



# THE MESSENGER

2017

**Worship Schedule**  
**Sunday: 8 AM and 10:30 AM**  
**Sunday Church School for all ages:**  
**9:15 AM**

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
 216 North Wooster Ave  
 Dover Ohio 44622-2948  
 Phone: 330-343-6915  
 Fax: 330-602-0263  
 Church E-Mail:  
 gracehappens@gracedover.org  
 Pastor's E-Mail:  
 pastor@gracedover.org  
 Website: www.gracedover.org

## Perfect Timing

*<sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. Galatians 4:5*

Some people think I am out of my mind to go out shopping on **Black Friday**. Others say it's a great opportunity to snatch up some superb bargains and is the right thing to do. Sane or insane? It's a question that is debated every year.

Just so you know, I never venture out on **Thanksgiving Day**. I'm too busy, too tired and it doesn't seem quite right to me. Nor do I begin my quest at the crack of **Black Friday** dawn or before. I don't care how good the bargain is, it's just not worth losing sleep over.

I prefer to wait until most of the "crazies" have shopped, dropped and gone back home. I usually leave my house between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. and head for the mall. By the time I reach my destination the mall is less crowded and I can usually find a decent parking spot that does not require me to walk to the store from the next county.

Last year, I found a parking space just three spaces from Penny's front door. Well, unfortunately, that plan was unavailable this year. Good-bye Penney's. So sad to see you go.

This year, I opted to park near Elder-Beerman. And, can you believe it? I found a spot, the very first one, numero uno, la premiere espace de stationnement, outside the store's entrance. I've got the picture to prove it!

Talk about perfect timing! Who knows where I would have had to park an hour earlier or even an hour later?

Of course, not everything works out this way every time. Often, my timing is way less than perfect. Only God's timing is always perfect, always just on time.

As St Paul declares in his letter to the Galatians, Jesus was born at just the right time. The time, place and circumstances of Christ's birth are all a part of God's perfect plan of salvation.

Certainly, those who were awaiting the Messiah's birth impatiently wondered why God was taking so long. Since that great day, many have wondered about God's timing and have even suggested more opportune times throughout history. Still, as Isaiah would be quick to remind us, our thoughts are not God's thoughts; our ways are not God's ways; and our timing is not God's timing. God's are always higher and always perfect. (Isaiah 55:8-9)


This year, as we celebrate **Christmas**, we thank God for His perfect gift, His perfect Son and His perfect timing. Doing this on December 25<sup>th</sup> would be just the thing to do

**Senior Pastor Donald L. Rice Jr.**

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# Planning Council

**PLANNING  
COUNCIL**  
**Next Meeting**  
**January 9th**  
**@ 6:30 PM**



## Facts and Figures

<p><b>Attendance October 2017*</b> Weekly Average: 149 Difference: -8 (-5%)</p> <p><b>Offerings October 2017</b> Total Offerings: \$16,933.00 Difference: +\$793.75 (+5%) Weekly Average: \$3386.60 Difference: + \$158.75 (+5%)</p>	<p><b>Attendance October 2016*</b> Weekly Average 157</p> <p><b>Offerings October 2016</b> Total Offerings: \$16,139.25  Weekly Average: \$3222.85</p>
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\*Both October 2016 and October 2017 include five Sundays.

### 2016-2017 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Lynn Foust - President                      Jim Heller - Vice President  
Christine Sergent - Secretary              Beverly Frantz - Treasurer

#### Congregational Life

**Jim Heller** - Director

- Susie Erickson
- Elaine Margo
- Liz Miller
- Liz Nelson
- Melody Rader

#### Hospitality

**Deb Foust**-Director

- Bobbie Cox
- Melissa Engstrom
- Cindy Jerles
- Traci Smith
- Sarah Wolfe

#### Property

**John Nelson**- Director

- Ed Harper
- Jeff Hootman
- Audra Miceli
- Betsy Morris
- Nathan Vaughan
- Larry Wallick

#### Stewardship Development

**Tom Margo** - Director

- Jill Hootman
- Keith Lands
- Craig Rader
- Ron Stahl

#### Christian Faith and Life

**Faith Bambeck**- Director

- Julie Brothers
- Karla Burrier
- Ashley Eick
- Debbie Flood
- Tiffany Shepherd
- (Rhonda Fisher, Coordinator YFM)

#### Outreach

**Joe Penrod**- Director

- Joe Erickson
- Tanna Loveday
- Judy Martin
- Paul McFadden
- John Wolfe
- Scott Ebert (church sign)

*Senior Pastor: Rev. Donald L. Rice Jr.*  
*Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministries: Rhonda Fisher*  
*Organist: Linda Hanna*  
*Choir:*  
*Secretary: Lisa Morris*  
*Treasurer: Beverly Frantz*  
*Custodian: Glenn Mitchell*

## Since You Asked

*Since You Asked...***What is the oldest Christmas carol?**

Oh, that's an easy one! The first Christmas carol is the divine song of the angels joyfully announcing Jesus' birth. ***Gloria in Excelsis Deo!*** *Glory to God in the highest and peace, goodwill to all people on earth.*

Now if you inquiring about a human composition, that's going to be a bit tougher.

According to my diligent and scholarly research, it seems the oldest earthly Christmas carol is *Of the Father's Love Begotten*. It is based on a Latin poem by the Roman poet Aurelius Prudentius dating back to 413 A.D. The melody accompanying these words and still used today is a medieval European Plainsong. You may find this ancient carol in our hymnbook as hymn 295. The first two verses are:

Of the Father's love begotten, Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessèd, When the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bore the Savior of our race;  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face,  
Evermore and evermore!

*Advent: Jesus! Name Above All Names*

Our weekly Gospel Acclamation proclaims Jesus is the Name Above All Names! It includes various Biblical titles for our Lord.

Throughout the Holy Scriptures, Jesus is referenced by many titles. In the Hebrew Scriptures, the world awaits the arrival of God's promised Messiah, the Savior of the world, God's Chosen One, our Redeemer. These along with many others are given in eager expectation of the Christ and his saving grace.

The prophet Isaiah offers several titles, too. Among them, he anticipates the Christ as our **Everlasting Light, Prince of Peace, Emmanuel** and **Glory of the Lord**. These particular names for Jesus will be the focus of our 2017 Advent worship.

Advent Sundays will also include the lighting of the Advent Wreath at the beginning of each Sunday Worship Service. This year, we will prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Holy Christ Child by remembering and honoring his holy names as proclaimed by the prophet Isaiah.

*Jesus! Name Above All Names*

December 3: Jesus: Our Everlasting Light (Isaiah 60:1-3)

December 9: Jesus: Our Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6)

December 17: Jesus: Our Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:14)

Children's Christmas Pageant at 9:30 a.m.

(One Sunday Service)

December 24: Jesus: The Glory of the Lord (Isaiah 40:5)

Worship Services at 7:00 and 10:00 p.m.

(No morning services)



Announcements

# Lessons and Carols



Sunday, December 10th, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Members of five area churches and the Dover High School Ars Nova Choir will come together at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Dover for an evening ecumenical service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 10th, 2017 at 6:00 pm with handbell and brass prelude music beginning at

# Remember



*You're Invited*

## Altar Guild Dinner

Tuesday, December 5th, 2017

5:45 pm Outreach Center

Current Altar Guild Member: \$12.00

Retired Altar Guild Member: FREE


# Mitten & Gift Tree

The donation trees for the Salvation Army will be displayed in the Narthex and in the connecting room of Luther Hall.



All donations will be removed from the trees on Monday, Dec. 11th

*“Christmas Tea”*  
Guest Speaker . . . Pastor Lisa Arledge  
*Christmas Treat Refreshments!*



**Women’s Bible Study**  
Wednesday, Dec. 20th  
*Joy In Your Journey Of Prayer And Hope!*  
*“Joy In The Journey” Of Being A Woman Of God!*

**\*\*\*Reservations Are Required!**

**Please contact:** Linda McFadden 330-343-3911  
Beverly Frantz 330-343-0277  
Bobbie Myers 330-343-3268

**R.S.V.P. NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DEC. 10TH**

Dec 20th - **CHRISTMAS TEA** -

“And now these three remain: FAITH, HOPE & LOVE. BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.”

From His Heart . . .

To Our Heart . . .

To The Hearts Of Others!

1 Corinthians 13:13



**REMEMBER!**

*Reservations Required for this Event!*

# Announcements



My Church Friends,

I can't begin to tell you how beautiful the flowers are! They brighten up the corner of my room, just like a bit of sunshine. It is so nice to be remembered even though it has been a long time since I've been to church. I want to thank you again.

My blessings & prayers are with all of you.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church,  
WOW! Thank you so much for the huge personal product, paper product, and new pillow donation.

What a true blessing you have been to Harbor House with your continual support.

Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated!

Blessings to you!

Harbor House -

Evy Steele - Donations Coordinator



To Pastor Rice and Grace Lutheran Family,

Thank you for your kindness & concern for me this past year after June's passing (11/3/2016). It is greatly appreciated.

Don Thomas

PS. I know by going to church has helped me during this time even though it is emotional when we sing a hymn that June loved.



Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement. It is much appreciated and brightened my day.

And thank you to Susan Zimmerman of the Altar Guild for delivering the flowers.

Ann Stancu



## Sixth Annual Rigatoni Dinner & Advent Workshop

Please mark your calendar and plan to join your family and friends at Grace for the **Seventh Annual Rigatoni Dinner and Advent Workshop** following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on December 3.

A free-will donation will be collected to support the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston.

Hospitality Ministries is planning a scrumptious meal in Fellowship Hall featuring homemade meatballs made by our Grace youth. Rigatoni with a hearty and tasty red sauce will be served along with salad, bread, desserts and beverages and more.

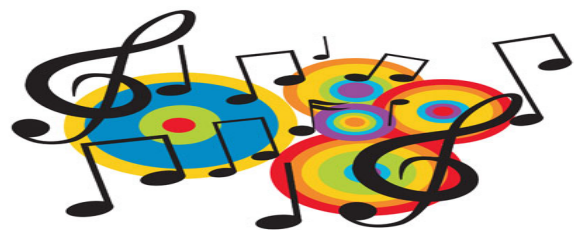
Christian Faith and Life Ministries sponsors the Advent Workshop this year. It will offer an interesting array of easy-to-make Christmas crafts at tables located in Luther Hall.

## Joyful Sounds Abound!

Grace Lutheran organist Linda Hanna has agreed to serve as our new Adult Choir and Handbell Choir Director. She comes highly recommended by Stewardship Development Ministries and approved by Planning Council.

Linda has been serving as our interim Handbell Choir Director since mid-October with group's first performance on November 19. She begins her Adult Choir Director duties January 1, 2018 with the first choir rehearsal scheduled for Thursday, January 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Handbell Choir rehearsals are Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. New voices and new bell ringers are always welcome, including high school students.

Linda is a very accomplished musician. She has served as organist, children and adult choir director and handbell choir director at several congregations in Tuscarawas and Stark counties. We are so blessed to have Linda serving our congregation and thank God for her musical talents.



## Announcements

### Baptism Blessings

We welcomed Weston Michael Stull into the family of God during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on November 5. Weston is the son of David and Jaclyn (Sergent) Stull and was born on June 1, 2017. He is the grandson of members Michael and Christine Stull. Weston's baptismal sponsors are Jason and Ellen Blasing.

May God bless this young boy with the fullest measures of His love, peace and joy as he grows in God's grace.



### The Bells of Christmas Chime Once More

Our Grace Lutheran Youth will be ringing their bells for the Salvation Army on Thursday, December 7 at Buehler's Parkside in Dover. They will be helping fill the famous Red Kettle for this deserving cause and from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

The store is located at 3200 N. Wooster Ave. You can expect our bell-ringing youth to be stationed near the front entrance.

We greatly appreciate our young people taking the time out of their busy school and holiday schedules to serve God and our neighbors in such a worthy and helpful way. Please

stop by and show them your support. Thank you.



### Holiday Road

Pastor Rice will be on vacation December 5-7 for a Christmas trip with his family to Greenbrier, WV. The famous resort is especially beautiful at Christmas time and teeming with holiday activities.

Following the holidays, Pastor Rice will enjoy some rest, relaxation and recharging by taking vacation time January 2 through January 8, 2018. He will return to the office the morning of January 9.

Pastor Robert Sander of Canton will preside and preach during the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 Sunday services on January 7, 2018. We look forward to his visit and his sharing God's Good News with us.



The Gallery Choir will be singing in the Christmas Eve services.



If you've always wanted to sing in the choir, please consider taking part in this very rewarding ministry. Rehearsals for the Christmas Eve services will take place on two Thursday evenings, December 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm in the choir room downstairs.

The door will be open. Hope to see you there!

Linda Hanna



Join the Choir...  
You'll Be Glad You Did!

## Hammerstrom Scholarship Essay & Announcement

Anthony Miceli

I have many career plans and goals in my life, I have been diligently working on them since my graduation from high school in 2015. My career plan serves God by furthering my education so I can expand my scope of practice, and I can apply more lifesaving skills to better the outcome of those in need. I would also like to be employed by a city fire department to keep our community safe. I currently hold the title of Firefighter/ EMT-B, and am enrolled in a paramedic program to which this scholarship has helped me attend. I have been on some very emotionally exhausting and serious calls, where the outcome was not what I wanted. Church has taught me to pray over people while I am working on them, to ask for help for them. God has answered many prayers for me that way, and sometimes he didn't answer how I wanted, but we can't ask why. We have to believe he knows the right answer. By furthering my education I will have greater knowledge to know how to help people at the next level. I am serving the community right now by being a volunteer firefighter at Wayne Township Volunteer Fire Department, and am currently employed by Smith Ambulance.

I have been on many mission trips where many places need help with medical issues. Many times there was not any one trained to help people on the trip or the kids they were helping at the sites where they were working. Having this education will allow me go to these programs be able to do many lifesaving things before any help gets there if needed. It takes time for emergency help to arrive and time is crucial in this line of work. I could be serving God on these mission trips while helping with even the smallest of medical needs. There is so much need to teach kids about following God, and I enjoy going on the mission trips to teach them. Thanks you for aiding in my educational expenses so I can accomplish my goals.

### *Luther's Christmas Pageant*



This year our Grace children help us celebrate both **Christmas** and the **500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation!** On Sunday, December 17, they will present their annual Christmas pageant, **A Luther's Christmas** at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Martin Luther is accredited with bringing the first Christmas tree into the house. Can you imagine his wife's response? Luther argues with her, and tells her that it is a gift from the children. They then proceed to decorate it. Luther then tells his wife to sit back, that the children have a special Christmas gift for her. What is it, she asks? The children of the church and of their home are going to give her a re-enactment of the Christmas story.

Please join us and invite your friends for this special presentation. Our children, under the direction of Dr. Nicole Willey and coordinated by Ms. Rhonda Fisher, have been diligently practicing for several weeks. We are sure you will enjoy the history, humor and hymns.

*Please note: There is only one Sunday worship service this day. The service will include Holy Communion.*

## Announcements



**Big  
Thank  
You!**

We would like to thank the congregation for your spectacular support you gave us with the Park Street Pizza fund raiser. We are sincerely grateful to have a congregation who aids our youth group activities. We appreciate that you see how these trips benefit our youth. We raised over \$1500.00 for our trip to the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston Texas. Thank you so



**ATTENTION!**

**2017 Church Treasurer's  
Books Will Close  
December 31, 2017**

Please NOTE that the Treasurer's Books for the 2017 Offerings will be closed December 31, 2017.

*Any monies received after January 5th, 2018 will be considered as 2018 Offering.*

2017 Giving Statements will only show donations given from January 1 thru December 31, 2017!

*Giving Statements for 2017 will be mailed on or before January 29, 2018.*



# First Day, First Communion

Five Grace youth will celebrate their **First Communion** on the **First Sunday in Advent**, December 3, 2017, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

This year's First Communicants taking their next big step in their life in the church include:

Natalie Bambeck, daughter of Douglas and Faith Bambeck of Dover  
 Sophia Cronebaugh, daughter of Steve Cronebaugh and Sarah Kneuss of Stone Creek  
 Ella Engstrom, daughter of Chad and Melissa Engstrom of Dover  
 Niall Hallman, son of James and Michelle Hallman of Dennison  
 Taylor Shalosky, daughter of Robert and Courtney Shalosky of New Philadelphia

Having the youth prepared to take Holy Communion by the First Sunday in Advent allows them to fully participate in our worship with their families throughout the coming Holy Season. It could be considered an early Christmas gift from our Savior who offers himself to us all in this Blessed Sacrament.

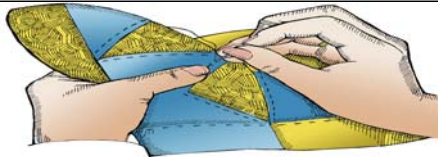




Lutheran World Relief  
Final Project Numbers  
for 2017



Quilts: 32  
Personal Care Kits: 8  
Soap: 21  
School Kits: 3



**KNOTTERS**

**Tuesday,  
Jan. 9th, 2018**

**Through various program areas, Women of the ELCA's community of women provide services in their churches, communities, and even the world.**

We engage in ministry; we take action through advocacy; we promote healing and wholeness, and we support one another in our callings.

We offer anti-racism training; address domestic violence, commercial sexual exploitation, and human trafficking; and support families with special needs.

We assist participants in their desire to discern God's call in their lives and to discover their spiritual gifts through workshops, retreats, resources, scholarships, and global education.

We offer grants to not-for-profit organizations, both domestic and international, that support healing and wholeness for women of all ages through the affirmation and advancement of women's emotional, physical, and spiritual health.

Join us as we make a difference in the world.

**Cost of stocking the food pantry for one month.**

This is the amount needed to stock the food pantry for 1 month. We thank the congregation for donating food items and cash contributions to keep the pantry stocked.

Product	Price / piece	Days in a month	Total
Peanut Butter	\$ 2.29	X 30	\$ 68.70
Fruit	\$ 0.89	X 30	\$ 26.70
Cereal	\$ 1.59	X 30	\$ 47.70
Meat	\$ 1.30	X 30	\$ 39.00
Chicken Soup	\$ 1.00	X 30	\$ 30.00
Tomato Soup	\$ 1.00	X 30	\$ 30.00
Potatoes	\$ 0.65	X 30	\$ 19.50
Corn	\$ 1.00	X 30	\$ 30.00
Green Beans	\$ 1.00	X 30	\$ 30.00
Pork/Beans	\$ 1.00	X 30	\$ 30.00
Peas	\$ 1.00	X 30	\$ 30.00
Mac-N-Cheese	\$ 0.45	X 30	\$ 13.50
Spaghetti	\$ 1.00	X 30	\$ 30.00
Spaghetti Sauce	\$ 1.00	X 30	\$ 30.00
			<b>\$ 455.10</b>

<u>ALDI</u>	<u>Buehlers</u>	<u>Wal Mart</u>	<u>Big Lots</u>
Peanut Butter	Vegetables-	Spaghetti Sauce	Soup-
Mac-N-Cheese	Corn		Chicken
Potatoes	Green Beans	<u>Dollar General</u>	Tomato
Fruit Cocktail	Peas	Spaghetti	
Cereal	Pork/Beans	Luncheon Meat	

## Outreach

### GROCERY BAG MINISTRY

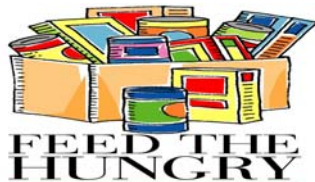
Thanks to all who have volunteered to be packers for the Grocery Bag Ministry this year.

Donations to the Food Pantry have increased in response to a greater need for our food bags. In October, we distributed 135 bags, and have already distributed 125 in October. We are seeing a greater demand for this outreach program. Monetary and food donations are very much appreciated.

What goes into a bag to feed the hungry? The basic food items are: peanut butter, canned meat, vegetables, fruit, cereal, soup, macaroni & cheese, canned white potatoes, spaghetti sauce and spaghetti noodles. We also pack a roll of toilet paper and a bar of soap when available.

We welcome all packaged/canned donations. We will pack any kind of soup, fruit, vegetable, soap or toilet paper that is donated, as well as extra items not on the list. **Grocery size paper bags are also needed.**

Thank you to all who bring food in for the grocery bags that are filled each month. Look in the Sunday bulletins to see which items are most urgently needed.



*Please be Praying for...*

**All those serving in the armed forces, especially Christopher Smith, Seth Erickson, Gerald Case, Richard Martineau.**

Ella DeVore	Carol Davidson
William Page	Glenn Siber
Mildred Schauer	Dale Kreisher
Joe Palmer	Francis Moser
JoAnn Hammond	Walter Heck
Jim Gipson	Jerrold Martin
John Page	Mary Marino
Rachelle Coulter Sensel	Jim Horn
Norma Grywalski	Wayne Page
Cathy Nardecchia	Dorothy Hanna
Richard Panzoff	Holly Young
Phyllis Espenschied	Karen Page
Rebecca Cahill-Smith	Joe Stein
Nancy Gillian	Molly Bauer
Karen Hodge	

**IN OUR PRAYERS...**

Please take a moment to review the names on our church prayer list. If you know the current recovery status, condition, or needs of any person listed, please advise Pastor Rice or the church office. We rejoice in God's healing and grace when someone is well enough to come off the list and we promise our prayers to all who are added. Thank You.



## Outreach

**OUTREACH NEWS... HERE'S YOUR  
CHANCE TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS**

We at Grace have volunteered to provide one meal per month — **the 4th Sunday of each month** — and need volunteers to provide the meal and to deliver it to the *Friends of the Homeless of Tuscarawas County* which is a group of



concerned citizens from various churches and social service agencies in the county who have recognized the need to assist persons experiencing homelessness. The residents eat dinner at 6:00 each evening. All tableware is provided by the shelter, and they ask that if we are just dropping the food off to bring it in disposable pans.

If you are unable to deliver your portion of the meal, please contact someone else who has signed up to deliver food.

Let's continue to work together as the body of Christ and serve our brothers and sisters in need.

New sign up sheets are posted for the January meal to the homeless shelter. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**PERSONAL CARE KITS**

**The power of a small package**

Personal Care Kits especially help cleanliness and prevent disease outbreaks that can so frequently happen in foreign countries or right here in the United States after natural disasters. LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF is asking congregation participation to help restock their supply of personal care kits. Consider making a kit or dropping off one or more of the items listed below to the church office. Thanks for helping!

Personal care items that go into each kit are:

**Personal Care Kits**

- 1 light weight bath towel
- 20" X 40" to 52" X 27" (dark color)
- 2 bath size bars of soap
- 1 wide tooth comb
- 1 adult size toothbrush
- 1 nail clipper with file

Thank you to the volunteers who prepared and delivered food to the **Homeless Shelter on November 26th, 2017.**

December's dinner at the Homeless Shelter is on Friday, Dec. 22nd, at 6:00 pm. The sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex. We have cut down on the expense of the items needed (less meat, more casseroles) or have divided the donations into smaller units to make it financially easier for you to donate. Please check to see how you can help.

## Worship

### **OPEN ALTAR FLOWERS**

If you would like to provide altar flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones, please either sign up on the list in the Narthex or call the church office at 330-343-6915.

The cost for one vase is \$18. You will be billed by Blossom's Florist.

Altar Flowers are available for the following dates.



Dec. 17th - 1 vase

Dec. 31st - 1 vase



Dec. 3rd - Andrea & Lauren Samsa

Dec. 10th - Deb Foust & Jennifer Vaughan

Dec. 17th - Christmas Pageant

Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve Service

Dec. 31st - One Service

## Worship Readings

### **Altar Guild**

Saturday,  
Dec. 23rd, 2017  
9:00 am

### **Sunday, Dec. 3rd**

Isaiah 64:1-9  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Luke 1:57-58, 67-79

### **Sunday, Dec. 10th**

Isaiah 40:1-11  
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13  
2 Peter 3:8-15a  
Luke 2:22-33

### **Sunday, Dec. 31st**

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13  
Psalm 8  
Revelation 21:1-6a  
John 1:1-18

### **Sunday, Dec. 17th**

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
Psalm 126  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
Matthew 1:18-25

### **Sunday, Dec. 24th**

Isaiah 9:2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

## Replenishing the Children's Worship Bags

Our worship bag continues to be a blessing to children and parents in our worship each week! Most of the 10 bags are used every Sunday. The bags serve as a way for parents to have their young children in worship with them while they get a chance to worship. We will be purchasing new books, toys and crayons for the bags soon. If you would be interested in providing money for the purchase of these items you may make a donation by placing it in a special offering envelope with worship bags written on it. If paying by check please remember to write Children's Worship Bags in the memo line. Thank you for continuing to support this ministry.



## Worship Assistants

### SUNDAY 8:00 AM WORSHIP

**ACOLYTES**

**Dec. 3**  
**Dec. 10**

**LAY READERS**

**Dec. 3** Kim Gray  
**Dec. 10** Terry Miller

**COMMUNION ASST.**

**Dec. 3**  
**Dec. 10**

**USHERS**

Tim Keplinger  
Richard Elliott  
Steve Zimmerman  
Jim Heller  
Scott Ebert  
Edward Harper  
David Elliott

### SUNDAY 9:30 AM WORSHIP

### Christmas Eve Worship

**ACOLYTES**

**Dec. 17**  
**Dec. 31**

**LAY READERS**

**Dec. 17** N/A  
**Dec. 31** N/A

**COMMUNION ASST.**

**7 pm**  
**Dec. 24** Still Needed

**LAY READERS**

**Dec. 24 - 7:00 pm** Lynn Foust  
**Dec. 24 - 10:00 pm** Rick Homrighausen

**USHERS**

**Dec. 3** John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Ron Stahl  
**Dec. 10** Mike Sergeant, Jim Gibb, Jimm Morris, Brody Morris  
**Dec. 17** John Stahl, Robert McCulloch, Keith Lands, Paul McFadden  
**Dec. 24** Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, John Wolfe  
**Dec. 31** WELCA

### SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP

**ACOLYTES**

**Dec. 3** Jacob Roman-Willey  
**Dec. 10**

**LAY READERS**

**Dec. 3** Jan Ochsenbine  
**Dec. 10** John Stahl

**DEACONS**

**Dec. 3**  
**Dec. 10**

### ALTAR GUILD

**December:** Melody Rader, Wendy Mady, Debbie Smith, Betsy Morris

**January:** Glenda Sclater, Marcie Castricone, Joan Davis, Liz Miller



### Get the Messenger By Email

If you'd like to receive the Messenger by email please send an email to [GraceHappens@GraceDover.org](mailto:GraceHappens@GraceDover.org) with the words "Email Messenger" in the subject heading.

Remember you can also view the current and archived Messengers online at [www.GraceDover.org](http://www.GraceDover.org)



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# December 2017

## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						2
3 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion  <u>Advent Dinner &amp; Workshop</u> <u>First Communion Sunday</u>	4 2:30 pm Communion Park Village - South 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - YH 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - LH 7 pm Valley Voices	5 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 4:30 pm Altar Guild - ORC 6:30 pm Cub Scouts  Pastor On Vacation	6 7 pm Boy Scouts	7 6 pm Handbell Choir	8	9 8 am Men's Breakfast
10 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	11 10:30 am Communion Park Village - North 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - YH 7 pm Valley Voices	12 9 am Knotters 10 am Rejoice Women - ORC 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	13 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Women's Bible Study - ORC	14 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Handbell Choir 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Gallery Choir	15	16
17 9:30 am Worship Communion  <u>Children's Christmas</u> <u>Pageant</u>	18 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - YH 6:30 pm Girl Scouts - LH 7 pm Valley Voices	19 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	20 7 pm Boy Scouts	21 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Handbell Choir 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Gallery Choir	22 6 pm Meal to the Homeless Shelter  <u>Messenger</u> <u>Deadline</u>	23
24 7 pm Worship Communion 10 pm Worship Communion  	 <u>Church Office Closed</u>	26  <u>Church Office Closed</u>	27 7 pm Boy Scouts	28 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	29  <u>Messenger</u> <u>Assembly</u>	30
31 9:30 am Worship	<p style="text-align: center;">                         Upcoming Dates to Remember                          Jan. 9th - Planning Council                          Jan. 23rd. - Endowment Board                     </p>					