



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

What Did You Expect?

I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my words. Psalm 17:6

A bar called *Drummond's* in Mt Vernon, Texas began construction on an expansion of their building, hoping to "grow" their business.

In response, the local Southern Baptist Church started a campaign to block the bar from expanding. The members wrote petitions to the local government and spoke during city council meetings. Mostly, they prayed fervently, holding prayer meetings and public prayer vigils.

About a week before the bar's grand re-opening, a bolt of lightning struck the bar and burned it to the ground! The business was destroyed.

Afterward, the church folks were rather smug--bragging about "the power of prayer." It was if they had been modern-day Elijah's calling down "fire from heaven." (I Kings 18)

The angry bar owner eventually sued the church on grounds that the church ... "was ultimately responsible for the demise of his building, through direct actions or indirect means." Of course, the church vehemently denied all responsibility or any connection to the building's demise.

The case made its way to the local courts. There, the judge read carefully through the plaintiff's complaint and the defendant's reply. After studying the case, consulting his law books and reviewing local precedent, he was greatly perplexed.

He then opened the hearing by saying: "I don't know how I'm going to decide this, but it appears from the paperwork that what we have here is a bar owner who now believes in the power of prayer, and an entire church congregation that does not."

Hmm. Though this story gave me a quick chuckle, it also made me stop and think. I wondered, "Just how seriously do we take the 'power of prayer'?" When we pray, what do we expect?

When we pray, we pray with reverent expectation. We expect God's loving and merciful answer--whatever it may be, however it may show itself. We expect results—God's results, God's way.

During Lent, our Wednesday evening worship services will take a closer look at God's powerful gift of prayer. Each week will take a close look at a Biblical prayer and the one who offered it unto God. We will also see how the one who prayed, prayed with expectation. I pray you will make this part of your Lenten devotions and prayer-life. I'll be learning and praying right along with you.

Speaking of praying with expectation, I recently ran across this short anecdote. It's just in time for Valentine's Day.


A woman was looking for a Valentine's Day card for her husband and she came across a promising one. On the outside it read: "*Sweetheart, you're the answer to my prayers.*" Then she turned to the inside, which was inscribed, "*You're not what I prayed for exactly, but apparently you're the answer.*"

Senior Pastor Donald L. Rice Jr.

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Planning Council

PLANNING COUNCIL
Next Meeting
Mar. 10th, 2020
@ 6:30 PM



Facts and Figures

<p>Attendance December 2019 Weekly Average: 168 Difference: -10 (-6%) Foggy!)Christmas Eve: 321</p> <p>Offerings December 2019 Total Offerings: \$18,659.25 Difference: -\$13,728.35 Weekly Average: \$3731.85 Difference: -\$2,744.47 (-41%) Christmas Eve: \$3,802.00 Christmas: \$4,614.00</p>	<p>Attendance December 2018 Weekly Average: 178 Christmas Eve: 309 (Very</p> <p>Offerings December 2018 Total Offerings: \$32,387.60* Weekly Average: \$6,476.32 Christmas Eve: \$1,062.00 Christmas: \$3,717.00</p>
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2018-2019 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Jim Heller - President Ron Stahl - Vice President
 Christine Sergent - Secretary Beverly Frantz - Treasurer

Congregational Life

Ron Stahl - Director
 Susie Erickson
 Elaine Margo
 Liz Miller
 Melody Rader

Property

John Nelson- Director
 Jeff Hootman
 Audra Miceli
 Nathan Vaughan
 Larry Wallick
 Brad Wharmby

Christian Faith and Life

Faith Bambeck- Director
 Julie Brothers
 Karla Burrier
 Ashley Eick
 Debbie Flood
 Tiffany Shepherd
 (Cody Jerles, Coordinator YFM)

Hospitality

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

Stewardship Development

Tom Margo - Director
 Charles Castricone
 Keith Lands
 Craig Rader
 Nancy Wharmby

Outreach

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

Senior Pastor: Rev. Donald L. Rice Jr.
Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministries: Cody Jerles
Director of Music/Organist: Linda Hanna
Secretary: Lisa Morris
Treasurer: Beverly Frantz
Custodian: Glenn Mitchell

Since You Asked

*Since You Asked, Again...***How is the date for Easter determined? Who decided this in the first place?**

Thank you or your inquiry. I've answered this question before, but it has been several years since I've done so. Here's a refresher for those who remember and a learning experience for those who are encountering this information for the first time.

Easter, the Christian holiday that celebrates the day of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, is a moveable feast, which means that it does not occur on the same date every year. Easter is calculated based on the phases of the moon and the coming of spring.

In 325 A.D., the **Council of Nicaea**, which agreed upon many of the basic principles of Christianity (*Nicene Creed*), decided that Easter must always occur on a Sunday because Sunday was the day on which Christ rose from the dead. The Council then established a formula for celebrating Easter on the first Sunday following the *paschal* full moon, which is the full moon that falls on or after the spring equinox.

In practice, that means that Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon that falls on or after March 21. The Church set March 21 as the date of the spring equinox even though the actual vernal equinox can occur on March 20 or even March 22. This allows the Church to set a universal date for Easter, regardless of when you observe the paschal full moon in your time zone. With this centuries-old formula, Easter can occur as early as March 22 and as late as April 25, depending on when the paschal full moon occurs.

Prayer Journey to the Cross

Lent 2020

Ash Wednesday, February 26 at 6:45 p.m.

Wednesdays March 4-April 1 at 6:45 p.m.

Maundy Thursday (April 9) and Good Friday (April 10) at 6:45 p.m.

Did you know there are at least 650 prayers in the Bible? Of course, the most famous and most precious is our Lord's Prayer recorded in Matthew 6:9-13.

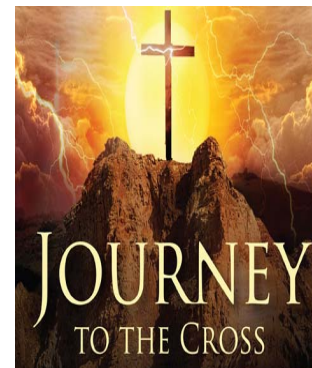
Prayer is an important and integral part of our life with God. Jesus Christ encouraged us to pray often as a way of strengthening our relationship with God. He reminded us to keep the communication channels open and active with praise, thanksgiving, pleas and petitions; to express our joy and our sorrows; to avail ourselves to God's love, comfort and peace.

Of course, Jesus himself prayed fervently and often. The Gospels record at least twenty-eight instances when Jesus set himself apart from the crowds and his disciples to pray. Jesus' most ardent prayer was in the Garden of Gethsemane where his talk with God the Father concluded with the words, "Not my will, but Thy will be done." And, most remarkably, in all the humiliation and agony of the cross, Jesus prayed—prayed for us.

During Wednesday in Lent and continuing through Holy Week, we will hear again and learn from some of the outstanding, life-affirming prayers found in Scripture.

Our Prayer Journey

- Feb. 26: Ash Wednesday: David's Prayer for Pardon (Psalm 51)
Service includes Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion
- Mar. 4: Moses Prays for God's People (Exodus 32:7-14)
- Mar. 11: Hannah's Prayer of Praise (I Samuel 2:1-10)
- Mar. 18: David's Prayer in Time of Great Stress (Psalm 3)
- Mar. 25: Nehemiah's Prayer for Success (Nehemiah 1:1-2:8)
- Apr. 1: Jonah's Prayer of Deliverance (Jonah 2:1-9)
- Apr. 9: Maundy Thursday: Jesus' Prayer in Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-46)



Announcements

Newborn News

Congratulations to Andrew and Shelley Huffman on the birth of their daughter, Hannah Reese, who was born January 14 in Westerville. She weighed 6 lb., 4 oz. and measured 18 inches long. She joins her brother Graham at the family home in New Albany. Hannah is the granddaughter of member Janie Kreisher Huffman and Robert and Cynthia Huffman, all of Dover.

May God bless Hannah and her family with great joy as she grows in God's love and grace. Congratulations, again!



Get Ready...
Get Set... **let's go!**

January is over
and we've started the new year.
How are we doing toward our
2020 Projected Offering Income?

Weekly offering needed \$4326.92

*Total offerings needed by
the end of January \$17,307.68*

Total January offerings \$12,760.00

Year To Date Difference -\$4547.68

Thank You for your continued support
with your weekly offerings.

We can't do it without YOU!!

AGO Members Recital

Grace Lutheran Church Sanctuary
Monday, February 17 at 7:30 p.m.

You are cordially invited to join the
Canton Chapter of the American Guild
of Organists for a FREE concert on
our newly refurbished Kuhn organ.

The concert features some of our
area's finest organists.

For more information contact Linda Hanna
(330) 243-3094 Hannalj07@yahoo.com



Men's Fellowship

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

TUESDAY,
February 25th

The Men's Fellowship
will again be hosting the
Shrove Tuesday Pancake
Dinner in Fellowship Hall,
4:30-6:30 pm.

EVERYONE IS INVITED!
Come and enjoy fellowship
and some very fine pancakes!

Pancakes, sausage and beverage.





Lutheran World Relief
Final Project Numbers
for 2019



Quilts: 45
Personal Care Kits: 32
Soap: 35



KNOTTERS

Tues., Feb. 11th, 2020



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 to keep the pantry stocked. Soap and toilet tissue are purchased and paid by cash donations.

Product	Price / piece	Bags per month*	Total
Peanut Butter	\$ 2.29	X 120	\$ 274.80
Fruit	\$ 0.89	X 120	\$ 106.80
Cereal	\$ 1.59	X 120	\$ 190.80
Meat	\$ 1.30	X 120	\$ 156.00
Chicken Soup	\$ 1.00	X 60	\$ 60.00
Tomato Soup	\$ 1.00	X 60	\$ 60.00
Potatoes	\$ 0.65	X 120	\$ 78.00
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	\$ 0.69	X 120	\$ 82.80
Spaghetti	\$ 1.00	X 120	\$ 120.00
Spaghetti Sauce	\$ 1.00	X 120	\$ 120.00
			\$ 1369.20

*Average

<u>ALDI</u>	<u>Buehlers</u>	<u>Wal Mart</u>	<u>Big Lots</u>
Peanut Butter	Vegetables (1)	Spaghetti Sauce	Soup (1)
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 December we distributed 135 bags, and have already distributed 114 in January. 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 items which are most urgently needed.



Please be Praying for...

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

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Ella DeVore | Bonnie Beem |
| Keith Lands | Fred Grosse |
| Mildred Schauer | Judy Wells |
| Tim Clark | JoAnn Hammond |
| Glenn Siber | Rachelle Sensel |
| Dwayne Mann | Donna Donahoe |
| Mark Donahoe | Jeff Wallick |
| Jason Phillips | Norma Grywalski |
| Wayne Page | Jesse A. Brothers |
| Shirley Johnson | Edward King Sr. |
| Ethel King | Glenn Bosler |
| Molly Bauer | Gail Danford |
| Jane Buehler | Karen Page |
| Buffy Gray | Judy Arrington |
| Carol Betche | Louise Harris |
| Holly Hillen | Doris Metzger |
| Lisa Myers | Leslie Beans |

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.



Our deep and heartfelt sympathies are with the families and friends of Joe Hammond, Raymond McCoy, Howard Stein, Nadine Regula (sister of Joyce Kaser) & Mary Marino (mother of Linda Homrighausen).

May the Lord embrace these families with His

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 February's 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 January 26th, 2020.**

February's dinner at the Homeless Shelter is on Sunday, Feb. 23rd, 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.



- Feb. 9th - 2 vases
- Feb. 23rd - 2 vases
- Mar. 1st - 1 vase
- Mar. 8th - 1 vase
- Mar. 15th - 1 vase



Feb. 2nd - Karla & Evan Burrier

Feb. 9th - Jen & Taylor Vaughan

Feb. 16th - Deb & Katelyn Foust

Feb. 23rd - Deb & Jacob Flood

Worship Readings

Altar Guild
Tuesday,
Feb. 25th, 2020
9:00 am

Sunday, Feb. 2nd
 Malachi 3:1-4
 Psalm 84
 Hebrews 2:14-18
 Luke 2:22-40

Sunday, Feb. 9th
 Isaiah 58:1-9a
 Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
 1 Corinthians 2:1-12
 Matthew 5:13-20

Sunday, Feb. 16th
 Deuteronomy 30:15-20
 Psalm 119:1-8
 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
 Matthew 5:21-26

Sunday, Feb. 23rd
 Exodus 24:12-18
 Psalm 2
 2 Peter 1:16-21
 Matthew 17:1-9

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	LAY READERS	DEACON/COMM. ASST.	USHERS
2/2	2/2 Boy Scouts	2/2 Terry Miller	Tim Keplinger
2/9	2/9 Terry Miller	2/9	Richard Elliott
2/16	2/16 Lynn Foust	2/16	Steve Zimmerman
2/23	2/23 Gale Limron	2/23	Jim Heller
			Scott Ebert
			Edward Harper

SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP

Feb. 2 John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Ron Stahl
Feb. 9 Jim Gibb, Mike Sergent, Jimm Morris, Karl Vitovic
Feb. 16 John Stahl, Robert McCulloch, Keith Lands, Paul McFadden
Feb. 23 Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, John Wolfe, Joe Vanfossen

ACOLYTES	LAY READERS	DEACON/COMM. ASST.
2/2	2/2 Jan Ochsenbine	2/2
2/9	2/9 John Stahl	2/9
2/16	2/16 Sandy Gibb	2/16 Jim Gibb
2/23	2/23 Jimm Morris	2/23

ALTAR GUILD

February: Glenda Sclater, Marcie Castricone, Liz Miller

March: Judy Martin, Bonnie Richardson, Pam Keller, Elaine Margo



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

February

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
 216 North Wooster Ave
 Dover OH 44622-2948
 330-343-6915

2020

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion 	3 2:30 pm Communion Park Village - S 7 pm Valley Voices	4 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 5:30 pm Little Theatre Youth - FH 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	5 7 pm Boy Scouts	6 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	7	8 8 am Men's Breakfast - LH
9 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	10 10:30 am Communion Park Village - N 7 pm Valley Voices	11 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Planning Council	12 7 pm Boy Scouts	13 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	14 	15
16 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	17 7 pm Valley Voices 7:30 pm AGO "Member's Concert" 	18 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	19 7 pm Boy Scouts	20 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	21 <u>Messenger Deadline</u>	22
23 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion 6 pm Meal to the Homeless Shelter	24 7 pm Valley Voices	25 9 am Altar Guild 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 4:30 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	26 6:45 pm Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm Boy Scouts	27 12-1 pm Bible Study	28 <u>Messenger Assembly</u>	29