

Grace Lutheran Church  
11 East Dawes Avenue  
Somers Point, NJ 08244  
[www.gracelutheranspnj.org](http://www.gracelutheranspnj.org)

Church Office: 609-927-3082  
[office@gracelutheranspnj.com](mailto:office@gracelutheranspnj.com)  
Food Pantry: 609-927-9982  
Pastor Email: [pastoralthea3@gmail.com](mailto:pastoralthea3@gmail.com)

## Grace Messenger

### February - March 2024

#### A NOTE FROM PASTOR ALTHEA

Greetings to all Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Grace!

As we begin a new year, there is much to accomplish and many ideas floating around. We lost several brothers and sisters in Christ last year and these were both members, family, and friends of our congregation.

I had the privilege of serving alongside The Rev. Neil Jaggie at John Dunn's funeral service. We celebrated his life and there was something that stuck with me as Pastor Jaggie spoke of John as a friend and brother in Christ. Pastor Jaggie said we are all "walking each other home". It is true.

Church is a place where we gather, support one another, and empower each other to go out and serve our Lord Monday through Saturday. AND We are also walking each other home. We are side by side on the journey of life. None of us know how long our journey will be but we do our best to be there for one another and uplift each other as much as we are able.

As I mentioned above, we have much to accomplish this year and many ideas for Grace. I hope you won't hesitate to share those ideas and brainstorm new ways that we can evangelize and reach out to our neighbors as we do ministry in Somers Point and beyond.

#### STAFF AT GRACE

Rev. Althea Albright, Pastor  
Scott J. Breiner, Music Director  
Corinne Rhodes, Administrative Assistant  
Heidi Toth, Church Treasurer  
Sandy Piskun, Ruth Bowden, Financial Secretaries

Stephen Gring, Church Council President  
Mary Goodman, Church Council Vice President  
Kevin Thomas, Church Council Secretary  
Alison Toth, Social Media Consultant

I hope you will all come as often as you are able to worship with us in person. I also hope to see many of you at Lenten suppers as we will continue with video and discussion since many seemed to enjoy this last year. Easter comes early this year at the end of March so please stay tuned for worship times and information.

I pray we all continue to find ways to support one another on our journey's in life. Don't hesitate to call the church office or me if you have any questions or concerns.

May the peace of the Lord be with you as we enter a new year!

*In Christ,*  
*Pastor Althea +*



## **LAST CALL FOR DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

We are now putting our new church directory together. Please make sure we have a copy of your updated contact information form in the office. **Be sure to specify what information we may list in the directory.**

Our mailings are now based on the updated information on the forms. If you need to fill one out, they are located in the church office. If you would like to have a picture in the directory, please submit one to:

**[gracelutheranmedia24@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranmedia24@gmail.com)**

## **CATECHISM SCHEDULE—SUNDAYS AT 4:00 PM**

1/28/24 Reformation  
2/18/24 Grace  
3/10/24 Reformation

3/24/24 Grace  
4/7/24 Reformation

## FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS FOR 2024

January	1/14/24	WELCA
February	2/11/24	Financial Support Committee
March	3/10/24	LENT-no fellowship
April	4/14/24	Council
May	5/12/24	Ushers
June	6/9/24	Choir
July	7/14/24	Summer Break
August	8/11/24	Summer Break
September	9/8/24	Worship & Music Committee
October	10/13/24	Facilities Committee
November	11/10/24	OPEN
December	12/15/24	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

## STRONGER TOGETHER Grief Support Group

This group starts on **Monday, February 5 at 7:00 PM** and **Thursday, February 8 at 2:00 PM**. All who have lost loved ones are invited to attend on the day and time that fits best with your schedule. Contact Pastor Althea for more information.

## WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING

Pastor Althea would like to provide worship leader training to volunteers who feel they are able to fill in when pastor is on vacation on a Sunday or if she is ill. These individuals could work together or on a rotating basis, as needed, to lead worship on those Sundays at 8:00AM or 10:15AM.

Participants will receive training on the basic elements of the worship service, order of worship, and resources to find appropriate reflections to be used in place of a sermon.

If you are interested in participating in this training, please fill out the form to indicate what days and times you are available to meet, so Pastor Althea can accommodate schedules.

## 2024 WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

	<u>February</u>		<u>March</u>
2/4	Edna Cordery	3/3	Ruth Bowden
2/11	June Jordan	3/10	June Jordan
2/18	Kevin Thomas	3/17	Meg Markkanen
2/25	James Ehrhardt	3/24	Meg LaSpina

---

### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING February 4, 2024

MEETING WILL BE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 10:15AM WORSHIP  
IN THE SANCTUARY  
(PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS NO 8:00AM WORSHIP ON THIS DAY)

ACCESS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE VIA ZOOM

**REMINDER:** All members watching worship from home on the day of the meeting  
**must close YouTube and log into ZOOM**  
in order to hear and participate in the meeting.

BY VIDEO ON ZOOM WEBSITE:

Go to Zoom website and "join a meeting" or go to this link:

[https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83844583877?  
pwd=9D6GyZmoelY1mcxHSnIDtM61zzp8z8.1](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83844583877?pwd=9D6GyZmoelY1mcxHSnIDtM61zzp8z8.1)

---

### 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY KICK-OFF

The 100th Anniversary Committee Invites you to a kick off luncheon on  
**Sunday, February 25,**  
to celebrate the beginning of our centennial year of ministry!  
**We will have one worship service at 10:15 AM,**  
where Bishop Tracie Bartholomew will preside.

**Lunch will follow the service.** *There is no cost to attend.*

Please RSVP by turning in the form, call, or email the church office with  
your RSVP and any food allergies.

## **WORSHIP SPONSORSHIPS: FLOWERS, CANDLES, WINE, BULLETINS, MUSIC**

We are in need of flower sponsors, as well as other sponsorships for 2024. The sign-up charts are in the narthex every Sunday and in the church office throughout the week.

### **PRAYER LIST**

Please keep the following people in your daily prayers:

**Members of Grace:** Debbie K., Renee P., Carole T., Bettie C., Bob C., Joe M.,

**Our family and friends:** Eileen, Jeff (Ruth T.), Stephanie B., Eleanor (Roberta B.), Marilyn, Margie, Ric (Ruth B.), Rinata, Patti R., Kayla, Kelly, Judi, Margo, Lorna & Luna (Clare B.), Bob, Kim (Jim F.), Michal Ann, Savannah, Houston (June J.), Shirley (Debbie K.), Bob & Lou (Dale K.), Jim, Elliot (Meg L.), Tim (Diana M.), Karen, Ashley (Renee P.), Family and Friends of Gwen, Catherine, Sal, Ana, Mark (Corinne R.), Lynne, The McGuire Family, Joseph, Earnest, Sallie, (Jill W.), Rob, Dorrie (Marlene D.), Carrie (Ray H.), Duncan (Eddie T.), Bruce (Elizabeth H.), Sue (Carol L.), Christine K., Demetri, Amy, and Abigail, Jayden, Robin, Shawn, Jim, and Vicki, Family and Friends of Bobbi (Bob K.), Family and friends of John (Patty D.), Family and Friends of Mary Ann (Wendy D.)

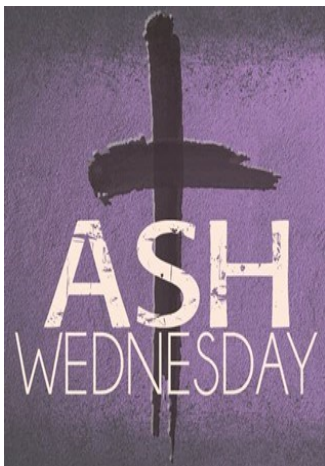
**Those serving our country:** Mike Bilello, ANG, Cainan Johnson, USAF, & Daniel Casner, 3rd USN

**Our members at home:** Bonnie Condliff, Ruth Kruger, Lois Reardon

**Woodview Estates:** Lorraine Moore

**The Shores at Wesley Manor:** Eleanore Guire

*Please notify Pastor Althea or the church office of any changes or additions to our prayer list.*



## **Ash Wednesday Service**

**February 14, 2024**

**12:00PM** (Brief prayer service and ashes)

**and 7:00PM** (Ashes and Movie)

*see next page for details*



## **A NOTE FROM MUSIC DIRECTOR, SCOTT BREINER, ABOUT ASH WEDNESDAY & VALENTINE'S DAY**

It seems like we just finished Christmas and New Year's celebrations, and now it's already the Lenten Season! No rest for the weary! It is all part of our Lenten pilgrimage! Due to the scheduling of up and coming events, we would like to try something a bit different.

On February 14th, we will start our Lenten journey at 6:00 PM with a supper, followed by the movie "Chocolat" and ending with The Imposition of Ashes. Please sign up ASAP if you want to bring something on the list in the narthex. The menu will include soup, salad, bread, drinks (soft and hard) and chocolate desserts to go with the movie.



### **Bread and Broth Supper throughout Lent**



Come for fellowship & faith enrichment

**Join us Thursdays at 6:00PM**

*in the Fellowship Hall for supper*

**6:30PM** faith enrichment video series ***The Chosen***

(February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 21)

Please sign up to bring bread, soup, or a salad so we know what food we will have each week. Call the church office or sign up in the narthex on the sign up sheet on Sundays.



# HOLY WEEK

---

## *Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024*

8:00AM and 10:15AM worship with palms  
and service of healing and anointing.

*(No Adult Forum Sunday School this day at 8:45AM.)*

## *Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024*

12:00PM (noon) Worship with Holy Communion

6:00PM Bread and Broth Supper

6:30PM Worship with Holy Communion

## *Good Friday, March 29, 2024*

12:00PM (noon) Worship Service

6:30PM Worship Service

## *Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024*

8:00AM and 10:15AM Celebration of the Resurrection of Christ

Worship Service with Holy Communion

*(No Adult Forum Sunday School this day at 8:45AM.)*

---

The Church Office will be CLOSED on March 28–April 1, 2024  
in observance of Easter.



### February

2/1 Colette Estrada  
 2/3 John Sandtorp  
 2/3 Carole Trautz  
 2/5 Helen Flamm  
 2/5 Frank Golden  
 2/6 Evelyn Lushear  
 2/7 Deborah Schafer  
 2/9 Sally Stieska  
 2/12 Kathy Ruffenach  
 2/15 Clare Brick  
 2/17 Linda Corradetti  
 2/22 Patty Dunn  
 2/22 Kathy Wopatk-Nigsch  
 2/25 Karan Kredatus  
 2/26 Jim Cordery

### March

3/2 Bob Carlson  
 3/4 Bonnie Condliiff  
 3/5 Jeff Toth  
 3/8 Michael Berenotto, Jr.  
 3/11 Sandy Piskun  
 3/19 Bob Klingensmith  
 3/25 Joe Martin  
 3/27 Meg La Spina  
 3/28 Aud Suckiel  
 3/30 Cathleen Foerst  
 3/31 Kristin Horrox

### February

2/9 Cathleen & Walt Foerst  
 2/11 Bonnie & David Condliiff  
 2/28 Kathy & Joe Ruffenach

### March

3/25 Deborah & Gary Schafer

