Grace Lutheran Church

APRIL Grace

APRIL 2025 Vol 26: Issue 3



Pondering Along The Way

The Power of the Cross Reveals the

Glory of God's humility in Christ

Humble Majesty

(Jesus) humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! Philippians 2:8

When Queen Elizabeth II visited the United States, she came in majestic fashion. She brought 4,000 pounds of luggage including two outfits for every occasion, a mourning outfit in case someone died, forty pints of blood plasma, and white kid-leather toilet seat covers. She also brought her own hairdresser, two valets and many other attendants. The price tag for the trip exceeded 20 million dollars.

Contrast this with Jesus' entry into the world.

(Jesus,) being in a very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to earth—even death on a cross!

Philippians 2: 6-8

The power of the cross reveals a humble majesty. In Jesus we find an amazing blend of holiness and humbleness of glory and grace. Angels announce his birth, yet he lies in a manager. Throughout his earthly ministry, he rebukes the boastful, but welcomes the broken.

We deepen our understanding of our Lord's humble majesty as we study the names given to him. He is the Lamb of God and also the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep. He is the Kings and yet a lowly Servant who washes the feet of sinners.

Before such humble majesty, the psalmist urges us to "rejoice with trembling" (Psalm 2:11). Who is like the God who became flesh so he could dwell among us? Is it any wonder that Psalm 95 invites us to shout joyfully, but a few short verses later, invites us to bow low, yes, even to "kneel before the Lord our Maker" (v. 6)?

We respond to his humble majesty in all these ways. Yet our worship can become stale, perhaps even boring, if we lose the tension between his amazing humility and his awe-inspiring majesty. True worship requires that we maintain a balance between abounding joy and humble reverence.

Come, let us worship and bow down! Majesty is in our midst. His gentleness has made us great. (see Psalm 18:35).

Lord Jesus, you are my brother and yet you are, from all eternity, the King of kings. I rejoice and tremble in your presence today ...

Pastor Barry

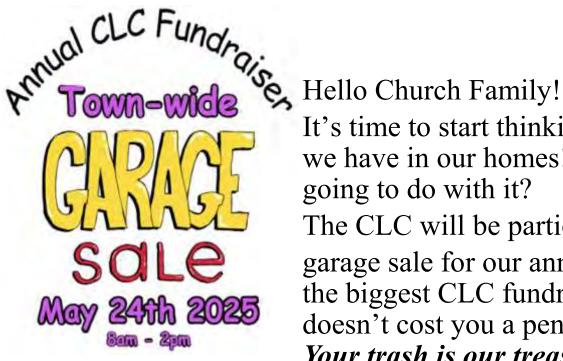
CLC NEWS

<u>Community Life Center</u> Dates to Know:

April 14 – April 17th EASTER! Join us all week for easter games, mini lessons, food, and crafts.

April 21st – We are closed for Easter Monday May 12th – Mother's Day Tea Party – Stay tuned for more details in the May newsletter, or stop by CLC to find out more!

May 24th – Garage Sale Day FUNDRAISER



It's time to start thinking about all the extra STUFF we have in our homes! Do you know what you're going to do with it?

The CLC will be participating in the townwide garage sale for our annual CLC fundraiser. This is the biggest CLC fundraiser that we do all year, and it doesn't cost you a penny to contribute to the cause. Your trash is our treasure. The profits from this

fundraiser go towards things needed for running our program on a normal day. This might mean purchasing snacks, updating gym equipment, or restocking craft supplies. This is the perfect time for you to help get the CLC ready to jump into summer with full force.

There are 2 things you can do TODAY to help make this fundraiser is a success:

Spring cleaning? SAVE items that you think would be good, so you can **DONATE** to the CLC for us to sell, and we keep the profit. Our donation drop-off times are not until May, but we want you to know now so you can set things aside as you're preparing your house for warm weather

PRAY FOR US! We always want you to join us in person and be a part of the work that God is doing in our community, and yet we know that the best gift that anyone can give us is prayer. Our God is a God who answers prayers and who leads his people when it's time to take action. We covet your prayers year-round! And we are grateful for the prayers and support that we already have.

Drop-off Times will be available for the first 3 weeks or May this year! Watch the May newsletter for more information on how to support the CLC through this fundraiser.

Monday, May 5th - Thursday, May 8th Monday, May 12th - Thursday, May 15th Monday, May 19th - Thursday, May 22nd Between 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

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)

<u>APRIL</u> BIRTHDAYS	<u>MEMORIALS</u>	
Birthdays not published on-line	<u>In Memory Of</u> Andrew Dzirkalis	<u>Sent By</u> Jackie Streb Bruce & Chris Schuessler Hailie Cox Jan Swanson
	Charles Spiegal	Jackie Streb
	Helen Olshefski	Jackie Streb
APRIL SERVICE SCHEDULE		
CHURCH COUNTERS		



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

Debbie Kelly The Pavilion at BRMC 200 Pleasant St. RM #227 Bradford, PA 16701 814-362-8624 Ray Eidson 200 St. Francis Dr. Apt. 107 Bradford, PA 16701 814-397-0165 Donna Lannen BEH 100 St. Francis Dr. Room #309 Bradford, PA 16701 814-598-7130

Betty Jean AustinRog100 St. Francis Dr,144Bradford, PA 16701Ap814-362-7715Bradford8181

Rose Hager 144 Davis St. Apt. 2 Bradford, PA 16701 814-368-8456

Gifts of Grace Gift Card Program



Order with payment must be Submitted by 11AM on the FIRST Sunday of each month. NEXT GIFT CARD ORDER April 6th, 2025

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Questions? See Jackie Streb







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 814-362-3244.

FYI

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

Council Meeting

Church Council meeting will be at 6:30pm <u>April 8th,2025</u> in the church social hall. Please remember that the Congregation is always welcome!

Deacon's Meeting

The next Deacon's meeting will be at 6:00pm <u>April 2nd, 2025</u> in the church social hall.

<u>RECYCLING</u>: Keep saving your nickel cans and nickel plastic bottles! Please leave them in the church social hall for pick-up. Thank you!



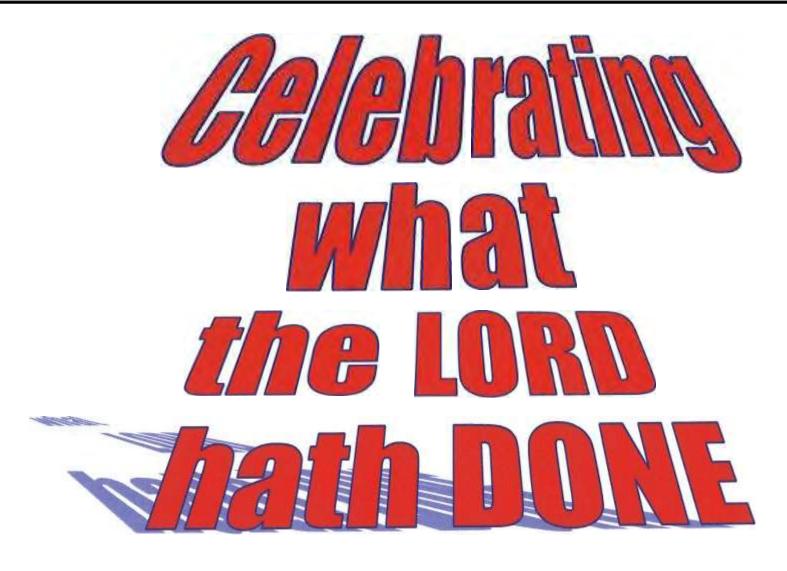
Remember: "With God all things are possible."

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 the church secretary to print it.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study will meet April 10 and April 24 in the church social hall at 10:30AM. Coffee, cookies and fellowship prior to the class. The class on April 10 will be "From Good to Better to Best". Focus is on Jesus's resurrection and the Importance of living and sharing Jesus' victory. Base on 1st Corinthians 15: 57. It would be a good time to visit the group. We will continue with Christian Disciplines on April 24. Call Vicki Sander (814-465-3137) or Laura Keesler (814-465-9388)



UP-COMING SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY	APRIL 13 [™]	9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL	10AM SERVICE
MAUNDY	APRIL 17 [™]	5:30-5:50PM PRAYER	6PM SERVICE
THURSDAY		SESSION IN CHURCH	
GOOD FRIDAY	APRIL 18 [™]	5:30-5:50PM PRAYER SESSION IN CHURCH	6PM SERVICE
CROSSWALK	April 18th	12pm	St. Bernard
EASTER MORNING	APRIL 20 [™]	8:30AM EASTER BREAKFAST IN SOCIAL HALL	10AM SERVICE



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 CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

> <u>April 2</u> Deacons Meeting 6 PM

<u>April 8</u> Council Meeting 6:30 PM

<u>April 10 & 24</u> Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM

> <u>April 13</u> Palm Sunday

glmoffice@agraceplace.org www.agraceplace.org <u>April 17</u> Maundy Service 6 PM

<u>April 18</u> Crosswalk Noon Good Friday Service 6 PM Office Closed

Join Us For Worship!

<u>Sunday</u> 10:00am Blended 9:00am Family Education <u>April 20</u> Easter Breakfast 8:30 AM

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 10am-2pm



Tuesday: 10am-2pm **Wednesday: CLOSED** Thursday: 10am-2pm Friday: 10am-2pm

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