

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



JONATHAN CONRAD
PASTOR



THANKS BE TO DAWN

When I came to Grace Lutheran in the summer of 2009, one of the gifts the Good Lord blessed me with was Dawn Herrmann. Dawn was right there to guide me while I learned all I could about Grace, its members, and the city of Thomasville.

Over the last seven years, she has been very patient with me: giving time for my many questions, and lending an ear to hear my latest and craziest ideas for church and worship. Another gift that Dawn has is being a straight shooter. She tells me what areas of ministry are working as well as the areas that need some improvement.

Her dedication to God and Grace Lutheran is without question. With Dawn's leadership, we have a great choir. She brings out the best of our singers each and every week. I hope all of us know just how blessed we are to have such a wonderful group in our midst!

Dawn has also been integral in putting together the weekly bulletins, especially the inclusion of all the hymns we sing (which is a valuable asset

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ON THE CALENDAR

March 10

WELCA Bible Study: 7:00 PM

March 14

Boy Scouts spaghetti supper

March 18-20

Boy Scouts camping trip

March 20

Palm Sunday

Easter Egg Hunt: after worship

March 24

Maundy Thursday Service: 7:00 PM

March 25

Good Friday Service: 7:00 PM

March 26

Easter Vigil: 8:00 PM

First Lutheran Church

320 S. State Street, Lexington

March 27

Easter Breakfast by L-Men: 8:00 AM

Easter Worship: 10:00 AM

April 2

Boy Scouts Merit Badge College

CHURCH HOURS

Please note the regular office hours of the church:

Monday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Tuesday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Wednesday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM*

Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Pastor Jonathan will be out of town March 5 and March 11-12. Pastor Matt Smith from Holly Grove will be on call for emergencies.

*Rob is not in the office on Wednesdays.

MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 WELCA Bold Women Sunday 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship	29 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	1 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	2 6:45 PM Adult Choir	3 6:30 PM Property Committee	4	5
6 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship	7 10:00 AM Ella Bunting Open Arms 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	8 6:00 PM Finance Committee 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	9 6:45 PM Adult Choir	10 6:30 PM WELCA	11	12
13 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship	14 7:00 PM Boy Scouts – Spaghetti Dinner	15 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	16 6:45 PM Adult Choir	17 6:30 PM Congregational Council	18 Boy Scouts – Camping Trip	19 Boy Scouts – Camping Trip
20 Palm Sunday Boy Scouts – Camping Trip 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship	21 6:30 PM L-Men 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	22 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	23 6:45 PM Adult Choir	24 Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM Worship	25 Good Friday 7:00 PM Worship	26
27 Easter 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship	28 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	29 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	30 6:45 PM Adult Choir	31	1	2

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2	Paul Myers	21	Evelyn Conrad
6	Ken Wood	25	Mollie Lambeth
7	John Carter, Jr.	26	Bettye Chandler
12	Drew Lambeth	28	Debbie Leonard
13	Kathy Beck	29	Haley Armfield
14	John Warren Gainey	30	Julie Carroll
15	Keith Bowers		Margaret Knepper
	Laura Vaughan	31	Nancy McRee
17	Mark Hunnicutt		
19	Larry Seamon		

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

3	Larry and Katherine Seamon
14	Tom and Jan-Marie Muschlitz
21	Deborah and Chris Moore

MARCH 2016 WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

	MAR 6	MAR 13	MAR 20	MAR 24	MAR 25	MAR 27
Assistant	Eugene Berry	Pat Wood	Doug Edgerton			Margie Venable
Lector	Deborah Moore	Bill Venable	Mark Hunnicutt	Mike Hill	Mark Hunnicutt	Charlotte Yandell
Acolyte	Nicholas Edinger	Ethan Moore	Lauren Edinger	Lauren Seamon	CRUCIFERS:	Nicholas Edinger
Presenter	Larry Sink	Charlotte Yandell	Linda Edgerton		Kenton M. Mike Hill	Sharon Sink
Nursery	Martha, Rebekah Conrad	L. Pendergrass, Jil Palmer	Kim, Abby Moore	n/a	n/a	Thom, Melissa Woller
Altar Flowers	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Worship & Music
Bulletins			Steve and Kathy Beck			

Ushers serving in March: Larry Sink, Sharon Sink, Chris Moore

Altar Guild serving in March: Jeanette Putnam, Cindy & Paul Myers

If you are unable to serve on your assigned date, please secure a replacement and advise the church office.

LITTLE LUTHERANS EASTER EGG HUNT

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held March 20 (Palm Sunday) following worship. All of our Little Lutherans (Pre-K through Fifth Grade) and their friends are invited to attend. We will eat lunch in the Fellowship Hall after worship and then head out on the hunt! Adults should plan to stay as lunch will be provided. Please see Teresa Price or Leah Pendergrass for more information, and keep an eye on the Grace Vine and Facebook for reminders and updates in case of inclement weather. See you there!



CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES, January 21, 2016

Call to order: The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Grace Lutheran Church Council was called to order by Vice-President Bill Venable.

Members in attendance: David Armfield, Eugene Berry, Pastor Jonathan Conrad, Linda Edgerton, Jane Hill, Cindy Hunnicutt, Chris Moore, Marty Musselman, Leah Pendergrass, Bill Venable, and Thom Woller.

Member(s) excused: Paul Myers, Loretta Wise.

Bible Study: Conducted by Pastor Jonathan Conrad.

Agenda: Approved with four additions; all to be added under New Business (MMSC).

Minutes from previous meetings:

Minutes from 12/17/15: As Acting Secretary for December, Leah provided two revisions to be made to the existing minutes. They were approved (MMSC).

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COUNCIL MINUTES, cont.

Minutes from 01/03/16: They were approved with two revisions (MMSC).

Unfinished Business:

Council Secretary position: Thom Woller noted that he would be unable to serve as Secretary. Leah Pendergrass (the other nominee for this position) agreed to fulfill the role of Secretary for 2016 (MMSC).

Contact Information/Assign Devotions: Council members were each asked to provide Leah with his/her updated contact information and also to choose a month to provide devotions for council meetings. Leah has that information and will create a document/e-mail it to council ASAP.

Offering Counter/Offering Counter Procedure Update: Cindy Hunnicutt provided an update on the new method of counting weekly offerings for GLC. We have several counters who have confirmed that they will assist in the process but we do need more volunteers. Mike Hill has a list of the counters confirmed to assist and will schedule them to serve throughout the year. Cindy and Linda Edgerton are working together to create a streamlined process for all volunteers serving in this capacity so that each week, volunteers have a concise set of directions to follow.

Office Computer/Software Update: The computer has arrived and Rob has begun to set it up/get it ready for office use. The price was slightly over budget as the computer's software package did not include Microsoft Publisher (which is one of the main programs used to create church documentation). The Shepherd's Staff software program is loaded up and ready to use.

Fifth Sunday Covered Dish Luncheon/Honorarium for Rachael Armentrout: Cindy, Leah, and Linda are organizing the event. It will be held on 01/31/2016 immediately after worship.

New Business:

Request for Usage of the Fellowship Hall: The Girl Scouts requested use of the Fellowship Hall on 01/30/16. There is another event taking place in the Fellowship Hall during the day; therefore the request from the Girl Scouts cannot be accommodated. In light of this, other options for meeting space at GLC will be given to the Girl Scouts.

Dawn's Resignation/Retirement: Dawn Herrmann has formally submitted her resignation/retirement as organist of Grace Lutheran. It was noted that her many years of service and dedication to Grace Lutheran have been greatly appreciated. Upon receiving her resignation and after discussion, council would like to name Dawn, Cindy Hunnicutt, and Kelsey Musselman to a search committee for both a substitute and replacement organist. Cindy will set up details for a meeting in the near future. Dawn's last Sunday of service will be on Easter (03/27/16).

Possible Cancellation of Church Services: Due to impending winter weather, Pastor Jonathan asked the council what their thoughts were on cancelling services should the weather cause hazardous conditions for congregants (bad roads, icy sidewalks, etc.) After discussion, it was noted that Pastor will decide on Saturday whether or not to hold services. Should he decide to cancel, he will notify the appropriate news outlets and also send out notifications via e-mail/social media.

Shrove Tuesday: It will be held on Tuesday, 02/09/16, in the Fellowship Hall from 4:30-6:30 p.m. The Lutheran Men will organize the event.

Council Liaisons for GLC Committees: Council members were asked to participate in various church committees so that we have at least one council liaison member for each committee. Council will discuss/assign members to committees at our February meeting.

Pastor's Report:

Received as information; hard copies available upon request. It was noted that there will not be any Midweek Lenten services for 2016.

Finance Report:

Received as information; hard copies available upon request. It was noted that all bills have been paid (through 12/2015).

Committee Wrap-up:

Reports submitted from Finance, Property, WELCA, and Worship/Music; all received as information.

Devotions – Eugene Berry

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next regular meeting will be 02/18/2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Devotions for February – Linda Edgerton

Respectfully submitted,

Leah W. Pendergrass, Secretary

Memorials and Honors

In memory of

Mildred Conrad, by
Larry and Sharon Sink (Pay It Forward, sanctuary doors)

Hal and Lilian Skeen, by
Bill and Rachael Armentrout

Dolan and Teen Calhoun, by
Jean Ridenhour (Pay It Forward)

Diane Blasi-Burchett, by
Austin Conrad
Larry and Sharon Sink (Pay It Forward)
Melody and Mike Clodfelter
Patricia R. Leckie
Deborah S. Mitchell
Bill and Rachael Armentrout
Bob and Rachel Herman
Cheryl Sterling-Udell (Pay It Forward)
Helen Younts
Anita Medlin

Glenn Beck, by
Imogene Beck

Deborah Holden, by
Imogene Beck

Steve Jenkins, by
Dianne H. Fore (Sandwich Ministry)
Piedmont Aviation Component Services (Sandwich
Ministry)
Jean Jones (Sandwich Ministry)
Robert Hughes (Sandwich Ministry)

Wade Fitzgerald, by
Maxine Fitzgerald

In honor of

Austin Conrad, by
Larry and Sharon Sink (Pay It Forward, sanctuary doors)

Gene and Lily Beck, by
Imogene Beck

Rachael Armentrout, by
Linda and Doug Edgerton (Love Fund)

Dawn Herrmann, by
Grace Lutheran Church Choir (Pay It Forward)

THANKS BE TO DAWN, cont.

for visitors who are not familiar with hymnals).

She also has been an innovator when it comes to our newsletter design, the weekly Grace Vine, and our online presence. And, lest we forget, Dawn has been an active member of our Property Committee where she was one of the guiding forces for our beautiful new church sign.

Dawn has been an integral part of our congregation. And now, Dawn begins another chapter in her life. This Easter Sunday, we say “Goodbye” to Dawn as our Music Director. She and Dave will continue to be active members of Grace while they prepare for the next chapter in their lives which includes travel, family, and getting ready to become grandparents!

Let me say that this has been a very hard article for me to write. You see, Dawn is more than a church organist. She is more than a music director and a church member. She is a friend. And I am going to miss my friend.

Thank you, Dawn, for everything. May God continue to guide you, And may we thank God for all you have given us. And me.

LUTHERANS ON THE LINKS

The “Lutherans on the Links” Golf Tournament is set for Saturday, May 21, at the Lexington Golf Club. We hope to make this our biggest tournament yet and to raise even more money for Smart Start. The Schoonmaker/Schoonmaker-Dasch Firm of Edward Jones in Lexington has graciously signed on as our title sponsor.

In addition to golfers, a number of new sponsorships are available, creating a great opportunity to get involved and support this worthwhile endeavor. We are looking forward to another great tournament and to helping prepare the children of Davidson County to succeed when they enter school on Day One!

Thanks for your consideration and generosity; for more information or if you have questions, please contact Pastor Jonathan. You may also contact Joe Carroll, Bank of the Ozarks, (336) 940-4487.

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES, February 18, 2016

Call to order: The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Grace Lutheran Church Council was called to order by President Loretta Wise.

Members in attendance: David Armfield, Eugene Berry, Linda Edgerton, Jane Hill, Cindy Hunnicutt, Chris Moore, Paul Myers, Leah Pendergrass, Bill Venable, Loretta Wise, and Thom Woller.

Member(s) excused: Pastor Jonathan Conrad, Marty Musselman.

Agenda: Approved with three additions; all to be added under New Business (MMSC).

Minutes from previous meetings: Minutes from 01/21/16 were approved with no revisions (MMSC).

Unfinished Business:

Update contact information/devotion assignments: Leah has updated the contact information and devotion assignments; she e-mailed that to council members on 02/17/2016. There are several months open for devotions; Leah will assign a month to those council members currently without assignments.

Offering Counter/Offering Counter Procedure/Software Update: Cindy Hunnicutt provided an update on the new method of counting weekly offerings for GLC. We have nine teams of counters that will serve for the remainder of 2016. Mike Hill has created/provided council with a rotating schedule of the volunteers. Cindy and Linda Edgerton have created a streamlined process for all volunteers serving in this capacity so that each week, volunteers have a concise set of directions to follow. Cindy will handle the night drops (to the bank) for now. Linda and Cindy have also set up a space in the conference room to store all of the supplies for the counters to use. The new "Shepherd's Staff" software has been installed and Rob has been working to add in all of the necessary information/get the program to where it is ready for actual use.

Review of Team Ministries: Council discussed the various committees of our church and noted that the member listings need to be updated, as well as checking the team scopes/purposes for any additional updates/changes. Leah volunteered to compose an e-mail to current members, send the draft to Loretta Wise, revise as needed, and then distribute accordingly. We hope to have this completed in the next two weeks.

New Business:

Girl Scout Sunday: Girl Scout Sunday will be held on 03/13/16 at Grace. One of their main projects this year involves recycling at Grace and they hope to incorporate some of that information during the service. The Girl Scouts also requested to use the Fellowship Hall on 03/12/16 from 12-4 p.m. for a recruitment meeting.

Request for a new water fountain: Eugene Berry brought forth a request for a new water fountain in the foyer area. After discussion, Council asked Eugene to send the request to the Property committee.

Request for Mutual Ministry committee/Council review: Leah brought forth a recommendation/request from the Christian Education committee regarding the possibility of hiring a part-time youth leader/family coordinator. After discussion, the recommendation/request was tabled until a later date. During the discussion, council members mentioned that at one point, we had a liaison from the Synod coming to talk with Grace congregation members about how well things are going for Grace, what could be improved, etc. As far as Council is aware, no further progress has been noted. Council recommended that we ask Pastor Jonathan to see if he can find out about any updates/upcoming plans involving the representative and his/her visits. Council acknowledged the need to grow the congregation before adding additional employees.

Boy Scout updates: Chris Moore requested more information regarding the scholarship program for children wishing to become a Scout. He also requested that if possible, Grace sponsor a young boy wishing to participate in the Boy Scout program. Council voted to approve the sponsorship (MMSC). Chris also noted that the Scout program has a council similar in nature to our church council. He asked if Grace could provide a member to join this committee as a liaison to their group. Council agreed and suggested several congregation members that might be willing to serve in this capacity.

Pastor's Report:

Received as information; hard copies available upon request.

Finance Report:

Received as information; hard copies available upon request. It was noted that there is a balance of \$11, 071.36 (through 01/31/2016).

Committee Wrap-up:

Reports submitted from Finance and Christian Education; all received as information.

COUNCIL MINUTES, cont.

Devotions – Linda Edgerton

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next regular meeting will be 03/17/2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Devotions for March – Jane Hill

Respectfully submitted,
Leah W. Pendergrass, Secretary

WELCA BIBLE STUDY

Beginning March 10, instead of WELCA meetings there will be a new ladies' Bible study group meeting on the second Thursday of each month. This Bible study is open to all women of Grace and we hope that you will be able to join us as we continue to strengthen our faith in Christ and our friendships with each other. WELCA will still be operational but will conduct business meetings aside from the Thursday night Bible studies. We are excited to begin this new journey with you and look forward to seeing you on March 10, beginning at 7:00 PM. Coffee and cookies will be served!

Please join us beginning April 3 for a special six part sermon series entitled

REVELATION: GOD WINS!

Together, we will be exploring the Book of Revelation to see how it can fit into our busy lives.

PREPARATION AND REPENTANCE—THE SEASON OF LENT

The following article comes from The Gospel Coalition and is an excellent resource as we prepare for Lent.

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are at the very heart of Christianity. The good news of the gospel is that God has acted in history to conquer evil and reconcile sinners to himself through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. For those who have been united with this Jesus have been united with Him in the likeness of His death and will one day be united with Him in the likeness of His resurrection (Rom. 6:5). Lent, therefore, is about living out of our union with, and identity in, Christ. Lent is first and foremost about the gospel making its way deeper into our lives. On the Christian calendar, Lent (from Latin, meaning “fortieth”) is the forty days beginning on Ash Wednesday and leading up to Easter Sunday. Sundays themselves are not counted in these forty days, as they are generally set aside as days of renewal and celebration (“mini-Easters” of sorts). The number forty carries great biblical significance based on: the forty days of rain Noah and his family endured in the flood, the forty years Israel spent in the wilderness, Jesus’ forty-day fast in the wilderness, the forty days Jesus spent on the earth after his resurrection, and so much more. Forty days has been used by God to represent a period of trial, testing, and preparation.

Likewise, Lent is a season of preparation and repentance during which we anticipate the death (Good Friday) and resurrection (Easter Sunday) of Jesus. It is this very preparation and repentance – aimed at grasping the intense significance of the crucifixion – that gives us a deep and powerful longing for the resurrection, the joy of Easter. Lent is a journey to the cross: meditating on our sin and weakness, looking to Jesus as our perfect example and substitute, and being heightened in our worship of his victory over Satan, sin, and death. On the cross, Jesus took our place to appease God’s righteous anger toward our sin and rebellion. He was separated from God so that we could experience union with God. He was crushed by God so that we could be adopted by God. He was raised with God so that we too might be raised with God. The drama of how this unfolded is the story of Lent. The journey of Lent is to immerse ourselves in this grand story so that it might increase our appreciation of Easter and love for Jesus. May we mourn the darkness in our hearts and rejoice in the light of God who came into the world to save us!

115 Unity Street
Thomasville, NC 27360

Easter Plants and Flowers to Decorate our Sanctuary

Make checks payable to Grace with the notation "Easter Flowers" – Deadline for ordering is March 15.

Blooming plant baskets (\$15 each)

Number of plants _____

Given by _____

Given in honor of _____

Given in memory of _____

Cut blooms to decorate floral cross (\$10/bouquet)

Number of plants _____

Given by _____

Given in honor of _____

Given in memory of _____