
THE VISION

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2023

Dear friends in Christ,

My friend Kristin is one of my very dearest people in the whole world. She was in my wedding, and I was in hers. We usually talk about once a week on one of the days when I'm in the car between Mifflinburg and Shamokin. Since she is also a Lutheran pastor, we frequently "talk shop," but we've been friends for so long that the conversation can turn into just about anything.

There was one day when we were talking and one of us was having a bit of a bad day. Nothing terrible, but it was a dreary day outside and it was just "one of those days," with nothing going right. Neither of us can remember who was having the bad day, but we both remember the result of the conversation. As we signed off, one of us said to the other, "well, may the sunshine come out...in your mind!" And we both laughed, and then we both started saying it to each other regularly. (It even made it into the toast that I gave at her wedding.) Years have gone by since it was said the first time, but now it's the thing we say to each other whenever anything is really going wrong. It's a helpful reminder that the right attitude in any situation is powerful.

In our home, we have a similar running joke about how the lack of sunshine at this time of year makes all of us a little bit cranky sometimes. We call the month of January either "the winter of my discontent," or "the season of sad." And then we usually tease each other by mixing up the phrases and using our best Eeyore voices.

This is all to say that sometimes winter is hard to get through. Sometimes we forget that springtime will emerge again, and that the sun is always there, even if it is hidden by the clouds. It's a good season for the book of Lamentations, where nothing seems to be going right for the writer. It's like that Season of Sad Eeyore voice meets everything that has ever gone wrong in the world. *Ever.*

And then, after noticing and calling out everything that has gone wrong, there comes a verse right in the middle of the book that is this little glimmer of hope.

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope. The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases. His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22)

It's like the writer of Lamentations was saying "may the sunshine come out in your mind," or in the words of *Anne of Green Gables*, "tomorrow is always fresh, with no mistakes in it."

In this season of snow and cloudy days, I hope that you take some time each day to remember God's steadfast love. Because with or without sunshine, God's love comes to us every day. May the hope of that message feel like sunshine in the middle of winter.

Peace, in both sunshine and cloudy weather,
Pastor Sarah

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
10 S. SEVENTH STREET

SHAMOKIN, PA 17872

THE REV. SARAH HERSHBERGER

OFFICE: (570)648-7534

EMAIL: gracelutheranch@yahoo.com

WEBSITE: gracelutheranshamokin.org

THE SERVICE: 10:00 A.M.

(In Person)

STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Sarah Hershberger
Secretary	Sandee Cupp
Organist	Walter Boyer
Choir Director	Charlene Pell
Inside Sexton	Robin Orme
Sexton	Willie Marsh

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

2025

2024

Bruce Romanic	Jeffrey Clutcher	Bill Hoffa
	Craig Rhoades	Jim Shingara

CONGREGATION OFFICERS

President	Bruce Romanic
Vice President	Jeffrey Clutcher
Secretary	Sandee Cupp
Financial Secretary	Debra Keefer
Treasurer	Nancy Joraskie

STANDING COMMITTEES

Altar Guild	
Christian Education	Pamala Rhoades
Fellowship Team	James Shingara
Finance	Nancy Joraskie
	Gladys Shingara
	Ron Weller
Mutual Ministry	Bruce Romanic
Property	Bill Hoffa
	Bill Joraskie
	Jeffrey Clutcher
	Craig Rhoades
Social Ministry	Bruce Romanic
Worship & Music	Charlene Pell
	Sandee Cupp
Youth	Rebecca Romanic



2/06 Karen Reeder
 2/14 Olivia Kopitsky
 2/15 Patricia Hixson
 2/21 Rev. Alfred Bashore
 2/29 Charmaine Smith
 2/29 Sara Yoder



2/13 Mr. and Mrs. Leon Madara
 2/17 Mr. and Mrs. James Shingara, Sr.
 2/25 Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Stone

Grace Lutheran Church

Building Fund Report

DECEMBER 2022

Balance November 30, 2022 \$7,380.94

Income

Green Envelopes

Dec. 4	\$215.00
Dec. 11	\$165.00
Dec. 18	\$0.00
Dec. 25	\$0.00

Total Income \$380.00

New Balance \$7,760.94

Expenses

Kreco	\$251.81
Plumbing Outlet	\$208.05

Total Expense \$459.86

Balance December 31, 2022 \$7,301.08

Respectfully submitted
 Charlene Pell, Treasurer

SERVERS FOR FEBRUARY

DATE	<u>WORSHIP ASSISTANTS</u>
2/5	Ron Weller
2/12	Bruce Romanic
2/19	Charlene Pell
2/26	Richard Kovach

	<u>ALTAR CARE</u>
2/5	Shelley Faust & Jeanne Hoffa
2/12	Pam & Craig Rhoades
2/19	Debra Keefer & Karena Weikel
2/26	Treva Madison & Joanne Templin

HEAD USHER
John Strausser



Dear Grace Congregation,

The outpouring of caring for Martha Jane was overwhelming. From the cards, phone calls, visits, thoughts and prayers, etc., it all was greatly appreciated. What a wonderful congregation we have!

Jill and Martha Jane



Martha Jane Scholl had an accident and is continuing on the long road to recovery at Selinsgrove. It would cheer her to receive a greeting or visit from her friends at Grace Church. Her address is:

Ms Martha Jane Scholl
The Manor at Penn Village
51 State Route 204
Selinsgrove, PA 17870
Room 121 Bed B
Phone: 570-372-2673

Thank You very much!

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,
Thank you for such an amazing Christmas gift and for being so unbelievably kind to me and my family. I am overwhelmed by your generosity. I am so grateful for you every day. You make it a true joy to be a pastor. Thank you so much!

With much love,
Pastor Sarah and family



There will be a Service of Word and Sacrament on Ash Wednesday (February 22) at 7:00 pm. The Service will be held on Zoom, so remember to have your communion supply with you.

Zoom numbers are:

ID 6215575058

Password 628437






OFFICIAL NOTICE

There will be a brief congregational meeting Sunday February 12 after Worship for the purpose of updating the elevator.



FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2	3 AA Meeting 7:30 pm	4 
5 Worship 10 am	6 Table Tennis 6:30 pm	7 Tulpehocken Pastors Conference 10 am	8	9 	10 AA Meeting 7:30 pm	11
12 Worship 10 am	13 Table Tennis 6:30 pm	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 	15	16 Ministerium 10 am	17 AA Meeting 7:30 pm	18 
19 Worship 10am	20 Table Tennis 6:30 pm  PRESIDENTS DAY	21	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Service 7 pm on Zoom	23	24 AA Meeting 7:30 pm	25
26 Worship 10am	27 Table Tennis 6:30 pm Council 6:30 pm on Zoom	28				

<p>Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church</p> <p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>DECEMBER 2022</p>
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GENERAL FUND

Beginning Balance December 1, 2022	\$ 16,887.46
Receipts	\$ 9,944.92
Expenditures	\$ 10,450.64
Ending Balance December 31, 2022	\$ 16,381.74

First National Bank

12/1/2022 through 12/31/2022

Check Number	Date	Payee	Amount
Debit	12/1/2022	Portico	\$ 376.03
16332	12/1/2022	Upper Susquehanna Synod, ELCA	\$ 700.00
16333	12/1/2022	Bloom Heating	\$ 2,137.00
Debit	12/1/2022	PPL Electric Utilities	\$ 155.86
16334	12/5/2022	Postmaster	\$ 300.00
Debit	12/7/2022	PPL Electric Utilities	\$ 81.66
Debit	12/9/2022	Aqua PA	\$ 68.55
Debit	12/9/2022	Aqua PA	\$ 23.67
Debit	12/13/2022	PenTeleData	\$ 120.50
16335	12/14/2022	SCTJSA - (Sewer Authority)	\$ 99.00
16336	12/18/2022	Boyer, Walter	\$ 348.78
16337	12/18/2022	Cupp, Sandee	\$ 623.60
16338	12/18/2022	Marsh, Willie	\$ 222.59
16339	12/18/2022	Orme, Robin	\$ 400.89
16340	12/18/2022	Hershberger, Sarah	\$ 1,848.83
16341	12/27/2022	Metro Pest Control Services, LLC	\$ 80.00
16342	12/27/2022	Brotherhood Mutual Insurance	\$ 1,854.75
16343	12/27/2022	1517 Media	\$ 42.25
16344	12/27/2022	Berger's Trinity Peace	\$ 16.20
16345	12/27/2022	Church Budget Envelope Co.	\$ 260.98
16346	12/27/2022	Staples Credit Plan	\$ 78.44
Debit	12/28/2022	Artistic Direct	\$ 37.02
Debit	12/31/2022	Portico	\$ 376.03
16347	12/31/2022	RADA Manufacturing Co.	\$ 31.20
16348	12/31/2022	Church Art Online	\$ 69.95
16349	12/31/2022	Staples Credit Plan	\$ 96.86
			\$ 10,450.64

Children of the LIGHT

This craft celebrates that now we are light in the Lord (see Ephesians 5:8).

What you need:

- A gallon zip-top plastic bag
- Permanent markers (dark colors)
- Black construction paper
- White cardstock
- Scissors

What you do:

1. Draw a self-portrait on the outside of the bag. Add details.
2. Insert the black paper and set the bag flat on a table. It should be tough to see your picture now.
3. On the white cardstock, draw a picture of a flashlight with a long beam of light coming out. Color the flashlight but leave the beam white.
4. Cut out the flashlight and light beam. Place them in the bag, over the black paper. When the white beam covers the black background under your picture, you can see your self-portrait clearly.

Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.

_____ ? _____

_____ " _____ 6:8 , _____

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV

