

Grace Lutheran Church

NOVEMBER Grace

NOVEMBER 2024
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Pondering Along The Way

I Have Hope!

The leaves are falling and falling and falling. Halloween has past. Soon, it will be Thanksgiving. I know, you probably thought that soon it will be Christmas. Let's not rush things and miss the importance of Thanksgiving in our lives. A few sermons ago, I shared with you this quote by William Law in 1729; "Would you know Him who is the greatest saint? It is not he who prays the most or fasts the most; it is not he who gives Alms, but it he who is always thankful to God, who receives everything as an instance of God's goodness and has a heart always ready to praise God for it."

In this month of November, we are focusing our attention and our worship on Stewardship as we consider our calling to offer our Father the First Fruits of our lives. The foundation of all this is rooted in our gratitude for all that He has given us. True joy is found when we take time to give thanks and acknowledge in our giving that all that we have is from His fatherly and loving hand. "It is not joy that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us joyful." (David Steindl-Rast)

One can have all the riches of the world, but without a grateful heart, one's life is lived out in poverty. Even when we would prefer to skip the day ahead, there is one reason for which we can always be filled with gratitude - Him! He is our Father.

He is our Savior. He is our Counselor. When we begin a day knowing this, then our entire sense of being will be one of gratitude, no matter what the day holds. I will close with this beautiful prayer by Paul Tripp:

There are so many disappointments in life, but I am never disappointed in you. I fail at what I purpose or attempt, but your strength is forever Infinite. There seems to be so much nastiness everywhere, but you have always treated me with tenderness. At times I can be so selfish, but you are the ultimate giver, lavish in generosity.

I am too often angry, but you are slow to anger and abounding in love.

I can be way too quick to judge, but you are gracious, patient, and forgiving.

There are times when my life seems out of control, but over everything you've made, you exercise perfect control.

I often fail in my battle with sin, but in every way, you are infinitely holy.

I live in a world often devoid of truth, but you are the source of everything that is true.

I am often confronted by my weakness, but nothing is impossible with you; you are my strength.

There are so many things I do not know, but with you, there are no surprises or mysteries.

I don't always do what I've promised to do, but in every situation and in every way, you are faithful.

I am often quick to condemn, but you are quick to forgive, giving grace upon grace.

I often exercise my power for my benefit alone, but for the sake of your children, you willingly unleash your power.

I often give people what I think they deserve, but you reward us again and again because of your mercy.

So, here is my confession: if left to my own, I would always fall short of your glory.

But you have not left me on my own, you have included me in your story of redemption.

Because I am in you and you are in me, despite my failings, I have hope.

This hope is with me wherever I go, whatever I do; a hope not just for today but tomorrow, and not just tomorrow, but for all of eternity.

May our Father fill your heart and life with gratitude!

Pastor Barry

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your mind and with all your strength. (Mark 12:30 NIV)*

**NOVEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**

Birthdays not
published on-line.

MEMORIALS

In Memory Of

Sent By



Gifts of Grace Gift Card Program
(to Benefit Growing with Grace Preschool)

Order with payment must be
Submitted by noon on the
FIRST Sunday of each month.

NEXT GIFT CARD ORDER

December 1st, 2024

**New participants: Tops Friendly
Markets and Big Lots!**



NOVEMBER SERVICE

SCHEDULE

CHURCH

COUNTERS

Jim & Stacia
Roggenbaum

ALTAR

COMMITTEE

Jackie Streb
Kristen Langianese

READERS

Gayle Gallmann

PRAYERS

Jerry Craver

Please remember our shut-ins:

Pastor and the deacons try to ensure that each person gets visitation and Communion at least once a month. BUT, a card, a phone call or a brief visit brightens the day for our brothers and sisters who can no longer attend services regularly. Cards and a list of our shut-ins are available in the Social Hall.

Marsha Denning
354 Interstate Pkwy.
Bradford, PA 16701
814-596-7250
814-596-3439

Judy Signor
28 Brookline Ct
Bradford, PA 16701
814-779-1066

Debbie Kelly
The Pavilion at BRMC
200 Pleasant St.
Bradford, PA

Donna Lannen
Ecumenical Home
100 St. Francis Dr.
Bradford, PA 16701

Charlotte Reinhardt
230 Rutherford Run
Bradford, PA 16701

Ray Eidson
100 St. Francis Dr.
Apt. 107 Chapel Ridge

Betty Jean Austin
100 St. Francis Drive
Bradford, PA 16701

Rose Hager
144 Davis St., Apt 2
Bradford, PA 16701



Grace Memorials / Altar Flowers

Prayerfully consider donating to the Grace Memorial fund when you wish to make a memorial donation. When you donate to the Memorial Fund, a card is sent to the family of the person that you are remembering.

Also, you may sign up for Altar Flowers on the chart posted in the Social Hall. This can be in memory of a loved one or friend or to commemorate a special event.

To make a donation you may use one of the envelopes in the Welcome Center and place in the collection plate, the safe or call the Church Office at 362-3244.

FYI

For anyone wishing to rent the Social Hall or the Community Life Center for an event, your contact person is the **Brenda Alviti 814-558-1829.**

Council Meeting

Church Council meeting will be at 6:30pm **November 12th, 2024 & December 10th** in the Social Hall. Please remember that the Congregation is always welcome!

Deacon's Meeting

The next Deacon's meeting will be at 6:00pm **December 4th, 2024** in the Social Hall.

RECYCLING: Keep saving your nickel cans and nickel plastic bottles! Please leave them in the Social Hall for pick-up. Thank you!
Remember: "With God all things are possible." The total raised for 2023 was **\$5,144.63.**



Deadlines for Weekly Slides, Bulletin Items

Just a reminder that the deadline to have items placed in the weekly bulletin is Wednesday morning and the deadline for slides is Thursday morning. Please write the information in the manner you would like church secretary to print it.

Women's Bible Study

We will be meeting on November 14th at 10:30am in the church social hall. This will be the only session in November due to Thanksgiving.

We are continuing our study of Christian Disciplines. In these anxious times in our families, our nation and around the world we need to be disciplined to react with a positive attitude based on Biblical principles.

All women are invited and is not limited to just Grace church members. So, bring a friend!

If you have any questions please contact:

Vicki Sander - 814-465-3137 or Laura Keesler - 814-465-9388.

CHRISTMAS CHEER BOXES & CHURCH DECORATING

We would like to prepare boxes to bring some cheer and let people know we are thinking about them. Our nursing home residents are included with appropriate items.

Donated items need to be brought in by Sunday, November 24th. A list will be placed in the welcome center along with a sign-up sheet and box to put items in. We suggest – individual wrapped food items that are nonperishable, personal care items, anything that you think would put a smile on someone's face. Some fresh fruit will be supplied close to the day we prepare the boxes.

We plan to decorate the church and prepare boxes on **Saturday, November 30th @ 9:00am.**

Any questions please contact Amy Coffman 814-596-3873.





**Grace
Lutheran
Church**

**Interim Pastor
Barry J. Keurulainen**

**79 Mechanic Street
Bradford, PA 16701
(814) 362-3244
Fax (814) 362-6085**

**Community Life Center
(814) 362-1236**

**glmoffice@agraceplace.org
www.agraceplace.org**

Join Us For Worship!

**Sunday
10:00am Blended**

9:00am Family Education

***We're On The Web!*
www.agraceplace.org
Like us on Facebook:
Grace Lutheran Ministries
Subscribe to our YouTube channel:
[www.youtube.com/
@GraceLutheranChurchBradfordPA](http://www.youtube.com/@GraceLutheranChurchBradfordPA)
*(Live Streaming Sundays 10am)***

**CURRENT AND
UPCOMING EVENTS AT
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**November 6th
Deacon's Meeting 6pm**

**November 12th
Council Meeting 6:30pm**

**November 14th
Women's Bible Study 10:30am**

**November 28th
Thanksgiving**

**December 4th
Deacon's Meeting 6pm**

**December 10th
Council Meeting 6:30pm**

**Office Hours:
Monday: 10am-2pm
Tuesday: 10am-2pm
Thursday: 10am-2pm
Friday: 10am-2pm**

The Grace Lutheran Church Newsletter is published monthly. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. If you have any questions or comments about the newsletter, please e-mail them to: glmoffice@agraceplace.org or leave them in the church