



Full Communion Between the Episcopal and ELCA Churches



The **Concordat of Agreement** was a proposed ecumenical agreement between the Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that sought to establish full communion between the two churches. Full communion means that each church recognizes the other as a true expression of the Christian Church and permits a high degree of shared sacramental and ministerial life, including mutual recognition of clergy and the possibility of clergy serving in one another's churches.

The Concordat affirmed that the two churches:

- Recognized one another as churches that faithfully proclaim the Gospel and administer the sacraments.
- Recognized each other's baptisms and ordained ministries.
- Allowed for shared Eucharistic fellowship ("altar and pulpit fellowship").
- Committed themselves to closer cooperation in mission and ministry.
- Agreed to move toward a shared understanding of episcopal oversight, including the Anglican concept of the historic episcopate (the succession of bishops through the laying on of hands).

The historic episcopate became the most controversial aspect of the proposal. Many Lutherans supported full communion but objected to language that appeared to require acceptance of Anglican-style apostolic succession as a condition of the agreement. The original Concordat was approved by the Episcopal Church's General Convention in 1997, but it failed to receive the required two-thirds majority at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 1997, missing passage by only a few votes. Following that failure, a revised document, **Called to Common Mission**, was drafted in 1998 as a modification of the Concordat.

Worship Opportunities

Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30 AM

**TO JOIN SERVICES LIVE ONLINE
VIA ZOOM, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND
FOLLOW THE LINKS**

www.gracechurchmtclemens.org

**TO JOIN SERVICES LIVE BY
PHONE VIA ZOOM:**

8:30 Service: Call 312-626-6799
Meeting ID: 881 8016 9300
Password: 246040

10:30 Service: See YouTube link
on Website

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY
9:30 AM in Guild Room

*Worship resources are available
on our Website 24/7/365.*



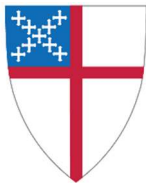
The differences between the Concordat of Agreement and Called to Common Mission (CCM) were not about the goal of full communion because both documents envisioned essentially the same relationship between the churches. The changes were mainly intended to address Lutheran concerns about the historic episcopate and to clarify that Episcopal polity was not being imposed on the ELCA.

CCM added language intended to reassure Lutherans that:

- The ELCA remained fully Lutheran.
- Acceptance of full communion did not require acceptance of all Anglican theological positions.
- Each church retained its own liturgy, governance, theological emphases, and confessional standards.

The agreement focused on reconciliation of ministries rather than institutional merger. This revised agreement, **Called to Common Mission**, was adopted by the ELCA Churchwide Assembly on August 19, 1999, and was adopted by the Episcopal Church's General Convention on July 8, 2000. These actions formally established full communion between the two churches.

It is because of this full communion that I may welcome these four Lutheran pastors to officiate and preach at Grace on the following Sundays while I am out of town:



Sunday, July 19	Rev. Anna Taylor-McCants
Sunday, July 26	Rev. Ben Adams
Sunday, August 2	Rev. Philip Hemke
Sunday, September 27	Rev. Philip Hemke
Sunday, October 18	Rev. Fred Harms



We will have our usual two services on these days as well as Bible study. Please welcome these clergy when you see them and give thanks to God that in our little corner of Christianity, we may exercise unity through full communion with our ELCA sisters and brothers! May we be a witness to other Christians that we can and should act as one body of Christ rather than divided entities.

Blessings,
Pastor Steve



A Prayer for our Country

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought here out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in your Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*The Book of Common Prayer*

Grace Garden Updates

The weather has been cooperating: seedlings are popping up, while the irises have bloomed and been cut back. We are focusing on self-seeding plants that will bloom, spread, and fight off the weeds.

Another angel has appeared in the garden! Anyone is welcome to place an angel of their own.

As always, we are looking for those interested in helping out. We even have one garden that is only 3 by 5 feet that would only take a few minutes of attention a week.

Hope you are enjoying the gardens!

June Vestry Meeting Highlights

- The rectory has passed its fire marshal inspection and will have air conditioning installed once the funding is available. Mike Oakley has had a foundation engineer check its foundation; it's in good condition.
- Sonitrol has been turned back on in the rectory, thanks to Lare.
- The church doors will be repaired in July.
- The clamshell door to the pantry has been repaired and powder-coated. A big thank-you to Donna, Mike, Lare, and Tom for their hard work.
- Selia Tuten is our new Buildings & Grounds liaison.
- Don and Rosemary Siefkes have arranged for grub control and weed & feed for our lawns. Meanwhile, our gardens are cared for by many members: the Simons, the Siefkeses, the Tutens, and more. Thank you!
- A flowerpot ashtray has been placed near our garden bench to help reduce cigarette butt waste in the garden areas.
- The fall dance is scheduled for the end of September or early October, depending on hall availability.

July Birthdays

Thomas Burns	7/01
Sheri Borsa	7/06
Fred Seewald	7/12
Don Siefkes	7/14
Amelia Lau	7/18
Rosemary Berger	7/20
Rosemary Lake	7/23
Pastor Steve	7/26
Bill Atkinson	7/27



Book Club at Grace

The book club will meet at Grace on **Thursday, July 9 at 6 PM**. We're hoping to see you there to discuss the book *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by author Shelby Van Pelt. This is a beautiful story of the interactions between an octopus named Marcellus and Tova, a cleaning lady for an aquarium. Bonus: The film with the same title is available on Netflix and follows the storyline very well, with Sally Field as Tova. Reading the book now and then watching the movie in early July will make for a good discussion at our next meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Strevel.



Join us in the Guild Room for Bible study, every **Sunday at 9:30 AM**.



"F" Dollars for Fueling Kids' Futures
If your wallet has any dollar bills with **F** on them, please pass them along to help us fill backpacks with weekend food for hungry Mt. Clemens students.



COMMUNITY SUPPERS

Wednesdays at 4 PM

Sundays (Nov.-Mar.) at 4 PM

GRACE FOOD PANTRY

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 10 AM to 12 PM
Curbside distribution



Recommended Food Pantry Donations

Canned soups, canned fruits and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna/chicken, SpaghettiOs, Hamburger Helper, instant mashed potatoes, spaghetti sauce, pasta, cereal, canned applesauce

Grace Episcopal Church Staff

Pastor Steven Steinberger-Domienik

Cell: 203-641-2068

Email: pastor@gracechurchmtclemens.org

Music Director: Josh Dulin

Clergy Emerita: The Rev. Deacon Betty Brogan

2026 Vestry

Mike Oakley	Lucy Smith	Mike Zubas
Ernie Simon	Sharon Potter	Don Siefkes
Margaret Morgan		Selia Tuten