



# THE MESSENGER

**2020**

**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

November 29 is the First Sunday in Advent. As the world begins to celebrate Christmas on Thanksgiving weekend (did it start on Halloween this year?), the Church begins its celebration of Advent. Advent means "coming." It is the season which we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

One of the themes of Advent is "waiting." God's people waited for centuries for the coming of its savior. After the conquering of country Judah and its Holy City of Jerusalem in 587 B.C., the prophets started speaking of a messiah or savior whom God would send to his people. In the words of Isaiah, the savior would be "named *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*" *Isaiah 9:7*

God's people waited, and they waited, and they waited. They waited through those horrible years of the Exile. They waited through the exiles disappointing return after the Exile. They waited through all those centuries of foreign occupation. God's people waited.

Finally after over 500 years the promise was fulfilled and Jesus was born! On that night the angels sang and the stars shone bright.

And now we are waiting again. We await Jesus' final return when all the promises will be fulfilled. We await the day when the Kingdom will come in its entirety and all God's people will be made new! Again, we have been waiting a long time. It is close to two thousand years since those promises was made, but we know that our God fulfills all His promises. Just as Jesus finally came the first time after that long time of waiting, so shall he return!

This will be our second time we will winter in Texas. Last year we returned on March 25. The very next Sunday the church I was serving decided cancel in-person services. Very soon we were up doing services on Zoom. All other in-person activities at church were canceled. If we could not do it on Zoom then it did not happen. Mid-summer we started doing in-person services in the church parking lot. It was good to be able to see at least some of us in person. All other in-person activities were canceled. A little bit later we were able to upgrade our online service to Facebook Live. I am told since I left they very briefly moved their service inside, but the county going red brought that to a halt.

When I came here in mid-October attendance was significantly down to the virus. (It is everywhere). Because of masks I only got to see people from the eyes on up. Chatting after church discouraged. Most of the church activities had been canceled. Once the county went red even those few activities were canceled. We are back to the all too familiar online services and programming.

I am tired of all this. Nothing has been right since that last Sunday in March. I am tired of scaled back ministry. I am tired of staying at home. I am tired of not being able to go out or see family. I am tired of loved ones getting sick. I am tired of being afraid. I am tired of waiting for things to go back to normal.

Perhaps this is why Advent is so important this year. Advent tells us God is in control. God is not absent when we go through time of trial. Advent tells us that there will be an end to this scourge. Just as Advent ended with the miracle of the birth of a special child, our time of trial will end with a miracle of modern science.

Our time of waiting **will** end.

*But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. Lamentation 3:21-26*

*Advent Blessings, Pastor Dan*

**Interim Pastor**  
**Rev. Daniel J. Cammarn**

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# Planning Council

**Pastor Dan's Office Hours**

Pastor Dan's office hours will be Mondays and Thursdays from 9 AM -3 PM. He will attempt not to schedule any meetings on those days. He is available by appointment on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

**PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**Next Meeting**  
**Jan. 12th, 2021**  
**@ 6:30 PM**

### 2020-2021 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Ron Stahl - President                      Richard Elliott - Vice President  
 Becky Lands - Secretary                Beverly Frantz - Treasurer

#### Congregational Life

**Richard Elliott** - Director  
 Susie Erickson  
 Elaine Margo  
 Liz Miller  
 Melody Rader

#### Property

- Director  
 Audra Miceli  
 Nathan Vaughan  
 Larry Wallick  
 Brad Wharmby

#### Christian Faith and Life

- Director  
 Julie Brothers  
 Karla Burrier  
 Debbie Flood  
 Tiffany Shepherd  
 Deb Foust  
 (Cody Jerles, Coordinator YFM)

#### Hospitality

**Sarah Wolfe** - Director  
 Marcie Castricone  
 Melissa Engstrom  
 Cindy Jerles  
 Traci Smith  
 Bobbie Cox  
 Julie Vanfossen

#### Stewardship Development

**Nancy Wharmby** - Director  
 Charles Castricone  
 Keith Lands  
 Craig Rader  
 Sarah Kneuss

#### Outreach

**Paul McFadden** - Director  
 Joe Erickson  
 Tanna Loveday  
 Judy Martin  
 Joe Penrod  
 John Wolfe  
 Scott Ebert (church sign)  
 David Elliott (church website)

*Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministries: Cody Jerles*  
*Director of Music/Organist: Linda Hanna*  
*Secretary: Lisa Morris*  
*Treasurer: Beverly Frantz*  
*Custodian: Ed Robinson*

## Announcements

It's Time . . .  
*Year End*  
**Giving**

The 2021 New Year  
 will be here before we know it!

**2020 Offerings must be received by  
 Thursday, December 31, 2020**

After December 31, 2020 donations will be entered as 2021 offering.

Thank You for your continued weekly offerings.  
 Any questions please contact the Church Office  
 or Beverly Frantz 330-343-0277.

**Your 2020 Giving Statements should be  
 ready to mail by the end of January.**

*Beverly J. Frantz - Grace Lutheran Church Treasurer*



## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Grace Lutheran Church will have a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 6 at 1:00 PM. The agenda will be voting to approve the 2021 budget and electing members of the Endowment Board and Call Committee. The budget was included in last month's Grace Messenger. If you need another copy of the budget we can email a copy to you or you may pick up another copy from the Church Office.

There will be limited opportunity for questions regarding the budget. If you do have a question, please contact our treasurer, Bev Frantz, at 330-343-0277.

Due to the special circumstances for the pandemic the meeting will be held in our parking lot behind the Outreach Center and Luther Hall. Please remain in your cars for the meeting. We will be using a limited radio broadcast system borrowed from our friends at St. John's UCC. When you arrive please tune your radio to 89.7 FM for further instructions. If you are not able to receive the signal please turn on your lights and we will assist you.

We know that these are difficult times, but it is important that we have an opportunity to have a working 2021 Budget and elect a Call Committee so that they can begin the process of finding a new permanent pastor for Grace.



This year our Christmas Eve Services will be online and available for viewing at 7 pm. If the county returns to orange or yellow on Thursday, Dec. 17, the services will be held in-person at 7 pm and 10 pm and the 7 pm service will be available on-line sometime around 9:30 pm Christmas Eve.



To accommodate the Holidays, the church office will be closed for Christmas Dec. 24-25. It will close again for New Year's January 1, 2021.

## Announcements



Dear Pastor Rice and members of Grace Lutheran Church Endowment Board,  
I want to thank you very much for your very generous support of our Logos Project (textbook voucher program) for the benefit of our incoming students for this 2020-2021 academic year. The Fall quarter has begun on campus and students starting their studies as future church workers.

We sincerely appreciate your generosity in the work of God's kingdom.

May the Triune God bless and keep you!

In Christ,

Rev. Mark C. Sheaffer



The GELC Altar Guild would like to thank Bonnie Richardson for the many years of devoted service to the Church and Altar Guild. Your continued support and ideas were always welcome. You will be missed by all of us.

We wish you God's blessings.



Dear Phillip Jr. and Marceil Hammerstrom Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for awarding me with this scholarship. It will be helping me through my first year of nursing school. I appreciate it so much.

Thanks again, Samantha Herman



We had a marvelous turn out for the Pizza Sale. We even had to order more supplies and make additional pizza the next week.

Proceeds benefit Youth Ministries Thanks to all who sold, made and bought pizzas. They were wonderful!



Thanks to Donna Fox, Shirley Grafe, Betty Kaser & Judy Martin for braving the Corona Virus to prepare the October and November newsletters. We really do have a dedicated group of volunteers!



### Announcements



**Every Good and Perfect Gift Is From Above**  
*Merry Christmas*

Weekly offering needed \$4326.92  
*Total offerings needed by the end of November \$207,692.16*

**Month Offering Total thru November 22nd \$9,162.00**  
*Year To Date Difference -\$19,520.16*

**Thank You for your "Gifts" to support our Church!**

### On-Line Church Schedule

Confirmation Class – Sunday Mornings at 9:15

Worship - Sunday Mornings at 10:30 - on YouTube & Facebook

Sunday Evening with the Pastor – 7:00

Bible Study - Monday Evenings - 7:00

Thursday Morning Devotions – 10:00

**Note - Grace will resume its regular weekly schedule the Sunday after the county turns Orange or Yellow.**



Poinsettias may be ordered in honor or in memory of loved ones. **The cost will be \$11.00 each.** Please complete and return this form along with your payment to the church office by **Wed, December 2nd.** (if paying by check, please make payable to Grace Lutheran Church)

*This Poinsettia is dedicated to the Glory of God*

*Please circle:*

*In Memory of*

*or*

*In Honor of*

*Print Names:*

*Ordered By:*

Thank you for purchasing a poinsettia which will decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve Service. You may pick up your poinsettia after the 10:00 pm Christmas Eve Service on Thursday, December 24th or beginning Monday, December 28th.



**Corrected Zoom Instructions**

**Meeting ID – 9738937488**

**Password - 0300**

There are two ways to participate in Zoom events at Grace.

**Using your computer or tablet.** Before you log on for the first time log on to <https://zoom.us/download> and download “Zoom Client for Meetings.” Tablet users should download the app.

Then to participate in an event:

1. Paste: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9738937488?pwd=RU0yYjdJOVpRYmE5YXV0cmdZSDh2dz09>

into your browser, OR

- 2. Log on to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us). Enter the Meeting ID and Password, OR
- 3. Click on the Camera Icon on your home page . Enter the Meeting ID and Password.

Respond “yes” when asked if you would like to use video and your computer/tablet’s audio. It might be a few moments before you can participate as I have to “let you in”.

**Using any phone.** Call 646.558.8656 - at the prompt enter the Meeting ID and Password.

# Sunday Evenings with The Pastor

Starting Sunday, November 29, our children in Grades 1-4 will have an opportunity to have an evening with Pastor Dan at 7:00 PM. Each Sunday, we will have an ice breaker, a Bible Lesson, a time to “Stump the Pastor” and then end with a game. Children may log on using the Zoom instructions included in the Messenger.

Note: if the county returns to yellow or orange on Thursday afternoon there will be in-person Sunday School Classes for Grades K-12.



## Online Bible Study

Pastor Dan is continuing an online Bible Study on Mondays at 7 PM beginning November 9. We will be studying the Gospel According to Mark. You are welcome to join us. We would be happy to catch you up!

**Log on using the Zoom instructions.**

## Online Thursday Morning Devotions

Grace will be offering at time of devotions each Thursday at 10:00 am. This will be an informal service based upon Luther’s Morning Prayer Service. There will be a time for sharing and prayer requests.

**Join us at 9:30 if you would like an opportunity simply to visit. Log on using Zoom Instructions.**



## Outreach

### GROCERY BAG MINISTRY

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

**Grocery bag distribution is temporarily suspended. We expect when it resumes, the need will be great. We are still accepting food and monetary donations.**

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.



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

## Please be Praying for...

All those serving in the armed forces, especially Christopher Smith, Seth Erickson, Gerald Case, Gary Dean Morrison.

Ella DeVore  
Fred Grosse  
Mildred Schauer  
Tim Clark  
Glenn Siber  
Dwayne Mann  
Mark Donahoe  
Jason Phillips  
Wayne Page  
Shirley Johnson  
Ethel King  
Louise Harris  
Karen Page  
Steve Strohl  
Bob Sclater  
Jason Clinker  
David Peoples

Holly Hillen  
Florence Fenton  
Judy Wells  
Alan Brooks  
Rachelle Sensel  
Lisa Myers  
Buffy Gray  
Norma Grywalski  
Carol Betche  
Edward King Sr.  
Molly Bauer  
Jane Buehler  
Judy Arrington  
Rob Strohl  
Alan Brooks  
Maryann Brothers  
Donna Fox

### 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 Dan 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.



*With Deepest Sympathy*

Our deep and heartfelt sympathies are with the family and friends of Helen R. Rosenberry, Jim Lands (brother of Keith Lands) & Freda Armbrust (sister of Joyce Kaser).

May the Lord embrace these families with His love and bless them with peace.

## 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 \$19. You will be billed by Blossom's Florist

Altar Flowers are available for the following dates.



**Dec. 6th - 1 vase**

**Dec. 13th - 1 vase**



## online

### Grace is Online

Grace's worship service is online! You can now stream the 10:30 service on YouTube and Facebook on Sundays. Look for a link on our Grace website.

## Worship Readings

### **Altar Guild**

**No meetings until further notice.**

#### **Sunday, Dec. 6th**

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

#### **Sunday, Dec. 13th**

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
 Psalm 126  
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

#### **Sunday, Dec. 20th**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 6  
 Luke 1:46b-55  
 Romans 16:25-27  
 Luke 1:26-38

#### **Thursday, Dec. 24th**

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

#### **Sunday, Dec. 27th**

Isiah 61:10—62:3  
 Psalm 148  
 Galatians 4:4-7  
 Luke 2:22-40

### **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. 6  
Dec. 13

**LAY READERS**

Dec. 6  
Dec. 13 Terry Miller

**COMMUNION ASST.**

Dec. 6  
Dec. 13

**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. 20  
Dec. 27

**LAY READERS**

Dec. 20 Gale Limron  
Dec. 27 John Stahl

**COMMUNION ASST.**

Dec. 22 N/A  
7 pm  
Dec. 24 N/A

**LAY READERS**

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

**USHERS**

Dec. 6 John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Ron Stahl  
Dec. 13 Mike Sergent, Jim Gibb, Jimm Morris, Brody Morris, Karl Vitovic  
Dec. 20 John Stahl, Robert McCulloch, Keith Lands, Paul McFadden  
Dec. 27 Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, John Wolfe, Joe Vanfossen

### SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP

**ACOLYTES**

Dec. 1  
Dec. 8

**LAY READERS**

Dec. 6 Jan Ochsenbine  
Dec. 13 John Stahl

**DEACONS**

Dec. 6  
Dec. 13

### ALTAR GUILD

**December:** Glenda Sclater, Marcie Castricone, Liz Miller, Paula Wolfe

**January:** Judy Martin, Pam Keller, Elain Margo



### 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)



gracehappens@gracedover.org

pastor@gracedover.org

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 330-343-6915

**December 2020**

**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						
		1	2	3 10 am Zoom Devotionals	4	5
6 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	7 7 pm Valley Voices 7 pm Zoom Bible Study	8 6:30 pm Planning Council	9 10 am Congregational Life Meeting - LH	10 10 am Zoom Devotionals	11	12
13 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	14 7 pm Valley Voices 7 pm Zoom Bible Study	15	16	17 10 am Zoom Devotionals	18 10 am Grocery Bag Drive Thru  <u>Messenger Deadline</u>	19
20 9:30 am Worship Communion  	21 7 pm Valley Voices 7 pm Zoom Bible Study	22	23  <u>Messenger Assembly</u>	24 7 pm Worship Communion 10 pm Worship Communion  	25  	26
27 9:30 am Worship Communion  6 pm Meal to the Homeless Shelter	28 7 pm Valley Voices 7 pm Zoom Bible Study	29	30	31  <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>	<b>2021</b>	