



# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

# TIDINGS

Vol. 64 No. 7

July 1 –31, 2021

## DEAR PARTNERS,

This year Faith Formation has been filled with adaptations and new opportunities to share the story of Christ in our homes, and with our community of faith. We continue to adapt and create in ways that are meaningful in growing faith. This summer our GLOW Kids (K-5<sup>th</sup>) and Youth Group (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) will gather outdoors for events while continuing to receive Faith Formation Totes well into the fall. Most of our Faith Formation programming continues this year with adjustments, W.I.L.D. Women and a Sunday School Kickoff will be outdoors. As we gather back this fall, we will be creating a new pictorial directory! You will find information of events and programs on the Faith Formation and others pages of this newsletter, the website, and other communications.

We plan to have Sunday School starting Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup> following our kickoff (Age 2-Adults). Classrooms and content may differ from the past, but relationship building and sharing the love of Jesus will be central in all we do!

If you have not joined us for Sunday School or other programs in the past, please consider doing so. Sharing faith and relationships formed with one another are two of the things the people at Grace report are most valuable in our life together. If you have questions about our Faith Formation programs, please connect with T. Shafferman to learn more!

Your partners in ministry,  
**Pastor Jonathan Boynton & T. Shafferman**

**Notice of Special Called Meeting of the Congregation**  
**Sunday, July 11, 2021 9:00 AM**  
**Between worship services Outside in "Church Alley"**  
**(small parking lot behind the church)**  
**Sign up to attend the meeting (to provide a quorum)**

Worship will be at different times that day:

8:00 am Worship outside in Church Alley behind the church (rather than cemetery)

**9:00 am Special Called Meeting of the Congregation outside in Church Alley**

10:00 am Worship inside in sanctuary

**In case of rain** – the meeting will be held inside in the sanctuary and also live-streamed into the GMOC for social distancing.

Agenda:

- Approval of funding for necessary exterior repairs to Godfrey Miller Home.
- Approval to engage and fund the services of an architectural firm to lead the congregation in the development of a Master plan for the renovation of facilities.
- Election of Congregation Council class of 2023 who were appointed in 2020 (when we could not meet in-person).

A letter will be sent to members of the congregation with details about the decisions to be made and opportunities will be announced through emails for Q & A forums to be offered via Zoom ahead of time.

## ***OUR WORSHIP THIS MONTH***

**Worship is now offered at three services each Sunday: 1) Outdoor at Mount Hebron Cemetery at 8:00 AM (weather permitting); 2) Indoor in our sanctuary at 9:30 and 11:00 AM. The 9:30 service will be live-streamed from the website [www.gracewin.org](http://www.gracewin.org) and later posted to YouTube.**

**To participate, in-person, please sign up through the email announcement or the website. At this time, because there are those of us who cannot or have not been vaccinated (particularly children), masks are still required. Going forward, though, other precautions and restrictions may be eased over time. Please watch for Constant Contact emails and the website for the most up-to-date information or call the church office 540-662-6678.**

**Sunday, July 4, 2021 – The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost** – Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the “between”: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent. The readings are: Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 and Mark 6:1-13.

**Sunday, July 11, 2021 – The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**—When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod’s fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God’s saving love. The readings are: Amos 7:7-15, Psalm 85:8-13, Ephesians 1:3-14, and Mark 6:14-29. (Worship times: 8:00 AM in church alley and 10:00 AM in Sanctuary.)

**Sunday, July 18, 2021 – The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**—Mark’s gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today’s gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn’t think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers’ need. We are sent from Christ’s table to care for others and for ourselves. The readings are: Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 23, Ephesians 2:11-22, and Mark 6:3-34,53-56.

**Sunday, July 25, 2021 – The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**—This is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus’ table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied. The readings are:

### **Chancel Flowers**

Opportunities for donating Chancel Flowers are available again! Call Joan in the church office (662-6678) to reserve your Sunday!

#### **Ordering Flowers for Worship**

Flowers are signs of life, growth and beauty of creation. If you would like to donate the flowers for worship in memory or honor of someone in your life, please contact the church office to sign up for a given Sunday. You will deal directly with the church. The cost is \$45; make checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church and have flowers noted on the memo line. We are using Winchester Floral to provide floral arrangements. Unless requested otherwise, flowers are delivered to members in the hospital, skilled nursing, in special care at home, or re-purposed for church events.

### CONSTANT CONTACT

Please sign up! If you have not signed up with Constant Contact email list, please do so at [www.gracewin.org](http://www.gracewin.org). This is an important way for us to stay in contact quickly and efficiently communicate with you, and also, where you will find links to our online worship services!

If you find you are not receiving the email, please check your junk/spam email folder, sometimes it gets placed there.

Worship Attendance (ELCA standard = unique visit x2, in 7 days)				
Date	Type	Online	In Person	Facebook
5/16/2021	Sunday	302	117	162
5/23/2021	Sunday	182	119	
5/30/2021	Sunday	296	80	146
6/6/2021	Sunday	278	130	158

### Stewardship Thoughts

*Reflections on the generous giving of time, talents, and treasure*

*"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving".*

Mother Teresa



### FOR THE RECORD "Growing in the Grace of Giving" Report of Offerings for 2021

	Anticipated Each Month	Given in May			Given Year-to-Date
		May Offering	May Vanco	Anticipated Year-to-Date	
<b>Promised Offerings</b> Pledged Envelope Giving \$446,041 budgeted for 2021.	<b>\$37,170</b>	\$28,887	\$8,014.39	\$185,850	\$192,745.39
<b>Grace Offerings</b> Non-pledged Envelope Giving \$94,389 budgeted for 2021.	<b>\$7,866</b>	\$9,335	\$2,277.48	\$39,330	\$50,155.76
<b>Faith Offerings</b> Loose Cash/Check Giving \$25,000 budgeted for 2021.	<b>\$2,083</b>	\$1,080	\$0	\$10,415	\$1,870
<b>Covenant Income</b> Income from fees, interest, grants,	<b>\$650</b>	\$100	\$0	\$3,250	\$100
<b>Revell Trust Income</b> \$290,502 budgeted for 2021.	<b>\$24,208</b>	\$24,208	---	\$121,040	\$121,040
<b>Bartko Fund</b> \$25,900 budgeted for 2021.	<b>\$2,158</b>	\$2,158	---	\$10,790	10,790

## In Our Prayers

### Prayers for Healing

Members who have been in the hospital or are in need of our prayers of healing: **Eileen Kitchick**, **Wendy Venskoske**, and **Sandra Wisch**.

### Prayers of Comfort

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Ron Cibroski, brother of **Ken Cibroski** (Robin); to the family and friends of Dorothy Lotz, mother of **Pam Sensel (Tevis)**; to the family and friends of **Barbara Wibberley**; to the family and friends of Clint Nichols, brother of Jeremy Nichols (Cassey) nieces Lucy and Avery.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of David Kerr (wife, Kristi, their children, Ruby and Eli, his parents, **Jerry** and **Carol Kerr**, Uncle, **John Kerr**, nephew, **Tanner** and his wife, Amanda, nephew, **Gunner**, sister-in-law, **Jill**. Memorial service will be held at Grace on Saturday, July 10 at 11:00 am.

A Memorial Service for Mac Trevor, who died in November 2020, will be held at Grace on Monday, July 5 at 2:00 pm.

## Thanks

Dear Grace Family,  
Thank you for the generous support and condolences upon our father's death.

Peace & God Bless,  
**Michelle Perrone**  
John R. Stiefvater  
Deborah Dupuis  
and Families

Dear Congregation of Grace Lutheran Church,

I would like to express my great appreciation for the Eisenberg-Miller Endowed Scholarship that allows me the privilege of being a Roanoke College Maroon.

I am grateful to be a recipient of this scholarship as it is allowing me to continue my education at Roanoke College. I am currently a junior and studying both Physics and French. I will graduate next year, in May 2022, and am planning on attending graduate school to pursue a Master's Degree in Physics, and possibly even a Ph.D. I made the decision to attend Roanoke for many reasons, some of which include the small class sizes, the physics program, and the familiarity I already had with the campus because of attending Virginia Synod Youth Events throughout high school.

I am in a field of science that does not have a lot of women, and I hope that by becoming a physicist, it will help to change the number of women in physics so that it is not a field where people only think of a man in a lab coat, and instead also see women as physicists. Thank you again for awarding me this scholarship.

All the best,  
Jean Getz, Class of 2021

## New Pictorial Directory- Coming in August!

As we begin to welcome each other back in safe ways, why not have some safe fun and have your picture taken for the church directory.

It's our WELCOME BACK Directory.

And we need YOU to be a part - sign ups will start soon. So be on the look out for more info. All photographers are vaccinated and will wear masks.

Things you need to be thinking about:

Family group photos (even if they aren't members of Grace)

Photos with your pets

Photos with your musical instruments

For participating you will receive your free 8x10 and the NEW process takes only about 30-45 minutes.

Get ready to sign up soon. Call **T. Shafferman** at 540-327-5190 or **Linda Milburn** at 540-336-0701 for more info. or to sign up to help with the directory.



## FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH NEWS

### **FAITH FORMATION VIRTUAL Opportunities:**

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study - YOU CAN PARTICIPATE** through ZOOM! Email [jboynton@gracewin.org](mailto:jboynton@gracewin.org) for more information. Dwelling In The Word - 7:30 am Come together and prepare for worship on the coming Sunday by studying the Scripture readings ahead of time. Studying together helps Scripture come alive – Leaders: Pastor Jonathan Boynton, Pastor Martha Sims and lay leaders from the group.

### **Wednesday Evening Digital Book Study on zoom - 7:00 - 8:00 pm**

All are welcome to join this book study **The Great Spiritual Migration - How the World's Largest Religion is Seeking A Better Way To Be Christian by Brian D. McLaren**. The study shares the Christian story, from Genesis until now, how God's people are on the move—outgrowing old, broken religious systems and embracing new, more redemptive ways of life.

Brian McLaren, a leading voice in contemporary religion, argues that— notwithstanding the dire headlines about the demise of faith and drop in church attendance—Christian faith is not dying. Rather, it is embarking on a once-in-an-era spiritual shift. For millions, the journey has already begun.

Drawing from his work as global activist, pastor, and public theologian, McLaren challenges readers to stop worrying, waiting, and indulging in nostalgia, and instead, to embrace the powerful new understandings that are reshaping the church.

To join this group, please contact Pastor Martha Sims at [msims@gracewin.org](mailto:msims@gracewin.org).



**W.I.L.D. Women Meeting In Person - Virtual & Retreat Info.** - Will meet again virtually on **Wednesday, June 23rd at 7:00 pm** for devotion, check-in and laughter. We will also meet in Person on **Monday, July 12th at 7:00 pm** at Mt. Hebron Cemetery Prayer Labyrinth. Join us for a little walk and Historical Tidbits. You can join us again virtually on Wednesday, July 28th at 7:00 pm. Zoom links to follow. **End of Summer Retreat In Person on Friday, August 20th beginning at 6:00 pm and Saturday, August 21st from 9:00 am till Noon.** (You get to sleep in your own bed for this one ladies) If you are interested in joining W.I.L.D. Woman, please send an email to [tshafferman@gracewin.org](mailto:tshafferman@gracewin.org) or call me at 540-327-5190.

**Women of Grace Zoom Meeting** - The third Tuesday of the month at 10:30 am. We will meet again on **Tuesday, July 20th**. We are currently using the resource *Walking Home* by: Margaret Guenther. Please let us know if you would like to join this group.

**G.L.O.W. Kids Event** — If you have a child in K-5th grade please join us for G.L.O.W. Kids (God Lights Our Way). Watch your email for event info. **In Person Socially Distant GLOW Kids Event planned for Sunday, July 11th 2pm - 3:30 pm at The Museum of the Shenandoah Valley Patio.** You must RSVP to [tshafferman@gracewin.org](mailto:tshafferman@gracewin.org) to attend this event by 7/4. Parents are asked to attend. Thanks

**Bible & Brew** - Meets on the first Monday of the month. Come bring your favorite beverage and enjoy a program and fellowship. We will gather virtually on Monday, **July 5th at 6:00 pm**. If you are interested in great conversation and fellowship from the comfort of your on home contact one of the Pastors or T. Shafferman to get signed up. Look forward to seeing you there.

**Young Adult Group** - Young Adult Group to meet Sunday, August 1st for fellowship & book study. You can join for just the fellowship portion or stay on the zoom call for **The Ragamuffin Gospel** by: Brennan Manning. *Most of us believe in God's grace in theory. But somehow we can't seem to apply it in our daily lives. We continue to see Him as a small-minded bookkeeper, tallying our failures and successes on a score sheet. Yet God gives us His grace, willingly, no matter what we've done.* Join Pastor Jonathan Boynton through zoom for this study. Please contact him for more information or to signup at [jboynton@gracewin.org](mailto:jboynton@gracewin.org). Thanks!



## Grace Walks - Tuesdays

**July 13th - 10:00 am**

**July 27th - 6:30 pm**

Join us at the MSV Trails by James Wood Middle School Parking Lot.

[www.gracewin.org](http://www.gracewin.org)



## **FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS FOR SUMMER 2021**

We will offer our Faith Formation Totes this summer monthly. If you are not able to pick up your tote, please contact T. Shafferman at 540-327-5190. Thank you. They will be available for pick-up on:

**Wednesday, June 30th 4:30 - 6:30 pm, &**

**Saturday, August 7th 10:00 am - Noon. Please come to church alley for pick-up.**

**GLOW Kids In Person Events** planned for **Sunday, July 11th 2:00pm - 3:30 pm.**

Parents & children (K-5th grade) are invited to join us at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley Patio on

**Sunday, July 11th** Please RSVP to [tshafferman@gracewin.org](mailto:tshafferman@gracewin.org) on or before July 4th.

GLOW Kids event for **Sunday, August 1st 2:00 pm** Painting Day in church alley

**Youth Group In-Person Events Sunday, July 18th 3:00 - 5:00 pm**

at the home of Ellen & Jim Pearce. Games on the Lawn!

**Sunday, August 8th 12:00 - 2:00 pm** Painting Day and CATERED Lunch

You must RSVP to [tshafferman@gracewin.org](mailto:tshafferman@gracewin.org) to participant. Thank you

For now we plan to kick-off Fall Sunday School Programs on

**Sunday, August 15th**



ONLINE: SUNDAY, JULY 11,  
to THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021!  
VISIT [WWW.VASYNOD.ORG/POWER-IN-THE-SPIRIT](http://WWW.VASYNOD.ORG/POWER-IN-THE-SPIRIT)

As our world emerges from the pandemic, many are hoping for a return to "normal." The task before the Church is to focus our hopes in the right direction. This seems like the perfect reason to celebrate **"Advent in July!"**

A daily devotional will arrive in your email each morning, Sunday - Thursday. You'll receive readings, videos, and guides for at-home arts and crafts.

An invitation to daily Zoom workshops, from 6:15 PM to 7:25 PM, Sunday - Thursday. Listen to presenters from across our Synod share their areas of expertise. Sign up for the sessions that interest you most!

A closing vespers service at 7:30 PM, live and online, under the leadership of **George Donovan, Director of Music for Bethel, Winchester.**

**Registration is easy! Visit [www.VASYNOD./POWER-IN-THE-SPIRIT](http://www.VASYNOD./POWER-IN-THE-SPIRIT)**

## Congregation Council Highlights

The Congregation Council met for its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, June 13, 2021, by Zoom conferencing. The following are highlights of the meeting:

- Approved the consent agenda including minutes of previous meetings and reports of ministries requiring no action.
- Received the report of the Facilities Master Plan Task Group which included a recommendation to engage an architectural firm to lead the congregation in the development of a Master Plan for the renovation of the facilities; the funding of the Master Plan project not to exceed \$80,000. The Congregation Council approved forwarding the recommendation to the Congregation as an agenda item for a Special Called Meeting of the Congregation (see below).
- Approved the date, time, location and agenda for the Special Called Meeting of the Congregation on July 11, 2021, 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held outside in “Church Alley” (the small parking lot behind the church) to accommodate those who would be more comfortable outside. In case of rain, the meeting will be held in the sanctuary and live-streamed to the GMOC for those who desire social distancing.
  - ◊ Agenda:
    - ◆ Approval of funding for necessary exterior repairs to Godfrey Miller Home.
    - ◆ Approval to engage and fund the services of an architectural firm to lead the congregation in the development of a Master plan for the renovation of facilities.
    - ◆ Election of Congregation Council class of 2023, who were appointed in 2020 (when we could not meet in-person).
  - ◊ Council is asking the congregation to sign up for the meeting ahead of time to provide a quorum.
  - ◊ The meeting will be held between worship services (times changed):
    - ◆ 8:00 AM worship in Church Alley
    - ◆ 9:00 AM Special Called Meeting of the Congregation
    - ◆ 10:00 AM Worship in Sanctuary
  - ◊ A letter to members announcing the Special Called Meeting of the Congregation will include details about agenda items.
- Approved new Grace Lutheran Preschool Board Members: **Susan Bott, Elizabeth Dame, Suzanne Conrad**, Chelsea Vossler (parent representative).

### New Website! [www.gracewin.org](http://www.gracewin.org)

Our new website is live! It is a work in progress, as we continue to update and populate all the pages. The new format is visitor friendly and interactive, including the ability to participate in digital worship directly from the website. We invite you to explore and watch it grow. We hope it enables us to connect with each other in new ways and to welcome newcomers. Check it out! The address is the same as the old site. ([www.gracewin.org](http://www.gracewin.org))



Photo by Danielle MacInnes on Unsplash.

- *Update from Faith Formation*
- *Special Called Meeting of the Congregation -July 11 at 9*
- *New Pictorial Directory coming in August*
- *Grace Walks ~ July 13 at 10:00AM and July 27 at 6:30PM*
- *W.I.L.D. Women Events*
- *G.L.O.W. Kids ~ July 11th at 2:00 PM*
- *Congregation Council Highlights*
- *Check out our new Website*

**Telephone: 540.662.6678**  
**FAX: 540.662.6682**  
**E-mail: [grace@gracewin.org](mailto:grace@gracewin.org)**  
**Web Site: [www.gracewin.org](http://www.gracewin.org)**  
**Preschool: 540.678.0635**  
**Godfrey Miller Center:**  
**540.667.5869**




**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
 26 W. Boscawen Street  
 Winchester, VA 22601  
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**THE PEOPLE OF GRACE - THE MINISTERS**

- Martha Miller Sims - Pastor ([msims@gracewin.org](mailto:msims@gracewin.org))  
 Jonathan M. Boynton—Pastor ([jboynton@gracewin.org](mailto:jboynton@gracewin.org))  
 Joan R. Carroll - Parish Secretary ([jcarroll@gracewin.org](mailto:jcarroll@gracewin.org))  
 T. Shafferman- Director of Faith Formation & Youth Ministry  
 ([tshafferman@gracewin.org](mailto:tshafferman@gracewin.org))  
 Beverly Dennis - Parish Administrative Assistant  
 ([bdennis@gracewin.org](mailto:bdennis@gracewin.org))  
 Peter Stevens - Facilities Manager ([pstevens@gracewin.org](mailto:pstevens@gracewin.org))  
 Brenda Miles - Sexton  
 Jason Gottschalk—Director of Music and Organist  
 ([jgottschalk@gracewin.org](mailto:jgottschalk@gracewin.org))  
 Elizabeth Holmes - Children's Music Program Coordinator  
 ([eholmes@gracewin.org](mailto:eholmes@gracewin.org))  
 John Romano—Interim Bell Choir Director  
 Suzanne Reid - Assistant Treasurer ([treasurer@gracewin.org](mailto:treasurer@gracewin.org))  
 Erin Ritchey - Nursery Attendant; Jeanette Kline - ESL Nursery  
 Lisa Zerull - Faith Community Nurse ([nurse@gracewin.org](mailto:nurse@gracewin.org))  
 Jennifer Strickler - Director of Preschool ([preschool@gracewin.org](mailto:preschool@gracewin.org))  
 - Director of Godfrey Miller Fellowship Center  
 James H. Utt - Retired, Pastor Emeritus

**Prayer Team**  
*We invite all who are interested in caring for others through prayer to join the prayer team.*  
 Contact **Becky Swanson Stern, at [prayerchain@gracewin.org](mailto:prayerchain@gracewin.org)**

**Prayers for those in our Military Services**  
 should include:  
**Seth Anton, Ben Bailey, Brian Baker, Chip Bierman, Brett Bozeman, Stuart Carper, Andrew Flanigan, Elizabeth Grove, Ben Grove, Ellen Haines, Mitra Haines, Pastor Nate Huffman, Tyler Manuel, Kristjan Rauhala, Brandon Reeve, Christine Sears, Alex Simpson, Danny Smith, Ronald Snyder, Cassie Trulock, and Scott Zerull.**

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

**Worship Service:** In person Worship at Mount Hebron Cemetery at 8:00 a.m. and in the Sanctuary at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 Please call the church for hours

**The deadline for input to the next issue of *TIDINGS* (covering August 1–31, 2021) is 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 14, 2021**

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.
 
  
[stephenministry@gracewin.org](mailto:stephenministry@gracewin.org)