

Grace Notes July 2019



# GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

351 Greenwood St  
(across from the borough park)  
Hop Bottom, Pa. 18824-9728

☐ (570) 289-4468 (fax & phone) Preschool 4921

Rev. Kim E. Bode, Pastor Email address: [hbgrace@echoes.net](mailto:hbgrace@echoes.net)

Pastor's Home 289-4081 Cell: 561-6909

**Worship:** Sunday at 10:00 am

**Adult Bible Class:** 8:45 am. **Sunday School** 9:00

**Preschool:** Runs from September through May for the 3-year-old and pre-kindergarten children. Call for more details. 289-4921

Find us on Facebook or our website: [grace-lutheran-church.net](http://grace-lutheran-church.net)



## NEWS AND NOTES

**Items of interest or news about members and friends in our community. If you have any news please get it to the church office so that it can be shared.**

**Ann Belotti** has been having a hard month. She was able to ditch the cast from her automobile accident, but found some other health problems that laid her in the hospital, and is still doing some doctoring for that.

Vincent Shertza, son of **Brenda (Adams) Gadow**, had a rather serious episode with a unexplained fever, but seems to be better now.

Our member **Jaycen Aten** graduated from Elk Lake High School and is anticipating going to Bloomsburg University and is interested in pursuing a study in the field of psychology.

Many of you remember that our former member, **Andrea (Adams) Knouse** had brain surgery about a decade ago. Just recently she has developed a complication from that surgery which might require some medical attention.

**David Corbin** has accepted a new teaching position at Montrose High School. He will be teaching chemistry.

Our former Pastor's wife, **Wilma Gombert**, who resided in Illinois greeted her Savior through death on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Her son gave the news to Lorraine Stanton and said that she was blessed by the many cards and well wishes at her recent 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Pastor Ken Gombert served Grace from 1972-1984.

**The Bodes invite everyone to their Independence picnic. July 4<sup>th</sup> afternoon at 3PM.**



## **SUMMER LUNCH BOX PROGRAM**

The Summer Lunch Box Program is chugging along; by the time you read this we'll have had our 2nd distribution. As I write, we currently have 44 families with a composite

total of 155 children enrolled.

2019 finds the Program on more solid ground than in the past so we are working with an attorney and accountant to apply for 501C3 status. This change should make our efforts more attractive to larger donors such as the gas and pipeline companies. It is a lot of work for such a small group as ours, but we feel our efforts will be worthwhile in the long run.

During the application process, we have been made aware of the need for a SLB program in the Choconut/Friendsville/Little Meadows area of the county. With the help of a few dedicated people there, we will be establishing a similar Program with a bit of guidance and assistance from us at the outset. We anticipate their first food distribution in July. If you know of anyone in either our own area or this western-most part of Susquehanna County with

children who could benefit from these efforts, feel free to refer them to Paula Smith, 570/289-4102.

Thank you to all for continued support of the Summer Lunch Box Program.

Respectfully submitted, Lorraine Stanton

## HOP BOTTOM DAYS - JULY

### 13



**Hop Bottom Days Pie Sale!** July 13 is the date. We will need pies, egg casseroles and muffins/coffee cakes. We are serving breakfast this

year at the activities center (parsonage) to the "early bird" shoppers at Sale Days. We will continue to serve our famous wimpies and hot dogs for lunch. Look for sign-up sheets. We need everyone!!

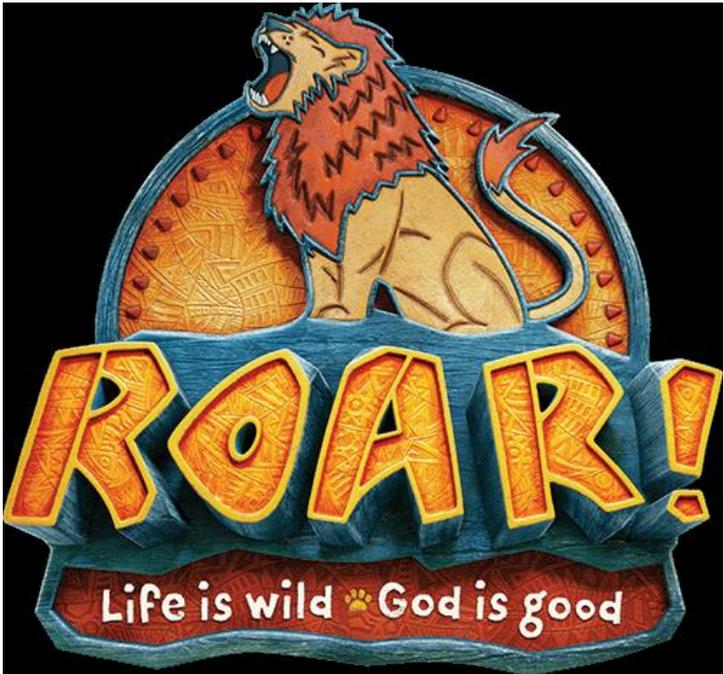
**Got stuff?** Remember, your trash could be another person's treasure. Set up a table in the church parking lot and watch your items disappear!!! Sales usually run from about 8:00-3:00. Come spend the day in Hop Bottom on **Saturday, July 13** and meet old and new friends!





The three-year-old class is full and the four-year-old class has two openings. There are not enough to have two four-year-old classes. The orientation letters are out. School will start the day after Labor Day, September 3. Anna is working with Paulette Adams, regarding the change-over, and Anna will be available to help or to substitute. Last day of school this year was June 7.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**July  
22-25,  
2018  
6-**

8:30pm

## **July 26, 2018**

Trip to Animal Adventure Park\*

10am– 6pm

Ages 3&up (must be potty trained)

Grace Lutheran Church

351 Greenwood St

Hop Bottom, PA 18824

\*Trip is free if child attends the whole week,  
more details on first night\*

### **GRACE COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 18, 2019**

**Present:** Pastor & Anne Bode, Rich & Mary Niederberger, Art & Eileen Gundell, Anna Aten, Nancy Shoemaker, Patti Barankovich, Stan Klees, Marty, Klees, Steve Schulze

Pastor opened the meeting with prayer.

There were no new members

The minutes read from the May meeting with a small correction. Motion to accept the minutes as corrected and second and motion carried.

**Treasurers Report:** Stan distributed his report and discussion followed. Mentioned that the building fund was down some and also that he just received a check for that, not yet deposited. The pastor's salary and housing figures were corrected. The emergency fund bank account will be cancelled, and that amount put into the general fund. Art asked about the evangelism expense and it was determined that it was for devotional magazines for the preschool children. After further discussion, Motion made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report and motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor asked for some impact reports and several concerns were discussed. He did not have a written report but said he will email one to the council members for the file.

**Elders Report:** Three out of four elders were present. Steve reported on the status of moving some members from the membership list to either inactive or associate members. There will not be a letter sent and just transferred over. The actual membership by this transfer will go down by 40 members. That will change our actual membership from 165 to 125. Nancy Shoemaker wanted to know if the Ten Commandments given by Don Capron had been accepted and approved. They were accepted quite some time ago at a council meeting and we just need to get them and decide where to put them.

**Trustees Report:** The fan in the women's bathroom was making too much noise and Marty put some grease on it and it is quieter now. Lynn is still working with a contractor on the repairs and renovations we are planning to make. Measurements of the carpet were sent to someone for the carpet cleaning and the estimate was around \$500. The council decided to wait on carpet cleaning until the repairs to the ceiling in the balcony are done. Anne Bode asked if the kneelers missing from some pews were still around and if they could be reinstalled. Marty said they were here and that some of the hardware needed replacing in order to fix them.

**Financial Secretary:** No report

**Sunday School Superintendent:** Meg is working on getting the transportation for VBS set up.

**Stewardship Report:** The thermometer for the building fund is up. Anne Bode is also preparing a message for the Newsletter Stewardship page.

**Evangelism:** Art Gundell reported that they are still paddling up stream.

**Women's Guild:** Anne Bode reported that they have a meeting this Saturday and plans to participate in Hop Bottom Day on July 13. Yare is in the making. We will be offering Breakfast, and wimpies, etc at lunchtime, in the fellowship hall. We will also have a table for yard sale items and a bake table. All proceeds will go toward Summer Lunch Box Program. Yard sale items that are not sold, will be donated to the Library for the Blueberry Festival in August. Drop off point is next to Smoking Joes and the Chinese Restaurant at the Lake Montrose Mall.

**Christian Education:** Eileen Gundell is in the process of setting up a meeting.

**Administrator of Day School:** Anna Aten reported that the three-year-old class is full and the four-year-old class has two openings. There are not enough to have two four-year-old classes. The orientation letters are sent out, but the date needs to be changed due to a conflict. School will start the day after Labor Day, September 3. Anna is working with Paulette Adams, regarding the change-over, and Anna will be available to help or to substitute. There was discussion regarding the proposed gift of \$2,000, and Stan rescinded his motion. A new motion made. And seconded to give Lana \$1000. Motion carried with three abstaining. It was decided that money would be added to donations received to equal the amount of \$1,000. If more is collected, it will also be given to her.

**Old Business:** Rich and Pastor are looking for input on the upcoming LCMS election in July. They have heard from some members but have not reached a decision for whom they will vote.. Rich said that there is information in the Lutheran Witness and on line to give people more information regarding the three candidates. Preparations for Friendship Sunday are under way. There is concern regarding setting up of tables and chairs and if trucks are available to move them. Also needed are some canopies, in case of rain or too much sun. Also needed is staff for setting up the food tables, etc. There is a list asking for help circulating. Eileen Gundell is in charge of getting food together.

**New Business:** Congregational meeting and Pot luck on July 28. The meeting is mainly to discuss the self-study of Grace by various committees, and to share our presentation to Synod with members of the congregation for their approval and input. Pastor Peter Rickert, Circuit visitor and Counselor, will be coming up from Mt. Pocono to join us for dinner and make suggestions or recommendations to the self-study. Council decided that we would have a brief business meeting immediately after church to give him time to get here. Then the pot-luck dinner, followed by discussion of the self-study.

Since there was no further business, Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, and motion carried. The meeting closed

with a prayer for Ann Belotti, admitted to EMHS this morning, and The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Niederberger, Secretary with Dorothy Klees



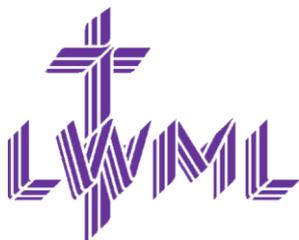
## JULY CELEBRATIONS

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
|                   | 5 Jennifer Brown   |
| 6 David Brown     | Paulette Adams     |
|                   | Margaret Klees     |
| 7 Vince Shertza   | Lylah Mae Klees    |
|                   | Justin Dixon       |
| 9 Cindy Chidester | 19 Brandi Stull    |
| Martha Stull      | 20 Alan Loch       |
| 13 John White     | 26 Betty Santamour |
| 14 Joshua Aten    | Steve Resseguie    |
| Ron Schoner       | 28 Harold Wheeland |
| 15 Bob Berube     | Randy Loch         |
| 17 Carl Kropa     | 30 Kate Harris     |
| 18 Dawn Mansfield | 31 Eric Zick       |
| Gary Haskell      |                    |

## ANNIVERSARIES



- |                              |
|------------------------------|
| 3 Marie & Bob Berube         |
| 3 Steve & Jean Schulze       |
| 3 Marty & Maureen Klees      |
| 10 Jeff & Janice Stankiewicz |
| 11 Dawn & Kevin Mansfield    |
| 20 Art & Eileen Gundell      |



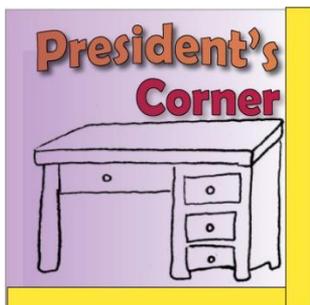
## WOMEN'S GUILD NEWS & NOTES

Our June meeting was spent almost entirely discussing what our ladies do best....providing food. Many ladies volunteered to cook the pork and provide finger desserts for Friendship Sunday. We will also help to make enough mac and cheese to serve.

On July 13, we will host many activities for Hop Bottom Sale days. Breakfast will be served beginning at 8:00 a.m. with breakfast casseroles, homemade cinnamon rolls, mini bagels, juice, and fruit for \$5. Breakfast will be served from the Activities Center (parsonage) as there is Summer Lunch Box distribution that day. Of course, there will be homemade pies for sale, lunch of wimpies and hot dogs, and a white elephant sale table to benefit Summer Lunch Box.

Members are encouraged to set up their own tables and bring their white elephants (or grey) to sell.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, July 20 at 10:15 a.m. led by Cindy Chidester. We'd love to see you there!



As I am sitting at my computer at 10:00 PM Tuesday June 25 I have just submitted my vote for President of the LCMS. Nothing like waiting till the last minute but I was giving as much time as possible for feedback from the congregation. It was pretty evenly split between Pastor Harrison (the incumbent President) and Pastor Maier (President of the Michigan District) with Maier slightly ahead. There will probably be a runoff election on June 27 as

neither one will probably receive a majority since there was a third person running (Pastor Klinkenberg).

**UPDATE: Pastor Harrison was re-elected with 51.76% of the vote. No runoff election will be needed.**

Friendship Sunday is today, June 30, (if this newsletter is available today), and I thank everyone who helped to make it a success. The town of Hop Bottom looks forward to this event each year as evidenced by their attendance. This year we also show our appreciation to Lana Fluck for 20 years of running our Pre-School.

We had our usual Sunday Services and Bible studies and Joining Jesus classes in June and will continue with them in July. VBS will also be this month.

The Church Council met on June 18 at 11:00 AM. There was a total of 12 Council members present. A copy of the minutes of this meeting are found elsewhere in this newsletter. The next Church Council meeting will be on Sunday July 28 following the 10:00 AM service. This will be a congregational meeting and will include a pot-luck dinner and a review of the Self Study document before submission to the Eastern District office and eventually to the Synod. Art Gundell will present the document to the congregation. We have invited Pastor Richert from Mount Pocono, the District Visitor, to attend also. It is important that everyone attend since this will help the Synod decide on our next Pastor.

We are still waiting quotes for additional church renovations from builders. Please contact Stan Klees with any recommendations you may have.

**Rich Niederberger, Council President**

## STEWARDSHIP



Here is a question to ponder on this hot, muggy day. What do you like to do when you enter the sanctuary on Sunday morning? Do you like to come in, pray, and have some quiet time before worship, perhaps listening to the pianist/organist and the prelude OR do you enjoy visiting and talking with folks you want to catch up with? Wouldn't it be great to talk to folks before worship without any "music blaring in your ears?" Well, a

new, open, larger narthex would solve both desires. We could visit, laugh, share and enjoy each other before worship, while others would be free to meditate in the sanctuary. Please consider helping to "move the thermometer" in the back of the church to help Grace reach its goal.

## The Last Word...

Dear Fellow Saints at Grace,

As you probably are already aware, I will be retiring as Pastor of Grace on September 1st. The Lord has really shown His grace as well as His power throughout the almost 30 years of my service.

Anne and I thought it would be great to be able to personally greet as many of you as possible. Therefore, we will be hosting four different receptions at the old parsonage. It would be our honor to be able to see you there. Of course, I would request that no gifts be given, but you might want to bring a favorite beverage of yours.



**Those serving for the month:**

**Counters**

July            7 Stan & Dorothy Klees  
                  14 Carolyn Loch & Betty Santamour  
                  21 Rich & Mary Niederberger  
                  28 Anna Aten & Diane Nowalk

**Greeters**

July            7 Marie Doty  
                  14 Jennie Stuble  
                  21 Betty Santamour  
                  28 Rich Niederberger

**Bulletin Run-Off**

July            7 Art & Eileen Gundell  
                  14 Steve Schulze  
                  21 Harold & Debbie Wheeland  
                  28 Art & Eileen Gundell

**Acolytes**

July            7  
                  15  
                  21 i  
                  28 i

**Organists**

July            7 Anne Bode  
                  14 Patti Barankovich  
                  21 E: Anne Bode    L: Eileen Gundell  
                  28 Eileen Gundell

**Altar**

Glenda Klim and Ken & Dawn Corbin