

Grace Lutheran Church

MAY Grace

MAY 2025

VOL 26: ISSUE 4



ASCENSION DAY

May 29, 2025

Pondering Along The Way

The Power of the Cross Reveals the Glory of God's Humility in Christ.

Ugly Beauty

Being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a Cross! Philippians 2:8

The cross is in. It is everywhere—in all shapes and sizes. It is fashionable to wear it and display it. You can buy it studded with diamonds or rubies. Crosses can be beautiful.

It is always so. In fact, Paul likely gritted his teeth as he wrote the words “even death on a cross!” Paul and those to whom he wrote knew too much about crosses. They had seen too much agony, too much humiliation, to think of the cross as beautiful. To first-century eyes, the Cross was ugly. In the minds of his followers, the last thing Jesus should have endured was the shame of the cross. Our Lord, however, has a strange and wonderful way of transforming things. He takes an ugly thing like the cross and makes it a matter of joy and pride.

The cross of our savior does this for you and me. The Bible promises, “Though our sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow” (Isaiah 1:18). What a great image! Snow has a wonderful way of transforming a drab winter landscape, creating in its place a winter wonderland. Similarly, the love of Jesus covers over the ugliness of our sin. His grace changes everything and not just on the surface, but all the way to the heart. He changes us inside and out. What is it that makes you feel ugly inside right now? The power of the cross can transform it. An old hymn expresses this wonderfully:

*In the old rugged cross,
Stained with blood so divine,
Such a wonderful beauty I see;
For 'twas on the old cross
Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and sanctify me.
So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it someday for a crown.*

A crown and a cross! Together, these tell the story of our salvation. My dad and mom's gravestone bears both a Crown and a Cross, along with the words “I know that my Redeemer lives” (Job 10:25). It reminds me that the Cross brings beauty even to the ugliness of death.

CLC NEWS



Hello Church Family!

Have you been saving things to donate for our May fundraiser? Donation drop-off weeks are here!

In case you missed 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.

We would love to see you on May 24th, and there are several ways that you can get involved:

Spring cleaning? DONATE your unwanted items to the CLC for us to sell, and we keep the profit. Drop-off times listed below

Rent a table! Join us the day of and sell your things side by side. You pay us \$10, keep all your profits, and get the benefit of being on the townwide garage sale day map while taking advantage of the CLC's high traffic volume

Bake Goodies to donate to the CLC bake sale table

Volunteer for part or all of the day. We always need more help with tearing down at the end of the day especially, and people who are good at haggling with customers. Talk with Alexandra or see the sign-up sheet at the church for more information on how to help day of.

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 3 weeks this year!

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

at

The Community Life Center (79 Mechanic Street, Bradford, PA 16701)

If you need a different time of day, or help moving a large item, please feel free to reach out to Alexandra Hood by text, call, or email

(814) 331 – 0366

CLCdirector@agraceplace.org

*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)*

MAY
BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays not posted on-line

MEMORIALS

In Memory Of **Sent By**



MAY SERVICE
SCHEDULE

CHURCH
COUNTERS

Amy & Al Dexter

ALTAR
COMMITTEE

Stacia Roggenbaum

Laura Keesler

READER
Janelle Dexter

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

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

Donna Lannen
BEH 100 St. Francis Dr.
Room #309
Bradford, PA 16701
814-598-7130

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

Betty Jean Austin
100 St. Francis Dr,
Bradford, PA 16701
814-362-7715

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 4 4DP #on the
FIRST Sunday of each month.

NEXT GIFT CARD ORDER

May 4th, 2025

Questions? See Jackie Streb



Altar Flowers



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 **May 13th,2025** 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 **May 14th, 2025** in the church social hall.

RECYCLING: 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 Group are Meeting May 8th and May 22nd in the church Social Hall. Our classes starts at 10:30AM. We will resume meeting in September.

A good place to meet for the learning, fellowship and strengthening our relationship with our Lord and Savior.

**Call Vicki Sander (814—465—3137) or
Laura Keesler (814—465—9388) for any questions.**

Book of James Sermon Series

Beginning June 1

Finding Purpose Through your Problems	James 1:1-6
How to be Blessed by the Bible	James 1:19-27
Standing in the Face of Testing and Temptation	James 1::2-8
Faith that Works	James 2:14-27
How to Tame My Tongue	James 3:1-12
Can we All Get Along	James 4:1-10
The Old Stone Church	James 4:11-12
How to Face Tomorrow	James 4:13-17
How to Be Wise with Your Wealth	James 5:1-6
Praying for Patience	James 5:7-12
The Blessing of Us	James 5:13-20



**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
(Live Streaming
Sundays 10am)***

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

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday: 10am-2pm
Tuesday: 10am-2pm
Wednesday: CLOSED
Thursday: 10am-2pm
Friday: 10am-2pm

***May 13th
Council Meeting 6:30 PM***

***May 14th
Deacons Meeting 6:00 PM***

***May 18th
Cake Celebration for
Pastor Bill & Liz Willson
After Service***

***May 24th
CLC Annual Garage Sale
8:00AM—2:00PM***

***May 26th
Office Closed***

***May 29th
Celebration of Life for
Jon Ransom
Visitation 2 PM
Service 3 PM***

***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 office.***