

GRACE VINE

The Monthly Newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church
December 2019

Sunday Morning Worship Hours

- 7:30 am Community Pancake Breakfast
8:30 am Contemporary Worship in Hope Hall
9:45 am Grace Time
11:00 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
12:15 pm Fellowship

Five Guiding Principles of Grace Lutheran Church

- 1 Jesus is Lord!
- 2 Pray, Seek, and Follow God's Will
- 3 Share the Good News of Christ
- 4 Embrace God's Challenge to Love and Serve Others
- 5 All are Welcome

December Wilbur Emphasis: MANA House

MANA House During November, Wilbur the Pig is receiving donations for MANA House. MANA House aids veterans experiencing homelessness and is a program of Catholic Charities. For more information, go to <https://www.manahouseaz.org>.



Grace Room Ministry December's Need: Blankets

Grace distributes clothing, hygiene products, shoes, and blankets each Monday, 9:00-10:30 am to anyone who needs them from the Grace Room in Hope Hall. During the cold month of December, they are in need of blankets. Anyone who has blankets to share is encouraged to bring them on Sunday mornings, during office hours (M, T, W, & F 9:00 am-12:00 pm), or at a time negotiated with a Grace staff member.

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 22, 11:00 am

The Chancel Choir will present their annual Christmas Cantata during worship on Sunday, December 22 at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary. They will be accompanied by a string quartet from the larger community. Please join us for this beautiful telling of the Christmas story!

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule Tuesday, December 24

- 5:30 pm Contemporary Christmas Eve Worship in Hope Hall
7:30 pm Traditional Christmas Eve Worship in the Sanctuary with an Extended Prelude beginning at 7:00 pm
NO Christmas Day Worship

Lessons & Carols Worship Sunday, December 29 @ 9:30 am Sanctuary

On this fifth Sunday of the month, we will have ONE Lessons & Carols worship on Sunday, December 29 at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary. We will welcome Pastor Glen Stadler to preside over Holy Communion while Pastor Sarah is on vacation.

Christmas Caroling in the Community

Want to spread some Christmas cheer? Please talk with Pastor Sarah (pastorsarah@graceinthecity.com) or Vicar Beth (vicar@graceinthecity.com) from Grace Lutheran if you would like to participate in Christmas caroling on Saturday, December 21 at 9:00 am.

Grace Vine is Published 12 times a year by
Grace Lutheran Church (ELCA)
1124 North Third Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-258-3787
www.graceinthecity.com



The Vicar's Vantage Point

In October's newsletter, I reported that one of my priorities in the first few months of my internship is to get to know the Grace community by listening to the stories and experiences of our church members. Every story I have heard affirms this community's commitment to welcoming and loving every person who walks through our doors. Thank you for sharing your stories and for articulating how God has transformed you in the midst of this community.

In addition to learning about Grace Lutheran from the inside, I have ventured beyond our church walls to speak with various neighbors about their impressions, appreciations and concerns of the changing downtown neighborhood. This month, I have met with and listened to our following neighbors: an employee of the City of Phoenix, an employee of True North, a downtown developer, and a neighborhood resident who owns a home in Grace's neighborhood. When I asked these individuals how a Christian community, like Grace, could better serve this neighborhood, here's what they said:

"Grace is uniquely positioned to bring the social and economic injustices of our neighborhood to light. For Grace to stay connected to the needs of the community and then partnering with City of Phoenix to meet those needs is one way to stay engaged in the neighborhood."
-City of Phoenix employee

"As a downtown community, we need collaboration. Grace has a VIP seat at the table in organizations and community groups like Phoenix Community Alliance and Roosevelt Row District to contribute and inform people about who Grace is. I think if more people knew about what Grace is doing in the neighborhood, like the Foster Kid program, your access to resources would explode." – True North employee

"It's hard to bring people together, but last March I participated in the neighborhood clean up with Grace, and wouldn't you know it? The simple task of picking up trash with our neighbors got people talking to each other. Governments can't take care of everything, and so we need churches and organizations like Grace to collaborate and talk to each other about the community's needs and address them together."
—Residential neighbor

Partnership. Collaboration. Relationship. Meeting Needs. These are the values our neighbors are articulating for us. Grace's mission map indicates that partnership, collaboration, relationship and meeting needs are values our community is committed to living out. We rent space to many

groups, partner with organizations like Street Meds to provide healthcare for our neighbors, and we are collaborating with the downtown developer, True North to build a parking garage for the community. As we enter into a new church year and anticipate a new calendar year, how might God be calling us to experiment further with partnering and collaborating with our neighbors for the well being of the downtown ecosystem? How might God be calling us to pursue social and economic justice beyond our own property? How might God be calling us to seek new relationships with our neighbors? The possibilities for deepening our values and connecting with the surrounding neighborhood are endless. As we consider the coming of the New Year, let us prayerfully consider what our neighbors are saying and wonder together how God is calling us to participate in God's mission to love and serve our neighbors.

In Faith,
Vicar Beth Gallen

New in Worship: Kids' Challenge

Beginning this past October, we are challenging the kids to help lead worship in a particular way each month. In December, we challenge the kids to light the Advent wreath at the beginning of worship. Kids who want to participate can check in with Pastor Sarah or Vicar Beth for instructions.

Pulpit Exchange with New Journey Lutheran Church Sunday, December 15

Grace will be participating in a pulpit exchange with New Journey Lutheran Church in Fountain Hills on Sunday, December 15. If you would like to accompany Pastor Sarah to Fountain Hills and provide fellowship—as a way of serving that community after all their service here at Grace, please let her know no later than December 8. Pastor Adele Resmer will preach here at Grace on the day of the exchange.

Sunday Morning Breakfast Grace's Next Serving Date Sunday, December 1

As usual, the Grace community is "on" to serve the Sunday morning breakfast of biscuits and gravy on Sunday, December 1. Anyone who would like to help is encouraged to show up in the church kitchen by 6:30 am. During the month of December, we give thanks to God for the partnership of the following congregations who will serve: Trinity Cathedral, Kaleo, Orangewood Presbyterian, Holy Trinity Lutheran, and Spirit of Hope Lutheran.

GLOW

(Grace Lutheran on Wednesdays)

Wednesdays in Hope Hall

5:30 pm Meal

6:15 pm Bible Study/Program

During December, GLOW continues with opportunities to celebrate Christmas and build community.

December 4: Phoenix Children's Chorus Christmas Concert & Carol-Sing

December 11: Service Project

December 18: Community Memorial Service & Blue Christmas Service

December 25: NO GLOW

January 1: NO GLOW

Phoenix area Lutheran Youth (PhLY)

Saturday, December 14, 4:00-8:00 pm

The next PhLY event for high school youth is Saturday, December 14, 4:00-8:00 pm. The group will meet in front of the fountains outside of the Glendale Arena at Westgate Mall, 9400 W Maryland Ave, Glendale, for a Holiday Scavenger Hunt. For more information, contact Casey at PhLYministry@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/PhLYministry.

Grand Canyon Synod Newsletter & Facebook

To sign up for the Grand Canyon Synod e-newsletter, go to www.gcsynod.org, scroll down to the very bottom of the page, and insert your email address in the box beneath the heading "Weekly Newsletter." Also, please "like" the Grand Canyon Synod on Facebook! By subscribing to the newsletter and liking the Facebook page of the synod, you will keep up to date on news around the synod.

From the Church Office

The church office will be closed December 25-January 2 and will reopen on Friday, January 3. Pastor Sarah will be on vacation December 25-January 2. In case of pastoral emergencies, please contact Vicar Beth at 623-340-9956.

CALL

Confirmation Among Local Lutherans

During December, CALL participants meet on Sundays, December 1 and December 15 at Celebration Lutheran Church, 8726 W Olive Avenue, Peoria, AZ.

World AIDS Day

December 1 is World AIDS Day. Please know your status. For free HIV/AIDS testing, go to TERROS Behavioral Health at 3rd Street and Indian School or the Maricopa

County Public Health Clinic at 1645 E Roosevelt Street, Phoenix.

Spiritual Adventure 2020

Next Team Building Hike

Sunday, December 22, 12:30 pm

Our spiritual adventure 2020 will be a trip to Wilderness Canoe Base in northern Minnesota, July 12-18, 2020. If you are interested in participating, please confirm your participation with Pastor Sarah no later than December 15. For those going on the trip, part of our covenant to one another is participation in all team building sessions as listed in the covenant. Our next team building hike is Sunday, December 22 at 12:30 pm. We will meet in Hope Hall and carpool to Dreamy Draw Recreation Area for a hike.

Upcoming parking lot fundraisers: Friday, December 6 for First Friday and Saturday, December 14 and Sunday, December 15 for Phoenix Festival of the Arts. Please put these on your calendars, Spiritual Adventurers!

ELCA Model Constitution Changes

At our January annual meeting, we will be voting on changes to the model constitution for congregations of the ELCA, including, of course, Grace. Copies of the changes are available in both Hope Hall and the Sanctuary narthex as well as by emailing Pastor Sarah.

PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Walk A Mile In My Shoes

At least the past two years, we have received sock donations from Rev. Donna Christine Park of Walk A Mile In My Shoes. This past month, Rev. Donna donated hundreds of pairs of bombas socks to the Grace Room. Her mission is to "advocate and facilitate individual empowerment through the simple sharing of a single pair of gently-loved shoes." An enthusiastic encourager of people, Rev. Donna sparkles as she shares herself with others.

For more information about her ministry, go to www.facebook.com/WAMMSNow. Rev. Donna is a big fan of the Grace community, and we give thanks for her open-hearted partnership!





Advent

Organ Recitals

at

Grace Lutheran Church

Fridays at noon

All recitals are given free of charge

Followed by reception with refreshments



Nov. 29 - Brandon Burns



Dec. 6 - Natalie Dealy



Dec. 13 - Skye Matthew Hart



Dec. 20 - Paul Oftedahl

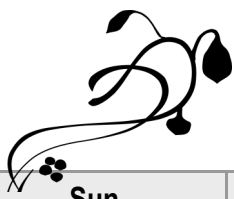
A freewill offering will be collected to support the music ministry at Grace Lutheran Church

Grace Lutheran Church

1124 N 3rd St

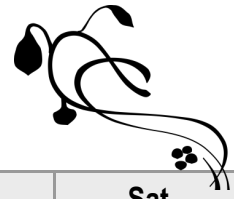
Phoenix, AZ 85004





December 2019

Grace Lutheran Church



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1- 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- North Room 11:00 am Traditional Worship-Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:30 PM Christmas Program Rehearsal & Decorating—Hope Hall 12:45 CALL- Celebration</p>	<p>2- 9:00 am Grace Room</p> <p>Pastor Sarah & Vicar Beth's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>3-</p>	<p>4- 8:30 am Staff Meeting- Pastor's Office 5:15 pm GLOW-Hope Hall (Phoenix Children's Chorus Concert)</p>	<p>5- 12:00 pm Christmas Concert & Luncheon- Hope Hall 5:30 pm Bells of Grace-Sanctuary 6:30 pm Chancel Choir- Choir Room</p>	<p>6- 12:00 pm Advent Organ Recital- Sanctuary 6:00 pm First Friday-Sanctuary 6:00 pm Grace Parking Lot Fundraiser</p> <p>Lester's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>7-</p>
<p>8- 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- North Room 11:00 am Traditional Worship-Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:30 pm Christmas Program- Hope Hall</p>	<p>9- 9:00 am Grace Room</p> <p>Pastor Sarah & Vicar Beth's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>10- 6:30 pm Outreach Monthly Meeting- North Room</p>	<p>11- 8:30 am Staff Meeting - Pastor's Office 10:00 am Knit Wits- North Room 5:15 pm GLOW-Hope Hall (Community Service Project)</p>	<p>12- 5:30 pm Bells of Grace- Sanctuary 6:30 pm Chancel Choir- Choir Room</p>	<p>13- 12:00 pm NAUM Parking Lot Fundraiser 12:00 pm Advent Organ Recital- Sanctuary</p> <p>Lester's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>14- 10:00 am Grace Parking Lot Fundraiser 11:00 am NAUM Worship- Hope Hall 4:00 pm PhLY Event- Offsite 5:00 pm Grace Cinema Club</p>
<p>15- 7:15 am Street Medicine- North Room & Basement 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- North Room 10:00 am Grace Parking Lot Fundraiser 11:00 am Traditional Worship-Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall 12:45 pm CALL</p>	<p>16- 9:00 am Grace Room</p> <p>Pastor Sarah & Vicar Beth's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>17- 6:30 pm Council Meeting- North Room</p>	<p>18- 8:30 am Staff Meeting - Pastor's Office 5:15 pm GLOW-Hope Hall (Community Memorial Service & Blue Christmas)</p>	<p>19- 9:30 am Biblical Equipping- North Room 5:30 pm Bells of Grace-Sanctuary 6:30 pm Chancel Choir- Choir Room</p>	<p>20- 12:00 pm Advent Organ Recital- Sanctuary</p> <p>Lester's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>21- 9:00 am Christmas Caroling</p>
<p>22- 7:15 am Street Medicine Phoenix- North Room & Basement 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 8:30 am Contemporary Worship- Hope Hall 9:45 am Grace Time- North Room 11:00 am Traditional Worship-Sanctuary 12:15 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall</p>	<p>23- 9:00 am Grace Room</p> <p>Pastor Sarah & Vicar Beth's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>24- 10:00 am Prayer Group- Basement 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Contemporary Worship Service- Hope Hall 7:30 pm Christmas Eve Traditional Worship Service- Sanctuary</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>25- Church Office Closed</p> <p>NO GLOW</p>	<p>26- Church Office Closed</p>	<p>27- Church Office Closed</p> <p>Lester's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>28- 11:00 am NAUM Worship- Hope Hall</p>
<p>29- 7:30 am Community Breakfast- Hope Hall 9:30 am—ONE Worship-Sanctuary 10:45 pm Fellowship- Hope Hall</p>	<p>30- 9:00 am Grace Room Church Office Closed</p> <p>Pastor Sarah & Vicar Beth's Sabbath Day</p>	<p>31- Church Office Closed</p>	<p>Our community building goal for December is to attend at least one of the following: Christmas Program on Sunday, December 8 at 12:30 pm, Christmas Caroling on Saturday, December 21, or one of the Advent Organ Recitals each Friday at 12:00 pm.</p>			

Suggested Bible Readings for December

December 1 (First Sunday of Advent)

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm: Psalm 122

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

December 8 (Second Sunday of Advent)

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

December 15 (Third Sunday of Advent)

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm: Luke 1:46b-55

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

December 22 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalm: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

December 24 (Christmas Eve)

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm: Psalm 96

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14[15-20]

December 29 (First Sunday of Christmas)

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm: Psalm 148

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23



<i>December 2</i>	<i>Barbara Buta</i>
<i>December 6</i>	<i>Chelsea Bowman</i>
<i>December 6</i>	<i>Lori Cecil</i>
<i>December 9</i>	<i>Linda Erickson</i>
<i>December 11</i>	<i>Clinton Reiswig</i>
<i>December 12</i>	<i>Nicolas Huska</i>
<i>December 12</i>	<i>Helen Mariscal</i>
<i>December 14</i>	<i>Sue Thun</i>
<i>December 20</i>	<i>Joe Dani</i>
<i>December 22</i>	<i>Stephanie Rodin</i>
<i>December 22</i>	<i>Eric Hanson</i>
<i>December 31</i>	<i>Leiana Hokanson</i>
<i>December 31</i>	<i>William Walker, Jr</i>
<i>December 31</i>	<i>Shirley Warner</i>

December Worship Assistants

	December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
Preacher	Pastor Sarah	Vicar Beth	Ptr. Adele Resmer	Vicar Beth	Lessons & Carols
Greeters	Julio Devora Betty Brewitt	Bev Zannos Nancy Tickle	Larry Schilling Judy Baker	Jim Spitler Kathy Spitler	Betty Brewitt Marjie Bell
Reader	Brian Flatgard	Nicole Gallen	Fran Fry	Tim Gallen	Gene Bell
Ushers	Dorothy Ziehl John Erickson Joey Lay	Dorothy Ziehl Chris Clark	Dorothy Ziehl John Erickson Adam Wohlbrandt	Marty Dusenberry Dorothy Ziehl John Erickson	Gene Bell John Erickson Dorothy Ziehl
Sound Board	Joey Lay	Tim Gallen	Maria Ramirez	Daniel Ramirez	Joey Lay
Crucifer	Kevin Erdmann	Solveig Muus	Kevin Erdmann	Solveig Muus	Kevin Erdmann
Bread Baker	Margie Bell	Evalyn Ehlen	Nicole Gallen	Solveig Muus	Mike Holsten
8:30 Reader	Joe Dani	Carol Staffieri	Roger Ark	Joe Dani	N/A

The Magic of Christmas

A Program of
Holiday Music
performed by
The Voices of
Phoenix
College



Grace Lutheran Women Invite You to Attend the Annual

Christmas Concert & Luncheon

Thursday December 5th, 2019

12:00 pm - Lunch

1:00 pm - Concert

In the Sanctuary of Grace Lutheran Church

1124 N. 3rd Street

SW corner of Moreland & 3rd Street

Please RSVP with the number in your party by calling the Grace
office at 602.258.3787 or Bev Zannos at 480.502.1483
NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 27, 2019

Grace Lutheran Staff

Pastor: Sarah Stadler, 602-318-6876,
pastorsarah@graceinthecity.com

Caretaker: Lester Andrews, 520-233-0468,
caretaker@graceinthecity.com

Administrative Assistant: Adrienne Kaye
602-258-3787, officemanager@graceinthecity.com

Organist & Choir Director: Brandon Burns,
blburns3@asu.edu, 828-493-3353

Praise Band Leader: Chad Hernandez-Cole
602-619-3172,
praisebandleader@graceinthecity.com

Bookkeeper: Elizabeth Pepiot

Social Worker: Jeff Jirak

Vicar (Seminary Intern): Beth Gallen,
vicar@graceinthecity.com, 623-340-9956

Grace Lutheran Church Council Members

President Tim Gallen

Vice President Brian Flatgard

Secretary Amy Poling

Treasurer Renee Waterstradt

Director Fran Fry

Director Marty Dusenberry

Director Sheila Petry

Director Haley Meier

Director Roger Ark

Grace Lutheran Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

9:00 am-12:00 pm