4:** No CS **2/11:** No CS**2/18:** Stephanie McMullan **2/25:** Judy Lukens