

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 29, 2022



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Shore Road @ Dawes & Meyran Aves.

11 East Dawes Ave., Somers Point, NJ 08244

Office: 609-927-3082 †Fax: 609-927-6672 † Food Pantry: 609-927-9982

Website: www.gracelutheranspnj.org

Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Pastor: Rev. Althea Albright

Music Director: Scott J. Breiner

Church Secretaries: Michelle Allen & Diana McArdle

~Welcome~

Everything you need to fully participate in our liturgical worship is contained in this bulletin. If you are visiting our church for the first time or have been away, welcome. Please sign our visitors book in the Narthex (lobby) or fill out a connection card located in the seating areas of the sanctuary.

Our Mission...

- ◆ Inviting all people to *belong* to the church of Jesus Christ.
- ◆ Equipping those who *believe* as faithful disciples of Jesus, and...
- ◆ Sending members to *become* caring servants of God in the world.

~Serving in Worship Today~

Worship Assistant: June Jordan **Altar Guild:** Brenda Traa

~In Our Hearts and Prayers~

Greetings members, friends, and family of Grace!

If you notice someone missing or if anyone has someone new to add, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Althea by phone, Facebook, email or by calling the church office so we can lift their name in prayer next service. Please keep the following people in your daily prayers:

Members of Grace: Jon N., Ruth T., Debbie K., Marlene D., Joyce B., Carol F., Mike D.

Family & Friends: , Donna W., Gage, Donna L., Diana S., Virginia, Elliot, Pastor Inge, Kristi, Amanda , Cat & Diana S. (*Pastor Althea*); Payton (*Joyce Bianco*); Deb, Glen, Marilyn, Peggy, Jeanne (*Bowdens*); Ron, Bonnie & Bob (*Susan Johnson*); Annmarie, Michael Ann, Rod (*June Jordan*); Shirley & Carl (*Debbie Kleuser*); Bob (*Dale Kredatus*); Jim & Vicki (*Meg LaSpina*); Janice and Pat (*Diana McArdle*) (Bernadette, Lou, Ron, Berl, Cindy, Eric, Donny, Carol (*Renee Pugliese*); Catherine & Sal (*Corinne Rhodes*); Karen (*Sue Robinson*); Dottie Currie (*Deborah Walker*); Jeff & Amanda (*Welfields*); Eileen, Marie, Beverlee, Darlene, and family and friends of Grace Bilski.

Those serving our country: Matt Bilello, ANG; Daniel Casner 3rd, USN; Cainan Johnson, USAF

At Home: Bonnie Condliff, Joan Glenz, Ruth Kruger, Dot Reichelt, Lois Reardon, Lois Rahme & Skip Uhrmann

Shores @ Wesley Manor: Eleanor Guire, Eileen Rumble

Woodview Estates: Lorraine Moore

ELW Setting 4

3

*Please refer to your brown Celebration Hymnals (CH)
the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnals (ELW)
The blue With one Voice Hymnal (WOV)*

Seventh Sunday of Easter

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

PRELUDE

Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing

setting by
Kenneth T. Kosche

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by
the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and
worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from
you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry
and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known
and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may
live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.
In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

Baptized in Water

CH#465

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Please turn to the front section of the red ELW hymnals

KYRIE**ELW p. 147****THIS IS THE FEAST****ELW p. 149****PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

WORD**FIRST READING:** Acts 1:1-11

Jesus ascending up to heaven according to Luke.

¹In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father.

"This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him,

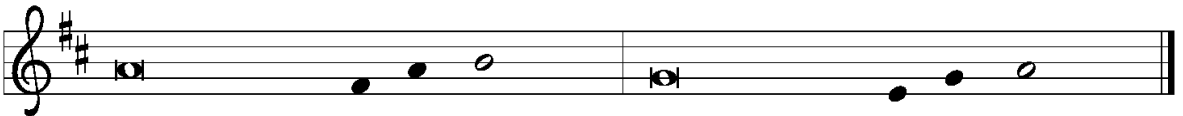
"Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said,

"Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM: Psalm 97

Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous. (Ps. 97:12)

¹The LORD reigns; let the ¹ earth rejoice; let the multitude of the ¹ isles be glad.

²**Clouds and darkness sur-¹ round the LORD, righteousness and justice are the foundations¹ of God's throne.**

³Fire goes be-¹ fore the LORD, burning up enemies on ¹ every side.

⁴**Lightnings light¹ up the world; the earth¹ sees and trembles.**

⁵The mountains ¹ melt like wax before the Lord of ¹ all the earth.

⁶**The heavens declare your righteous-¹ ness, O LORD, and all the peoples¹ see your glory.**

⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight ¹ in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, ¹ all you gods.

⁸**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju-¹ dah rejoice, because of your judg-¹ ments, O LORD.**

⁹For you are the LORD, most high over ¹ all the earth; you are exalted far a-¹ bove all gods.

¹⁰**You who love the¹ LORD, hate evil! God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand¹ of the wicked.**

¹¹Light dawns ¹ for the righteous, and joy for the hon-¹ est of heart.

¹²**Rejoice in the¹ LORD, you righteous, and give thanks to God's¹ holy name.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

After giving thanks for the faith of the Ephesians, the writer of this letter prays that they might understand the wisdom, hope, and power of God that is embodied in Jesus Christ.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able

Please to your red hymnals to the front section, as we will now sing the Gospel Acclamation

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**ELW p. 151**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:36-53

The ascension of Jesus to heaven as told by Luke.

³⁶While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them,

"Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.

³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them,

"Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴Then he said to them,

"These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them,

"Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Althea Albright

All Children are invited to follow our Sunday school teachers downstairs for a children's lesson. Children return for Communion.

SERMON

Rev. Althea Albright

HYMN OF THE DAY *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* **CH #648**

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and

he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the

communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

WEEKLY OFFERING

OFFERTORY *I Know That My Redeemer Liveth* *by George F. Handel*

Please stand as you are able

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS *Create in Me a Clean Heart* **WOV#732**

OFFERING PRAYER

Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Let us pray to God for the church, for all people in need, and for all of creation. *Brief silence*

Leader: Holy God, make your people one as you and your Son are one. Extend the gifts we have been given by your Spirit to all people, especially those experiencing division or questioning your love. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Make worthy the work of scientists who look to the stars and planets, as well as scientists who look to atoms and molecules. Bring innovation and well-being to humanity through their discoveries. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Keep in our minds those who have died or who have gone missing in war, both military and civilians. May we honor them by seeking peaceful solutions to the conflicts that arise among nations and peoples. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant freedom to all who are overwhelmed by chronic illness, depression, or constant worry especially, all those we name now or in our hearts... Open them to receive health and encouragement through God's unconditional love. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Unite us with the saints who have died and been raised in Jesus. Train us to wait with eager longing for Christ to come again, even as we sense his presence with us now. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**ELW p.152****PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD**ELW p. 153****THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for Jesus' coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of the Holy Trinity: in our gathering; within this meal; and in the many ways you make yourself known to your people throughout the world. May all blessing, praise, and thanks be to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, and by your Life-giving Spirit. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry,
all who are thirsty, come. **Come to us, Lord Jesus.**

COMMUNION HYMN

Lamb of God

ELW p. 154

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able

BLESSING

May Almighty God, our risen Savior, and the Holy Spirit †
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Rejoice, The Lord is King

CH#370

Please be seated for the postlude.

*Take this time to listen to the music and contemplate
the message presented today.*

POSTLUDE

Vivace

by J.S. Bach;
arranged by Homer Whitford

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done. **Thanks be to God!**

*Please join us for celebration reception for our confirmands
after our Liturgical Worship Service at 10:15 am.
We will be serving cake and light refreshments.*

DEDICATIONS

*The sanctuary flowers, are dedicated in honor of Andrew Siteman,
for his 15th birthday by his loving grandmother, Roberta Blumenthal.*

*The candles, wine and bulletins were dedicated in honor of her daughter
and son-in-law, Laura and Doug Siteman on their birthdays,
given with much love, from Roberta Blumenthal.*

Cape Shore Chorale invites you to a special performance...

JUNE 5
2022
3 pm

CAPE SHORE CHORALE

PRESENTS

VIVE LA FRANCE

Sunday, June 5, 2022 @ 3 PM

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

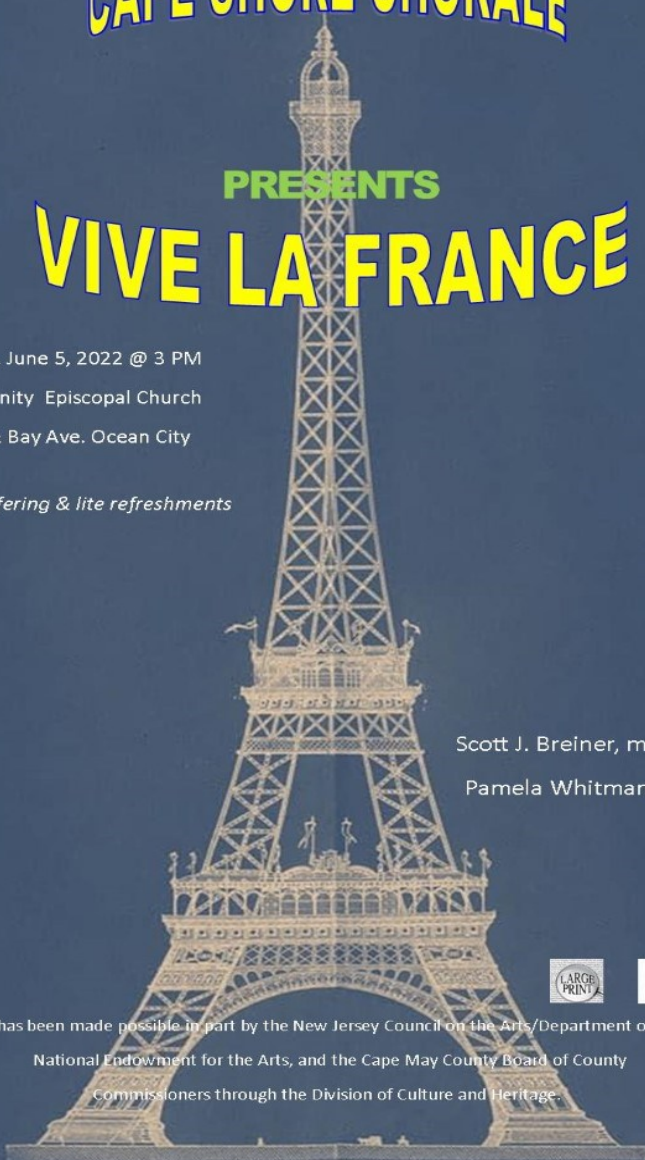
30th & Bay Ave. Ocean City

free will offering & lite refreshments

Scott J. Breiner, musical director

Pamela Whitman, guest flutist

Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey Council on the Arts/Department of State, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Cape May County Board of County Commissioners through the Division of Culture and Heritage.



Grace Notes



Grace Lutheran Church
11 East Dawes Ave.
Somers Point, NJ 08244
www.gracelutheranspnj.org

~CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
10:00 AM—3:00 PM
(OR BY APPOINTMENT)
OFFICE # (609)927-3082

Email: office@gracelutheranspnj.comcastbiz.net

Pastor Althea is typically in the office most afternoons and always available by appointment.

Worship Assistants needed for

6/12, 6/19, 6/26, 7/10, 7/17 & 7/24

Reading scripture for worship.

Please call or email the office to volunteer.

SHORE DINER COUPON

There are coupons on the table in the Narthex/Lobby for Shore Diner in Northfield who will give back to Grace Lutheran a percentage of the cost of your meal. We are thankful for their generosity.

Present this bulletin on a Sat or Sun and Shore Diner will donate 20% to Grace Lutheran. Present this on any other day, and we will donate 10%.

6710 TILTON ROAD,
EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, NJ
609-641-3669

Pastor Althea performed a special "Installation of New Members" on Sunday May 21, 2022. Many of you have been attending our church for some time now. We are proud to finally perform the formal ceremony and welcome you to the Grace family!! Phyllis Phelps; Keith Hoelker (and family); Susan and Bernard Somers; Jayne Lare; Tine Hansen; John Miller; Chris and Zavier Dennis Welcome! If you are a new member and have not been formally installed Please contact the office and complete a new member registration form. Pastor Althea is planning another installation ceremony for June.

NEED PRAYER?

Date: / /

CARD

CONNECTION

Date: / /

CARD

Please use these cards to record your attendance/communion and prayer requests.

Connection/Communion & Prayer Cards

Are located in every pew.

Place the completed cards in the offering plates or give to the usher.

Thanks!

Grace Stitchers



Grace Stitchers meet on Friday mornings at 10:30 am until noon in the Lounge. New to knitting and crocheting? Or a veteran at knitting or crocheting? Join this group to have conversation, friendship, and fellowship. Donations of yarn is always appreciated.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL Every Sunday at 8:45 am. Conference Room

This adult class consists of videos, Bible study, current event discussions, and other faith related topics. Anyone and everyone is welcome!

“GRACE FRIENDS” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children will leave for their classes with their teachers following the children’s sermon.

FOOD PANTRY CLOSED WEEK OF 6/5-6/12

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

- ⇒ ⇒⇒ Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard
- ⇒ ⇒⇒ Crackers, Chef Boyardee cans
- ⇒ ⇒⇒ Beets, Spinach
- ⇒ ⇒⇒ Bread, dairy products, Eggs, brown gravy, juice.
- ⇒ ⇒⇒ Toiletries—shampoo, soap, Toothpaste, tissues, napkins, paper towels, ETC.

OPEN Mon, Tue, Wed and Thurs from 9:00 am until 11:30 am. Pantry is closed the first full week of every month.



Helpers are needed weekly to set-up communion for Sunday services. Contact Brenda Traa, Michelle Allen, Diana McArdle or Pastor Althea to learn more about serving/helping with this vital part of our worship.

A Memorial service for Grace Bilski was conducted by Pastor Althea Albright on Saturday, May 28th at 10:30 am. We pray God’s blessing of consolation and comfort upon her family.

Dedications are accepted one week before the desired date. Payment envelopes are located near the church office



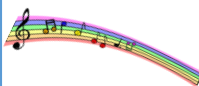
Flowers \$30

Candles \$10

Wine \$10

Bulletins \$15

Anthem/Music \$50



THIS WEEK AT GRACE

May 29, 2022 - June 5, 2022

Sunday, May 29, 2022

8:00 am Spoken Service
 8:45 am Adult Sunday School
 10:15 am Liturgical Worship
 After 10:15 service-
 Confirmands Reception (cake and light refreshments will be served)
 3:30 pm AA Group

Monday, May 30, 2022

Memorial Day

Food Pantry &

Church Offices are Closed

7:00 pm AA Meeting

Tuesday, May 31, 2022

9:00-11:30 am Food Pantry

6:30 pm NA Meeting

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

9:00-11:30 am Food Pantry

11:30 am Bayside Duplicate Bridge

7:00 pm -NA Meeting

Thursday, June 2, 2022

9:00-11:30 am Food Pantry

5:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

6:00 pm AA Meeting 12 Steps

7:00 pm Al-Anon Meeting

Friday, June 3, 2022

10:00 am Grace Stitches

7:30 pm AA Meeting

Saturday, June 4, 2022

No events today

Sunday, June 5, 2022

8:00 am Spoken Service

8:45 am Adult Sunday School

10:15 am Liturgical Worship

Confirmation of Faith

3:30 pm AA Group



THANK YOU!

LET'S CLEAN THINGS UP!

We have formed a ministry team called the Dream Team, out of Council who have been doing extensive organizing in and around the church. We want to have a day to move some big items from room to room. **If you are willing to help with some of this shifting around and moving of large items and boxes, please let Pastor Althea know as soon as possible.**

We are hoping to do this on Friday, June 3rd and Saturday, June 4th.

Stay tuned later this summer for a church YARD SALE!



COMING THIS SUMMER TO GRACE: PROPHETS!

Pastor will be preaching a summer series on some of the major and minor prophets of the Old Testament. Stay tuned for dates to hear all about their callings and prophecies from the Lord! Scott will provide us with some fun tunes to add to our weekly themes too!