

The Means of Grace

September 15, 2024



“Deuteronomy 6:6-7 - And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”



Charles Darwin, Warren Buffet, Mahatma Gandhi, Thomas Jefferson, Carly Simon, Brian Wilson, Laurence Olivier, Mark Twain, Barbra Streisand, and Bella Daniels: all of these folk have one thing in common. And, no, it's not that they're famous. At least one of them, the last one, Bella Daniels, is almost unknown.

So, what common trait do these folks share?

Stage fright!

Yep, that's it. They often have become petrified when they get in front of an audience.

That was certainly the case for two-year-old Bella Daniels. She recently went on stage to perform in her very first dance recital. To make a long story short, Bella took one look at the crowd, became terrified, and broke into hysterical screams -- something which didn't necessarily encourage or inspire the other dancers.

Bella's tears went on so long, and at such a volume, her sympathetic father, Marc, joined her up on the stage. He whispered, "Do you want to dance with daddy?"

Bella nodded yes. Marc, holding another younger baby on his hip, joined in.

Videos taken of the performance show that he did a pretty good job, too.

Marc did so well, at least in part, because he had practiced his daughter's routine at home. Actually, Marc had put in a lot of practice toe-pointing. It was practice time which paid off as Bella, her fears put aside, managed to finish her routine with flying colors.

The same principle holds true when it comes to our faith. This world can be a pretty frightening

place. Left to our own devices, we can -- like Bella -- be thrown into an absolute panic. It is precisely at such times we need to remember the Savior who gave His life, so we might have life. We must remember and place our fears -- and our trust -- into His most capable hands.

Sadly, many people, including many children, have only a passing knowledge of the Christ. For them, when difficulties, pains, and problems arise, they don't automatically think of going to the Savior. Like Bella, they just stand and cry out in fear and pain -- problems Jesus would gladly help them carry.

The question is how best to share the Savior's Name with the children, so they learn to rely on Him for all of their lives?

* Some would say, "Drop them off at Sunday school or at the religious grade school or Vacation Bible School. There is no doubt that this is a good process and can oftentimes reach our children.

* The second choice is the *Marc Daniel's school of Christian education*. It means when your child comes home from VBS, Sunday school, confirmation, you go over the material with them. You study it together. You explore it as a team. You answer questions and reinforce what others have taught.

To rephrase Marc, we say to our children, "Should we learn about Jesus today?"

I'd be surprised if your children don't say, "Yes."

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Happy Sunday Members of Grace!

I am your new announcement gal, Stevie, and I wanted to let you know exactly how to reach me for any announcement needs!

The email I will be using is [gracelutheranchurch7610@gmail.com](mailto:gracelutheranchurch7610@gmail.com) which also happens to be the email you get the announcements from.

Please have any announcements in by Friday at 5PM or they will not be included until the following week. The earlier, the better though!

If you do not want to get the announcements emailed, please just reply back and let me know! I know some people prefer printed copies instead.

**Sunday**

Flowers:

Ushers:

9:30 AM

10:30 AM

10:45 AM

**September 15, 2024, Pentecost 17, Education Sunday**

Sue Hartwig &amp; Pastor Bitter's Birthday

Henry Haffner

Ric Luplow

Worship with GLS Kids Singing

Fellowship

Sunday School teacher meeting

**Monday****September 16, 2024** – Standardized Testing – Grades 3-8**Tuesday****September 17, 2024** – Standardized Testing – Grades 3-8

-- Picture Day

**Wednesday****September 18, 2024** – Standardized Testing – Grades 3-8

-- Chapel – 8:30AM

**Thursday****September 19, 2024** – Standardized Testing – Grades 3-8**Friday****September 20, 2024** – Standardized Testing – Grades 3-8**Saturday****September 21, 2024** – Hiker's Group @ Tryon Creek State Park – 8:30AM**Sunday****September 22, 2024 Pentecost 18**

Flowers:

Comm. Prep: Baer

Ushers:

Ed Gillespie, Ric Luplow, Freddie Delgado

9:30 AM

Worship with Communion

10:30 AM

Fellowship

11:00 AM

Sunday School and Bible Study Begins



Words cannot fully express our gratitude for the outpouring of love and generous gifts from our family of believers at Grace since we announced our move to Bend, especially last Sunday! The multitude of cards, gifts, and messages has been both humbling and inspiring. Your encouragement through messages and prayers has greatly uplifted us as we embark on this new chapter in our lives and ministry.

As we start this new mission while staying in the Pacific Northwest, we hope and pray that we can continue to cherish and maintain the friendships God has blessed us with over the past 20 years in the Portland area. We love you all deeply. We will keep Grace's ministry in our prayers and look forward to witnessing how God's plan unfolds in both Portland and Bend. God bless you all.

# The Bitters

# What's Happening @Grace



Amazing Grace Church has found a new worship location 615 High Street, Oregon City. It is an event center space in the heart of Downtown Oregon city. We pray that that this new worship space will be a blessing for their congregation, and place of evangelism for spreading God's Word on the southeast side of the metro. Amazing Grace would like to thank Grace Church & School for opening their space for use over these past years and wish us God's blessings in our continued ministry in Portland.

## Weekly Fellowship Food & Drinks

During the summer we will all have the opportunity to sign up and host a Sunday. Please consider being a host for our fellowship hour. If you have questions on hosting please speak to Cathie or Virginia.



## Mowing & Church Property

**THANK YOU** to **Roger Schrab** for faithfully maintaining the grounds at Grace Church and making it beautiful! Please consider signing up and helping him with summer lawn care.

## Church Weekly Cleaning!

The church building needs to be cleaned each week and we could use your help! **THANK YOU** to those who have been so faithful in cleaning the Lord's house and making it ready for worship!



## Altar Flowers

Please consider signing up for bringing altar flowers for our Sunday Worship. We need flowers every week! Signup sheet is located in the Fellowship Hall on the north facing wall.

## Usher Sign-Ups

Please consider signing up to be an Usher. Sign up sheets are located by the fellowship hall and entryway door. Currently we have availability through the rest of the year.



## Sunday School Starting Soon!

Mark your calendars! Sunday school starts next week, September 22, 2024! Please contact Craig Baker if you are interested in assisting in any way.



## Confirmation Class for Public School Students

Pastor Kraklow would like to begin classes by the end of September. To do so he needs to know how many are going to be in the class so that he can get the right number of Catechisms and workbooks. We also need to decide when to meet. The options are 1) a weeknight around 7:00; 2) Saturday morning or afternoon; or 3) Sunday afternoon. Please contact him as soon as possible so that everything can get organized. His email address is [gkraklow@comcast.net](mailto:gkraklow@comcast.net).



## Hiking Group!

Our next hike will be on September 28<sup>th</sup> at Tryon Creek State Park in Portland. We will meet in the main parking area at 8:30 AM.

If you have any questions, please contact Dan Paschke at 608-698-5394 OR Laura Paschke at 920-210-7570.

## Mary & Martha

The September Mary & Martha Meeting has been rescheduled for September 17. They will meet at 10:00AM.



## Sisters in Christ

Sisters in Christ Saturday Bible Study will meet on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 AM. We will meet at the school.

## Sunday School Teachers Meeting

Craig Baker would like to meet with all the Sunday School teachers quickly after service tomorrow, September 15<sup>th</sup>.



## *Grace Lutheran Church – Portland, OR*

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON THAT  
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE –  
JOHN 3:16

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# MILITARY SUPPORT & RESOURCES

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SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE US



GLC Website - <http://www.grace-wels.net/>

GLC Facebook Website - <https://www.facebook.com/GraceWELS/>

Bible Gateway Website: <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

WELS Synod resources for US Military members - <https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/special-ministries/military-services/>

Dear Sons, Daughters, and Friends of Grace Lutheran Church in Portland Oregon,

Your church wants you to know how much we love you and appreciate the Service that you give to our loving and merciful gracious savior Jesus Christ and our nation. Our salvation was paid for by Jesus, our freedom is allowed by God, it takes servants of all our U.S. Military branch members to ensure our way of life of freedom. Thanks be to God for each and every one of you!

We would like to be of service to you. Listed above is weblinks to attend GLC worship service both live. The Facebook link will allow you to see our archived services if time doesn't allow for you to join us live. Need access to a bible? See the link to Bible Gateway, we recommend the EHV and NIV versions.

## News From Grace Lutheran School

We would like to welcome all students and their families who are new to our school. We are very happy to have all of you as part of our Grace "family". We look forward to our Lord's continued grace and count on His guidance as students, teachers and parents work together in the weeks, months and school year to come.

[The Eagle Message](#) is our weekly newsletter to help keep you up to date on what's happening here at school. This "school note" will be emailed and sent through Brightwheel, usually on Tuesdays, with valuable and important information for our students and their families. Please read it carefully and make note of items that pertain to you and your children.

If you have a **new email address**, please send it to [lkraclow@grace-wels.net](mailto:lkraclow@grace-wels.net)

### **Grandparents Day THIS Friday, September 13th**

All Grandparents of our Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are invited to **Grandparents Day on Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>** starting at 8:00. The day will include time to meet other grandparents, enjoy some refreshments and worshipping together at our Chapel Service at 8:30. You are welcome to stay longer and spend time in the classrooms, or out on the playground for recess. Come for the whole morning or as much time as can fit into your schedule. See you there!

### **Early Release THIS FRIDAY September 13th 11:45 AM**

The 2nd and 4th Friday of each month that school is in session will be a scheduled **EARLY RELEASE** for all K-8 students. Dismissal for those early release days will be at **11:45 AM**. Students **will not** eat lunch at school on those days. Please pick up your children promptly on these Fridays. Thank you.

### **Back to School Night THIS FRIDAY Sept. 13th**

All Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their families are invited to our **Back to School Night, THIS Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM**. Dinner will be served from 5:00 to 5:30, which will include pasta, sauce, meatballs, salad, bread, beverages and dessert. After the meal, children and parents can participate in games and have a chance to spend time with one another. There is no cost for this event.

We do need some volunteers to help prepare and serve the food. Please call or text the school office (503-777-8628) or email Mrs. Kraklow ([lkraclow@grace-wels.net](mailto:lkraclow@grace-wels.net)) if you can assist with this family gathering. Thank you. See you there!

### **Kindergarten - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students sing at Grace Lutheran Church THIS SUNDAY, September 15<sup>th</sup>**

The **Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students** are scheduled to sing at Grace Lutheran Church, 7610 NE Fremont St. **THIS SUNDAY, September 15<sup>th</sup>** for the 9:30 worship service. Everyone is welcome to stay for refreshments and fellowship after the service. A map to Grace Lutheran Church is **attached**. Contact your child's teacher with any questions.

Picture Day is next week **Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**. An order form with package and price details is being sent home today AND is **attached** to the email version of this newsletter. Please complete and return the order form **FOR EACH STUDENT**, **including payment** with a check, the **EXACT amount of cash**, or information to charge your credit card account. Families are not required to purchase photos, but each student will have their picture taken for the yearbook and our school records.

### **Extended Care**

**Extended Care (3:15 - 5:00 PM)** is offered Monday through Friday, on days we have school. It is also available on early release/half day Fridays from 12:00 to 5:00 PM. If you would like to sign-up or have questions about Extended Care, please send an email to Tammy Godish at [tgodish@grace-wels.net](mailto:tgodish@grace-wels.net).

### **Chapel Service at 8:30**

We will have our weekly school-wide **Chapel Service, usually** on Wednesday mornings at **8:30. (This week it will be on Friday, for Grandparent's Day)** An offering envelope will be **sent home** for your child's mission offering. We will support mission work at *Saviour of the Nations Lutheran Church in Vancouver, British Columbia* for the first semester. Take a look at the bulletin board next to Mrs. Leitzke's room for more information. Thank you.

### Hot Lunch volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to plan, prepare and serve our monthly **HOT LUNCHES**. Hot Lunch is served once a month, on the date you choose, Simple meal ideas include: Spaghetti, Orange Chicken, Corn Dogs, Tacos, Meatballs - anything simple that kids would like. Please contact Mrs. Kraklow in the school office (503-777-8628) or [kraklow@grace-wels.net](mailto:kraklow@grace-wels.net) or sign up on the calendar by the office if you can help with these easy meals or if you have questions. *Costs for the lunch will be reimbursed.* Thank you!

The September calendar is **attached**. Please refer to it for monthly activities.

### Paperwork!

We need copies of Birth Certificates and Immunization records for KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS.

7<sup>th</sup> graders need an additional Tdap booster.

For ALL STUDENTS we need updated Immunization records completed and returned **BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER.**

Please update your children's emergency contact/medical information in your Brightwheel account. THANK YOU!

### SCHOOL SUPPLY FEE

There are still 10 families who have not paid their children's **SUPPLY FEE**. Please pay by the **end of this week**. Cost is **\$20** per student, payable in the school office with a check or **EXACT CASH**. Thank you!

### Standardized Testing for 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grades NEXT WEEK

Students in grades 3 through 8 will be taking standardized tests next week. Please see that your child has a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast to give them energy for test taking.

### Soccer Practice

Soccer practices will be on **Wednesdays** after school until 4:45 PM. We are also looking for some games to play in the area. A schedule will be sent out if we find some games to play.

### Volleyball Practice

Volleyball practices will be on **Mondays** after school until 4:45 PM. We have a couple of extra volleyball games scheduled but are still looking for more! Once we have the schedule finalized, we will send a schedule home.



Have you ever just felt down? We have all endured and experienced circumstances in our lives that bring sadness. It could be rejection, loss of a job/close friend, repeated failure at a goal or task, or a canceled flight while traveling.

Submitting to these feelings and sinking further into

acknowledging the lows is easy. At these times I try to remember two people in the bible who showed us a different way. Paul and Job, are great examples of showing true faith in God at all times. While Paul was in prison, he praised God. While Job had everything taken away, he stayed close to his Lord. While this year's theme is "Shinning Together" we want to remind ourselves, that regardless of what is happening in our lives, in our neighborhoods, or country, we have joy, peace, and the living Word to share. We should wake up every day knowing of our salvation through Christ and shine His light together for others to see. Here is a look at events from this summer.



**EVERGREEN LUTHERAN  
HIGH SCHOOL**

- **Welcome new staff.**

- **Jayden Stanossek**, our new MLC grad and Science teacher is officially moved in and is now a Washingtonian. We will install her at our opening service on August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.
- **Kelsey Churchill (Birsching)** will be our new administrative assistant and the first point of contact by phone and for visitors to our school. Kelsey is a 2014 grad of Evergreen and 1 of 6 Birsching children who have all graduated from our school.

- **Summer Camps** – We hosted six summer camps this year. (Volleyball, cheer, basketball, drama, flag football, and science discovery.) With hundreds of students on campus throughout the summer, we are extremely thankful for the successful camps, the dedication of our coaches, and the coachability of our campers. Thank you to all involved, and we pray you had a fun week and learned some new things.

- **Current enrollment** for next school year is sitting between 105-110. Up from finishing last school year at 96. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to educate these students and share God's Word with them this coming year.

- **Evergreen Workday August 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 8am-noon.** We would love for all our Evergreen supporters to come and help beautify our campus for our upcoming school year. There will be jobs for all ages with coffee and donuts to energize you.

- **New School Year Opening Service and Student Orientation** will be on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. The service will be followed by orientation in which we will share information with families about the upcoming year.

- **Freshman Orientation will be on August 28<sup>th</sup> from 8am-12:00pm.** This is an opportunity for our freshmen to get on campus and familiarize themselves with their classroom schedules and teachers.

- **August 29<sup>th</sup> is the official 1<sup>st</sup> day of school for all students.**

- **A few dates to keep in mind for this 1<sup>st</sup> semester.**

- o October 4 – Grandparents Day
- o October 25 – Eagle Day
- o November 2 – Homecoming
- o November 8 – Veteran's Day Service
- o December 3 – Giving Tuesday
- o December 20 – Christmas Concert
- o January 29 - ELHS Future Eagle Night

We are so excited for this upcoming school year. It is great to see all the events on our schedule and enrollment being over 100 again. This wouldn't be possible without your help. Your support and donations provide financial aid to our families, making tuition affordable. Your volunteering at our events and workdays allows us to showcase what God has blessed Evergreen with. We are partnered together with you and our Association to provide a Christian Education for our families. We love being able to do that with you. Thank you for supporting us and partnering with us in this invaluable mission.

In Christ,

**Ryan Schmeling - Director of Mission Advancement**

[Rschmeling@elhs.org](mailto:Rschmeling@elhs.org) 715-220-1442

## Supporting Our Neighborhood Foodbank: September 2024

The staff at Mainspring thank you for your continued support of the foodbank. Our donation for July & August consisted of 77 lbs. of food and 3lbs. of hygiene items.

For September, please continue to donate basic food items, focusing on:

- Peanut butter & jelly
- Canned protein (tuna, chicken, & beef). (Thank you for the big package of canned tuna in our last donation.)
- Snacks for high school students

Mainspring is also grateful for hygiene items (e.g., bath soap, shampoo, lotion and toothpaste & toothbrushes that are new/never used please). Any type of camping equipment is also appreciated.

You may bring your donations anytime. Mary & Martha will then deliver the donated items by the end of September. There are baskets in the fellowship hall to place your food donations as well as clothing and hygiene items. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or text Leann Breza, (360) 921-6673.

Mainspring Foodbank most-needed foods: (please *no expired items or opened packages*):

- Canned proteins like tuna, chili, salmon, ham
- Soup
- Rice
- Cooking oil
- Peanut butter
- Cup of noodles
- Canned vegetables
- Canned stew
- Canned fish
- Canned beans
- Pasta (all varieties)
- Pasta sauce
- Instant oatmeal
- Instant potatoes
- Shelf stable milk
- Juice
- Condiments
- Fruit snacks
- Crackers
- Sugar free snacks
- Snacks for highschoolers



September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

This past week I was humbled and privileged to receive your call to serve as pastor at Grace Lutheran Church, Portland, OR. I am thankful for the opportunity to consider how might have me serve our Lord and Savior in his kingdom.

Thank you in advance for your prayers, conversations and encouragements. I pray they will be mutually beneficial as we seek to discover how God might have my family serve in His kingdom.

He is guiding us all!

In Christian love,

Phil Kiecker

Pastor, North Raleigh Campus



**Find Us Online**

@RefugeRaleigh

RefugeRDU.com

CHURCH

# Boards & Committees at Grace

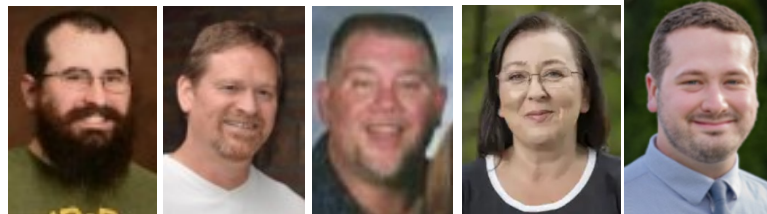
## Church Council

Juan Garcia – President  
Josh Luplow – 1 VP & BOE Chair  
Jon Cohrs - 2 VP & Secretary  
Larry Glasheen – Ministry CFO  
Dan Paschke – GLS Finance  
Justin Eternick – Principal



## Board of Education

Josh Luplow – Chair  
Michael Godish  
Dave House  
Tamm Godish - Preschool  
Justin Eternick – Principal



## Board of Elders

Craig Baker – Head Elder  
Courage Mudzongo  
Len Stadler  
Josh Luplow



## Worship Committee

Marilyn Baer  
Sue Hartwig  
Melissa Baker  
Olivia Baker  
Jacob Meyer



## Mary & Martha

Sara Hehr – President  
Elke Werner – Vice President  
Linda Bern – Secretary  
Cathie Gillespie - Treasure  
Leann Breza – LWMS



## Trustees

Ed Gillespie  
Matt Ginnow  
Kyle Leitzke  
Tyler Hafner – GLS Custodian

