

December

THE MESSENGER

2024

Summer Worship Schedule
Sunday: 9:30 am
Sunday Church School for all ages
returns Aug. 25th
Second Saturday of the month at 5:00 PM

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Church E-Mail:
gracehappens@gracedover.org
Pastor's E-Mail:
pastor@gracedover.org
Website: www.gracedover.org

Dear Friends in Christ,

How wonderful it was to have such a large turnout for our church Thanksgiving Dinner! The thankful comment made by our Hospitality committee was that it has been since before the pandemic that we have had such a large number at a church dinner. Let's do that again for our Advent Rigatoni Luncheon on December 8th!

I'm hopeful that we are all getting back to church and what better time to do that than Advent which is the start of our new liturgical church year. Advent is about the coming days. We eagerly await the coming of Christ this month and our excitement shows in our church activities.

Let us all join together and experience the growing excitement of not only our Advent Luncheon, but also our Family Advent Wreath Lighting every Advent service, our Children's Christmas Program, Grace Happens Christmas Service and Family Game Night, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, and Lessons and Carols Service.

Blessings, Pastor Bonnie

Pastor
Rev. Bonnie L. Grimaldi

Planning Council	Pg. 2
Announcements	Pg. 3
Announcements	Pg. 4
Announcements	Pg. 5
Outreach	Pg. 6
Worship & Worship Assistance	Pg. 7 & 8
Member Celebrations	Pg. 9
Calendar	Pg. 10

Planning Council



PLANNING COUNCIL
Next Meeting
Tuesday,
Jan., 21st 2024
@ 6:30 PM

There will be a congregational meeting to discuss and vote on Grace Lutheran’s proposed 2025 budget on December 8th for each service. One meeting immediately following the 8 am service and one meeting at 10:10 am before the 10:30 am service will be held for your convenience. You can pick one up on the table in the Narthex.

2024-2026 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Julie Brothers - President Gale Limron - Vice President
Michelle Durben - Secretary John Wolfe - Treasurer

Congregational Life

Gale Limron - Director
Susie Erickson
Elaine Margo
Betsy Morris
Melody Rader
Jim Heller
Jenna Limron

Property

Jim Gibb- Director
Nathan Vaughan
Jeff Hootman
Larry Wallick
Richard Elliott

Christian Faith and Life

Ashley Eick - Director
Karla Burrier
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

Ron Stahl - Director
Charles Castricone
Keith Lands
Sarah Kneuss

Outreach

Pam Beller– Director
Tim Durben
Joe Erickson
Irene McCoy
Judy Martin
Pam Keller
David Elliott (church website)

Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministries: Cody Jerles
Director of Music/Organist : Jeff Beshore
Secretary: Lisa Morris
Treasurer: John Wolfe
Custodian: Nathan Bingham

To Know Christ, To Live Christ, To Share Christ, and To Be One in Christ

Announcements

Holiday Reminder



Altar Guild Dinner

Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024
5:45 pm Outreach Center

Current Altar Guild Member: \$10.00
Retired Altar Guild Member: FREE



December 8th - Advent Luncheon

**December 22nd - One Service 10 am
Children's Christmas Program**

**December 24th - Christmas Eve
One Service 7 pm**

**December 29th - One Service 10 am
Lessons and Carols**

**Join us in 2025 on the 3rd Saturday
of each month in Luther Hall for**

Coffee & Conversation




8:30-9:30 am

This time of fellowship is open to women of all ages.

Our time together will include coffee, conversation, prayer, devotion and discussion. We will also do a free will offering to benefit our church programs and our community.

Bring your coffee mug and a friend!



2024 is quickly coming to a close. Please consider a donation/ offering to the church before the end of the year. Be sure that any funds for 2024 are received at the church prior to the end of day December 31, 2024. Funds received after this date will be reflected on your 2025 giving statement instead of 2024.

Announcements

RIGATONI DINNER

Please join us on Sunday, Dec. 8th after the 10:30 am service for a rigatoni dinner benefiting the youth group on their mission trip and other group events. The youth group will be serving rigatoni and meatballs, salad and desserts and are asking for free will donations. If you are interested in joining us, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.



Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Thanksgiving Dinner. We had delicious food and great Fellowship! It was wonderful to see such a large crowd at the dinner (we counted between 70 and 80 in attendance). We haven't had a crowd this large at a dinner since before the pandemic. We hope to see even more of you at future church dinners (including the Rigatoni Dinner in December!!!). Thanks also to everyone who donated money; we raised \$509 for the Youth.

Share -A- Christmas

The Outreach committee would like to help the Tuscarawas County Council for Church and Community (T4C) with the 2024 Share-A-Christmas campaign. If you would like to donate, envelopes can be found in the Narthex and should be turned in by December 2nd. Thank you for helping us bless our Tuscarawas County families in need and put a smile on a



SEATS & FEET



This year the Salvation Army is in need of underwear, t-shirts and socks. The donation trees will be displayed in the Narthex and in the connecting room of Luther Hall beginning Sun., Nov. 17th.

All donations will be removed from and around the trees on Mon., Dec. 2nd by 9:00 am.



Announcements



Exciting News! The church has been looking at options for e-giving over the past year and we are excited to announce we are going to use an application called Tithely. Tithely has a website where a member can go to contribute to the church electronically, a smartphone app for both iPhone and Android that will permit giving, and we can link to Tithely site through the church website. The church is only adding this as another way to give, if anyone prefers this method; Tithely is NOT replacing regular check or cash giving which will still be available. Members are invited to give however they prefer; through cash or check as occurs now or through Tithely. This is brand new to the church, but we plan to have this capability in place prior to the end of 2024. Look for more announcements to come!

December Grace Happens Game Night

Please join us on December 14th after our Grace Happens contemporary service for our third installment of community and family game night! Last time, we had a successful pumpkin painting competition with a lot of laughter and fun! Congratulations to Cindy Jerles for winning the gift card with her great vampire pumpkin! This month, we will be hosting a Christmas themed trivia night! You can enter the trivia night solo or with your family! The winner will receive a gift basket and 5 raffle tickets for the Grace Happens trophy! Congratulations to our last trophy winner, the Limron family.

We hope to see you there to enjoy worship and get into the holiday spirit!



Poinsettias may be ordered in honor of or in memory of loved ones. **The cost will be \$12.00 each.** Please complete and return this form along with your payment to the church office by **Mon., 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 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service on Tuesday, December 24th or beginning Monday, December 30th.



Our support of the Tuscarawas County Friends of the Homeless continues. We still offer meals one Sunday a month. Unfortunately during COVID-19 we were forced to help in a different manner. We are taking monetary donations to support the ministry rather than provide homecooked meals. Your financial support is always appreciated.

GROCERY BAG MINISTRY

Grace Outreach Board continues their Drive-Thru Grocery Bag Ministry the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month from 10 am to 2 pm. The Outreach Board is looking for both monetary gifts and gifts of kind to support this vital ministry.

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.

Grocery size paper bags are also needed.



FEED THE HUNGRY

Please be Praying for...

All those serving in the armed forces, especially Christopher Smith, Seth Erickson.

Rita Young
Paula Wolfe
Bruce Siber
Ruth Patrick
Peggy Miller

Evelyn Ralston
Glenn Siber
Brinley Davis
Kay Bambeck
Lila Kinkade

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 Bonnie 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

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. 8th - 1 vase
Dec. 15th - 2 vases



Ladies of Grace Knotters

Our Grace knotters are in need of flat bed sheets (any size) to make quilts. If you have any you wish to donate, you may drop them off at the church office. Thank You!

Altar Guild

Decorate
Mon., Dec. 23rd
9 am

Worship Readings

Sunday, Dec. 1st
Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

Sunday, Dec. 8th
Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

Sunday, Dec. 31st
Lessons & Carols
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:26-35, 38
Matthew 1:18-25

Sunday, Dec. 15th
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

Saturday, Dec. 22nd
Micah 5:2-5a
Luke 1:46b-55
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

Saturday, Dec. 24th
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Matthew 1:18-25
Luke 2:8-20
Matthew 2:1-11
John 1:1-14



Yes, on-line services are here to stay!

Now that the pandemic is over we are continuing to record our 10:30 service each Sunday and our 5 pm Contemporary service the second Saturday of the month. Weekly on-line services are part of our on-going ministry here at Grace.

Worship Assistants

SUNDAY 8:00 AM WORSHIP

ACOLYTES

Dec. 1
Dec. 8
Dec. 15

LAY READERS

Dec. 1 Gale Limron
Dec. 8 Gale Limron
Dec. 15 Lynn Foust

COMMUNION ASST.

Dec. 1
Dec. 8
Dec. 15

USHERS

Richard Elliott
Jim Heller
Scott Ebert
Edward Harper
David Elliott

SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP

ACOLYTES

Dec. 1 Jamey W.
Dec. 8
Dec. 15

LAY READERS

Dec. 1 Jan Ochsenbine
Dec. 8 John Stahl
Dec. 15 Sandy Gibb

COMMUNION ASST.

Dec. 1
Dec. 8
Dec. 15 Jim Gibb

Christmas Eve Worship

LAY READERS

Dec. 24 - 7:00 pm Lynn Foust

USHERS

Dec. 1 John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Ron Stahl
Dec. 8 Mike Sergent, Jim Gibb
Dec. 15 John Stahl, Keith Lands
Dec. 22 Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, John Wolfe, Joe Vanfossen
Dec. 29 WELCA

SUNDAY 10 AM WORSHIP

ACOLYTES

Dec. 22
Dec. 29

LAY READERS

Dec. 22 Gale Limron
Dec. 29 Jim Gibb

COMMUNION ASST.

Dec. 22
Dec. 29



ALTAR GUILD

December: Glenda Sclater, Marcie Castricone, Paula Wolfe
January: Sue Case, Janie Huffman, Mel Rader

Get the Messenger By Email

If you'd like to receive the Messenger by email please send an email to 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






gracehappens@gracedover.org

pastor@gracedover.org

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
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 Dover OH 44622-2948
 330-343-6915

December 2024

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
<p>1</p> <p>8 am Worship Communion</p> <p>9:15 am SCS</p> <p>10:30 am Worship Communion</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7 pm Valley Voices</p>  <p>Deadline to order poinsettias.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC</p> <p>5:45 pm Altar Guild Dinner - ORC</p> <p>6:30 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>4</p> <p>2 pm & 2:30 pm Communion Park Village</p> <p>7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>5</p> <p>12pm Bible Study</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10 am Grocery Bag Drive Thru</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8 am Worship Communion</p> <p>9:15 am SCS</p> <p>10:30 am Worship Communion</p> <p>Congregational Meeting Advent Luncheon</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7 pm Valley Voices</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30 Cub Scouts</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>12</p> <p>12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8 am Men's Breakfast</p> <p>5 pm Grace Happens Contemporary Service</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8 am Worship Communion</p> <p>9:15 am SCS</p> <p>10:30 am Worship Communion</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7 pm Valley Voices</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:30 pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7 pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>19</p> <p>12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10 am Grocery Bag Drive Thru</p> <p>Messenger Deadline</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 am Women's Group - LH</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10 am Worship Communion</p> <p>6 pm Meal to the Homeless Shelter</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>9 am Altar Guild 7 pm Valley Voices</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7 pm Christmas Eve Worship Communion</p> 	<p>25</p>  <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10 am Worship Communion</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7 pm Valley Voices</p>	<p>31</p> <p>6:30 pm Cub Scouts</p> <p>Messenger Assembly</p>	