



January/February 2024

Grace Notes



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Tallahassee, Florida

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We look forward to seeing at you to worship, at the service of your choice.

The 9:00 a.m. service is our Contemporary Worship service. The 11:00 a.m. service is the traditional service.

If you're not sure about the Contemporary Service, we encourage you to give it at least one try. You never know how it may touch your heart.

If you are unable to attend our worship service in person, there is a link for online viewing, located in the boxed area of our website at www.gracelutheran.faith.

The Grace Lutheran Church Executive Committee consists of the Officers and the Pastor:

President: Sharon Piepmeier

Vice President: Don Blancett

Secretary: Janet McPherson

Treasurer: Peggy Stevens

Financial Secretary: Dave Grant

Pastor Jennifer Kopacz

Our Committee Chairs are lay volunteers:

Fellowship: Mary Grant

Property: Elisa Casey
Worship & Music: Randi Buehner

These folks are dedicated to making sure that we make time to join together in fellowship; that we have hopeful, inspiring worship; and that our property is not only safe, but beautiful and well-kept. We give thanks for them, and for all those not mentioned above, who give, or serve, or provide help at Grace and/or in our community.



Pastor's Message

Beloved People of God ~

Happy New Year! I hope that each of you had a meaningful Christmas, however and wherever you spent it, and that – in some way – you experienced the presence of Christ with you in the season. It's hard to believe that we're already in January; that we'll shortly be remembering the visit of Magi on Epiphany (January 6); and the Baptism of our Lord (January 7); and that just a few weeks away, on Wednesday, February 14, we'll enter the reflective season of Lent at Ash Wednesday. So much of our year is the "Green Season" – it's dotted around in January, and then picks up again in the summer each year, extending until the beginning of Advent (with occasional "White Sundays" in there from time to time). But from Advent through the end of Easter, there is a lot going on. And it's really important stuff, too. Because as much as we love the story of Christmas, the baby, the Messiah, come in an unexpected way, in an unexpected place, in unexpected circumstances, none of that would mean anything if it weren't for what happened on a cross, just outside Jerusalem, approximately 30 years later.

This year, as we once again take the Lenten journey with Jesus to the cross, we will be doing some things the same, and some things a little differently. First of all, we have several opportunities to gather on Ash Wednesday, as has become our practice in recent years. First, Pastor Jenn will offer Prayer and the Imposition of Ashes from 7am – 9am that morning (February 14th) under the portico in the parking lot at Grace. This is rain or shine. Then, we'll have a Service of the Word, with Imposition of Ashes at 12:00pm. This service should take about 40 minutes. Finally, that evening, at 7pm, we will have a service of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes.

Next, as usual, we will be gathering each Wednesday at 6:30pm for a Community Soup Supper followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7:30pm.

Finally, this year, we'll be doing something a bit different on Sunday mornings. Much like our Sermon Series last summer on Bible Beach Reads, we'll be taking these five weeks, and part of Palm and Passion Sunday, to look at the stories of Covenant that are appointed for the season of Lent – with Noah; with Abram and Sarai; with the people of Israel; and with us, even today. On these Sundays, you'll be invited into

dialogue, discernment, and prayer. Our goal will be to explore our relationship with God, and how God seeks us out, time and again, from a place of deep, unbreakable, covenantal love.

We say 'Good-bye to Alleluias' on February 11; Ash Wednesday is February 14; and our midweek Soup Supper and Holden Evening Prayer will begin February 21. We hope to see you in worship during the holy season of Lent, as we make our way to the grief of the occupied cross, and, ultimately, to the joy of the empty tomb!

In baptismal hope.

Pastor Jenn



Music Notes

“What to Watch”

Glenn Miller Orchestra Concert - Presented by: D & P Music, LLC

Date: Monday, January 22, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Turner Auditorium, TCC, 444 Appleyard Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32304

Admission: Reserved seating tickets. \$37.00. Call 321-441-9135 ext. 2 for details.

Website: <https://glennmillerorchestra.com/>

Join us for an evening concert with the most popular and sought after big band in the world today. With its unique jazz sound, the Glenn Miller Orchestra is considered to be one of the greatest bands of all time.

Hear all the great classics: Moonlight Serenade, Little Brown Jug, A String of Pearls, Chattanooga Choo-Choo, Pennsylvania 6-5000, In The Mood, At Last, and many more.

Witness the orchestra's impeccable musicianship and feel the infectious energy as they transport you back to a bygone era, igniting the dance floor and captivating audiences with their unforgettable renditions. Whether you're a jazz enthusiast or new to the swing scene, this concert promises an evening of pure musical delight!

St. Olaf Choir Conducted by Anton Armstrong- Presented by: St. Olaf College

Date: Friday, February 2, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Trinity United Methodist Church, 120 W. Park Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Admission info: Admission is \$35 or \$10 for students. Group discount of 10% available for groups of 10+. Contact our church office (Grace Lutheran) about joining our group for the discount.

For more than a century, the St. Olaf Choir has set the gold standard for choral singing, performing for millions around the world. Composed of 75 mixed voices, the St. Olaf Choir is hailed as one of the nation's premier a cappella ensembles, renowned for its artistry and beauty of sound.

"We seek to be a transforming force in society through choral performance, bringing understanding, mercy, justice, peace, and hope to a world that desperately cries out for these things." – Anton Armstrong

Tallahassee Youth Orchestra Guest Artist Concert

Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Ruby Diamond Concert Hall, FSU, 222 S. Copeland Street, Tallahassee

Tickets will be available online at www.TallahasseeYouthOrchestras.com from January 1, until February 24 and then also at the door on the day of the concert: Adults \$10, Children \$5, FSU/TCC/FAMU students with ID are free

Email: tyodirector@gmail.com

Tallahassee Youth Orchestras' Guest Artist will take place on February 25, 2024, at 3:00 PM in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall at Florida State University. This wonderful event will feature Violinist Corinne Stillwell and showcase the talents of TYO's Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and Intermezzo Strings!

Baptism at Grace

I have the great joy of sharing with you that, on Tuesday, December 26th, I had the honor of welcoming Benjamin Charles Schilling, son of Charles and Mary Rae Schilling, into the family of God through the sacrament of *Holy Baptism*. Normally, baptisms happen on Sundays, during a regularly scheduled worship service. However, there was a set of circumstances in this case that made it necessary to offer the sacrament outside of that time.

Benjamin's father, Charles was a member of Grace prior to moving out of state, and, his grandparents, Chuck & Pam Schilling, and his Baptismal Sponsor, his Aunt Stephanie Tice, are all members of Grace. Along with them, additional family members, and two members of Grace – Dave & Mary Grant – were present that day to witness the baptism.

Through his baptism, Benjamin is a part of the Family of God here at Grace. Please keep him, and his parents and sponsor, in your prayers as he continues to grow in years, and in faith. His first birthday was just two days later! Happy Birthday, Benjamin, and welcome to God's family!

Peace,
Pastor Jenn



It's Chili Cookoff Time!

The Annual Chili Cookoff will be Sunday, January 21 at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a pot of your own Chili or come and enjoy the efforts of others. Judges will proclaim a winner and church members will vote on a "People's Choice," winner.

There will be sign up sheet in the lobby for Chili Cooks, those attending, and a sheet for donations. Bring an appetite and bring a friend or two. It will be a great day at Grace Lutheran Church, one of faith, fellowship and fun!

Judges are also needed. Please see Mary Grant if you will volunteer.

LAY READER SCHEDULE

January 14: 9:00 a.m. - Sharon Piepmeier; 11:00 a.m. - Randi Buehner
January 21: 9:00 a.m. - Kathy Gatzlaff; 11:00 a.m. - Judy Blancett
January 28: 9:00 a.m. - Bill Pomidor; 11:00 a.m. - Karen Bradley
February 4: 9:00 a.m. - Nick Gandy; 11:00 a.m. - Elisa Casey
February 11: 9:00 a.m. - Kathy Gatzlaff; 11:00 a.m. - Mary Eichin
February 18: 9:00 a.m. - Mary Grant; 11:00 a.m. - Tina Frese
February 25: 9:00 a.m. - Janet McPherson; 11:00 a.m. - Abi Hudson

COMMUNION ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

January 21: 9:00 a.m. - Dean Gatzlaff; 11:00 a.m. - Don & Judy Blancett
January 28: 9:00 a.m. - Mary Grant; 11:00 a.m. - Marilyn Harper, Abi Hudson
February 4: 9:00 a.m. - Janet McPherson; 11:00 a.m. - Paul Schneider, Kathy Van Loo
February 11: 9:00 a.m. - Dean Gatzlaff; 11:00 a.m. - Mary Eichin, Randi Buehner
February 18: 9:00 a.m. - Mary Grant; 11:00 a.m. - Kris-Tena Albers, Daryl Barowicz
February 25: 9:00 a.m. - Sharon Piepmeier; 11:00 a.m. Don & Judy Blancett

OFFERING COUNTER SCHEDULE:

January 28: Randi Buehner, Mary & Dave Grant
February 11: Mark & Priscilla Heidorn, Janet McPherson
February 25: Debra & Jim Nelsen, George Ohlin

Calling the Men of Grace

The Men's Ministry Group meets the third Monday of each month, beginning at 11:45 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. The next meeting is

scheduled for Monday, January 15.

QUILTERS meet on the third Thursday each month. The next meeting is Thursday, January 18, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

WOMEN'S GROUP meets every fourth Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall. We would love to see you there!



Happy January/February Birthdays

January 1

Lance Peterson

January 3

Gavin Leanillo

January 4

Sue Homant, June Lawrence,
Kevin Lundgren

January 8

Georgia Jahns

January 12

Victoria Heller

January 15

Lisa Rubin

January 17

Nancy Adams

January 18

Jan Holmden

January 20

Irwin Jahns, Peggy Stevens

January 23

Anna Fitzpatrick

January 25

Jean Jacobs

January 27

Leila Allen

January 29

February 1

Mary Allen, Otis Chinn

February 2

Nancy Mazzei, McKenna
Swartzman

February 3

Virginia Dix, Debra Jahns Nelsen

February 7

Bob Becker

February 9

Charles Schilling Jr.

February 10

Kathy Van Loo

February 12

Kathy Von Hoff

February 13

Maria Heidorn, Amanda Leanillo

February 14

Judy Blancett

February 15

Bob Holmden

February 16

Diana Haverlah

February 20

Rosie Shupe

February 21

Charles Ewald

Calvin McMillan, Joseph McRory

January 30

Nancy Banks, Sunshine Jacobs

January 31

Jane Moyer

February 22

Louise Price

February 25

Geraldine Kurtz, Alexander Tice

February 26

George Ohlin, Eileen Sherlock

February 28

Chris Farrell



Have a topic to share for the March 2024 Grace Notes? Feel free to send Nick Gandy an email at ngandyman@yahoo.com. Your input is always welcome.

Grace Lutheran Church | 2919 Miccosukee Road, Tallahassee, FL 32308

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