



BE JOYFUL
always;
PRAY CONTINUALLY,
give thanks IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES,
FOR THIS IS God's Will FOR YOU IN
CHRIST JESUS.

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Pondering Along the Way

Six Words

“He is not here; He is risen, as He said. Come see where He lay. Go quickly and tell his disciples
“Jesus is Risen from the dead.” *Matthew 28:6-7*

Recently, Andie and I went to see my daughter Jennifer and her husband Ryan in Miami, Florida. While there, we took a tour through the home of Ernest Hemingway. One of the stories of his life is about a bet made with his friends one night at a pub. He said that he could write a story in 6 words. They said, “no way.” He took a pen and a napkin and wrote; “For sale – baby shoes, never worn.” Since then, a movement has risen that challenges people to write a summary of their life in six words. Here are a few samples.

“It all changed in an instant.”
“Knobly feet – Wobbly Body – Sharp Mind.”
“Living my dream – send more money.”
“The smallest coffins are the heaviest.”
“Brought roses home, keys didn’t fit.”
“How can emptiness be so heavy?”
“Finding you was like coming home.”

How would you sum up your life so far, in six words? Let’s change the question a bit – what is the legacy that you want to leave with your family, in six words? Here are some samples of well-known people.

Martin Luther King Jr. - “*When words spoke louder than fear!*”

Ronald Reagan - “*A World at Peace with Itself.*”

Abraham Lincoln - “*United the Country freeing the slaves.*”

Mother Theresa - “*She was Saint of the gutters.*”

What about our life as believers? Does our faith have a 6-word statement? The Bible contains 775,000 words. In the mix of those words, there are 6 words that shape the autobiography of Christianity.

“Jesus is Risen from the Dead”

Without these six words, the other 774,994 words make no sense. Take away these 6 words and there is no freedom from the past, the present or the future. We remain slaves to our sin.

These are the words that a breathless woman carried from the empty tomb and told the disciples. These are the words that have passed from person to person and generation to generation since that first Easter morning. Jesus is Risen from the Dead! They have been whispered in secret. Shared in triumph and spoken tearfully at the grave.

These six words are a game changer. These are the words that martyrs sang while being burned at the stake. These six words are what Desmond Tutu clung to, in his courageous work in South Africa. These are the words my mother spoke to me as her death drew near.

Nikolai Bukharin was a Russian Communist leader and he was the editor of the Soviet newspaper Pravda. In 1930, he gave a speech promoting atheism, and he spoke out against Christianity, hurling insults and arguments against it. When his speech was over he looked out at the crowd of what seemed to be the smoldering ashes of men's faith. Are there any questions? Bukharin demanded. Deafening silence filled the auditorium until one elderly man approached the platform. He paused and looked at the crowd and shouted Christ Is Risen! The crowd arose as one and the response came loudly: He Is Risen Indeed!

6 Words! 6 Words that have the power to change your life. 6 words that have the power to make you free from all the enslaves you. 6 words – Jesus is Risen from the Dead!

Home Prayers for Our Grace Family

This is a new and separate prayer ministry for our church. A way to strengthen our foundation in prayer for others during the week in our homes. There will be a new list every month.

Each month we will be in prayer at home with a different focus. All of us praying repeatedly on a certain circumstance in our lives. Through May we are focusing on the many health problems of our family.

We would also like a prayer time in the sanctuary, to start monthly in May - time to be announced. This is a new ministry that we pray will enable us to grow in our Christian faith and love for our family.

Any suggestions or questions can be directed to:
Vicki Sander or Carolyn McCarthy.

A list of people homebound, in nursing homes and fighting medical illness below with a prayer for the homebound and the sick.

Betty Jean Austin

Donna Lannen

Paula & Cal Abrams

Dana & Jim DiBlasi

Glenn Bunce

Jim Randolph

Jolene Schuessler

Janelle Dexter

Bob Kelly

Judy Signor

John Thompson

Rick & Kay Wheaton

Steve Shaffer's Daughter-in-law Debbie

Pence Family - Rob, Samantha, Kaylee, Jonny & Viola

Add any others you know.

For the homebound:

Loving God, touch those who are confined because of physical illness, pain, emotional distress and suffering. Heal their pains and fill their loneliness with comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

For the sick:

Lord Jesus Christ, You carried all our sufferings in Your body, and by your wounds we are healed. Look with tender compassion on all who endure sickness. According to Your gracious will, give them patience in their afflictions, ease their pain, relieve their suffering and turn their sickness into health. Your love and power can overcome anything!

***There are no wrong prayers and no end to how many times we pray!
Keep talking to God!***

*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)*

MEMORIALS

In Memory Of

Debbie Kelly

Virginia Randolph

Sent By

Bruce & Chris Schuessler
Janice Swanson

Sarah Lanier
Robyn & Ted Hardy



MAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

CHURCH COUNTERS:

Jackie Streb
Kathy Verbocy

ALTAR COMMITTEE:

Stacia Roggenbaum
Laura Keesler

READER:

Emily Miller

PRAYERS:

Jerry Craver

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays not
published on-line.

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 #309A
Bradford, PA 16701
814-598-7130

Betty Jean Austin
Chapel Ridge 414A
100 St. Francis Dr.
Bradford, PA 16701

Marianne Feldhaus
2 Bushnell St., Apt. 105
Bradford, PA 16701
585-981-6344

Jim Randolph
Bradford Manor
50 Langmaid Lane
Bradford, Pa 16701
814-368-3444

Glenn Bunce
2 South Ave., Apt. 307
Bradford, PA 16701
814-363-3166

Bob Kelly
138 Prospect Street
Bradford, PA 16701
814-362-9884

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

May 3rd, 2026

**New participants: Tops Friendly
Markets**

Questions? See Jackie Streb



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 6pm **May 12th, 2026** 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 6th, 2026 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.



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.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Women's Bible Study Group will meet on **May 14th** and **May 28th** at 10:30am in the church social hall.

We are concluding our study of "Women of the Old Testament" with "A Portrait of Excellence" based on Proverbs 31 - "A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised".

The women we have studied have given us the path on how to become wise, make good decisions and live according to God's ideal.

Have a blessed summer and we will resume meeting in September.

For more information please contact:

Vicki Sander: 814-465-3137 or Laura Keesler: 814465-9388



CLC NEWS

Hello everyone!

I just wanted to give you a little update on what is happening at the CLC. For the month for May, we will be having a party for Mother's Day on the 11th. On the 11th you are allowed to bring your mother and /or guardian to the CLC for snacks and a party. The Town-wide Garage Sale is on the Saturday the 23rd. If you have old stuff you want to get rid of, please donate it to the CLC. Drop off times start May 4th Monday through Thursday from 2pm to 6:30pm. The last day being Thursday the 21st. Starting June 8th the CLC will be changing hours to 1pm to 4pm for the summer. We are still looking for volunteers here at the CLC. If you are interested in volunteering, you can reach me by calling the CLC at 814-362-1236 or you can email me at clcdirector@agraceplace.org.

Thank you for letting me serve,
Johnna Watters
CLC Director



**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**

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

**May 10th
MOTHER'S DAY**

**May 12th
Council Meeting 6pm**

**May 14th & 28th
Women's Bible Study 10:30am**

**May 16th
ARMED FORCES DAY**

**May 23rd
Townwide Garage Sale @ CLC
8am-2pm**

**May 25th
MEMORIAL DAY
CLC & Office CLOSED**



**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