

THE MESSENGER

2025

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
216 North Wooster Ave
Dover Ohio 44622-2948
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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,

“Elizabeth Eaton, presiding bishop of the ELCA, has issued a statement on the immediate impacts of recent executive orders focused on immigration. “I have heard about families frightened of being torn apart and from congregations fearful that their churches can no longer offer safety or support to their immigrant neighbors,” the statement read, in part. “I have heard from faith partners ordered to stop services to refugees and from businesses upended by workforce disruptions.”

“Keeping communities safe and supporting the well-being of all people is a goal shared by the ELCA,” Eaton said in the statement. “Yet it’s worth naming that these executive actions are increasing fear and division within our society. Some people, including U.S. citizens, are alarmed about immigration enforcement at churches, schools and playgrounds. Some are afraid to seek care at hospitals or to access essential services.

“The ELCA supports the view that nations have the responsibility to protect their borders and safeguard their communities. However, these policies must cause ‘neither undue repercussions within immigrant communities nor bias against them’ (‘Immigration’ social message, page 7). Just policies include recognition of the humanity of immigrants without status, respect for the dignity of those at the border and refuge for displaced people.

“The Scriptures are clear. We are called to see anew the image of God in our immigrant neighbors. Following God’s call in Leviticus 19 that is echoed throughout Scripture, the time is now.” Eaton called the church to join together in the following:

- **A Call to Prayer** alongside and for immigrants and sojourners, our communities and for our leaders, that they will act wisely and justly, protect all people and not cause harm.
- **A Call to Learning**, using resources such as the ELCA social message “Immigration”; the ELCA’s strategy for Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities (AMMPARO), including “[Know Your Rights](#)” information; and companion resources from [Global Refuge](#) (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) and [Church World Service](#) on the policy changes. Join ELCA AMMPARO and Global Refuge for a webinar, “What Now—Resources for Faith Communities after Executive Orders,” on Thursday, Jan. 30, 4-5 p.m. Eastern time. Registration is required. Register [here](#).
- **A Call to Personal Witness** by speaking out against rhetoric that dehumanizes and demonizes anyone made in the image of God, and by promoting accurate information about neighbors and issues of public concern, in the spirit of the [Conference of Bishops statement](#) on the need to speak the truth.
- **A Call to Public Witness**, using the resources of ELCA AMMPARO, ELCA Witness in Society and State Public Policy Offices, and joining with our ecumenical partners as we offer faithful, direct witness to government.

~ ELCA presiding bishop issues statement on immigration executive orders *Living Lutheran*, January 28, 2025


Blessings, Pastor Bonnie

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Planning Council

**PLANNING
COUNCIL**

Next Meeting
Tuesday,
Mar. 18th, 2024
@ 6:30 PM



Christian Faith & Life Meeting
Tues., February 18th 6:30 pm

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:

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

Announcements



TITHE.LY
Innovative church giving

Getting Tithely operational has taken more time than expected. I am working with both Tithely and our bank to get the system functional. I hope to have a link on the church website for online giving plus the use of the Tithely smart phone app setup some time in February. Thank you for your patience as I work to bring this new program online for the church and functional for the congregation.

2024 Giving Statements

Year end giving statements were sent out in US Mail at the end of January. If you have any questions about your statement please reach out to the church office.

John



*Annual
Giving
Statements*



Valentine's Day Cookie Fundraiser

The youth group is going to be selling cookies again this year before and after service on February 16th! The cookies will be freshly made by the families of the youth and include cutouts, chocolate chip and others! They will be all donation based and proceeds will be used to fund the youth's mission trip to Louisville, KY this summer. Spread the love this February by helping the youth reach their goals for the mission trip!



Sunday Brunch

Join us Sunday, February 16th for brunch. It will follow our church service in Fellowship Hall and will include breakfast casseroles, fruit and breakfast pastries. No food donations needed!

Announcements

T-County Moravian Mission Team



SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER

FEB. 23, 2025

11:30-1:30 PM
WITH PIE AUCTION AT 12:15 PM

TO ASSIST WITH MISSION TRIPS PLANNED TO NORTH CAROLINA
 DINE IN OR CARRY OUT

FREE WILL DONATION

PLACE: FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH
 319 NORTH WALNUT STREET, DOVER, OHIO 44622

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!



On April 4-12, there is another adult mission trip going to North Carolina with the First Moravian Church in Dover to help in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene. There will be a meeting on February 23rd at the First Moravian Church in Dover for all those going. Joe and Jennifer Mathey are going from our church and anyone else who is interested and able to do handiwork, please contact the church office.



If your child is in 3rd grade or older and has not had their First Communion, you and your child are invited to attend Pastor Bonnie's First Communion instruction and pizza lunch on March 1st at 10:30 – noon! First Communion Sunday will be March 9th at 10:00 am. Please let Lisa know in the church office who and how many will be attending on March 1st.

Outreach



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 until supply runs out. 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.

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, Connor Gwynne.

Rita Young
Paula Wolfe
Bruce Siber
Kay Bambeck

Evelyn Ralston
Glenn Siber
Ruth Patrick
Jim Gibb

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

Our deep and heartfelt sympathies are with the family and friends of Brinley Davis.

May the Lord embrace this family 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.



- Feb. 2nd - 2 vases
- Feb. 9th - 2 vases
- Feb. 23rd - 2 vases
- Mar. 2nd - 1 vase
- Mar. 9th - 1 vase



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!

Worship Readings

Altar Guild

Tuesday,
Feb. 25th
9 am

Sunday, Feb. 2nd

Malachi 3:1-4
Psalm 84
Hebrews 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-40

Sunday, Feb. 9th

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, Feb. 16th

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Sunday, Feb. 23rd

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38



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 10:00 AM WORSHIP

<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>LAY READERS</u>	<u>DEACON/COMM. ASST.</u>
2/2 Ryder Vanfossen	2/2 Boy Scouts	2/2 Deborah Horn
2/9 Jamey Wolfe	2/9 Lynn Foust	2/9
2/16	2/16 Jan Ochsenbine	2/16
2/23	2/23 Gale Limron	2/23

USHERS

Feb. 2 John Lorenz, Tom Margo, Ron Stahl, Jim Heller
Feb. 9 Mike Sergent, Jim Gibb, Richard Elliott
Feb. 16 John Stahl, Keith Lands, Edward Harper
Feb. 23 Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, John Wolfe, Joe Vanfossen

SOUND

Feb. 2 Keith Lands
Feb. 9 Richard Elliott
Feb. 16 Tim Durben
Feb. 23 Richard Elliott



ALTAR GUILD

February: Pam Keller, Elaine Margo, Jan Ochsenbine
March: Glenda Sclater, Marcie Castricone, Paula Wolfe

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



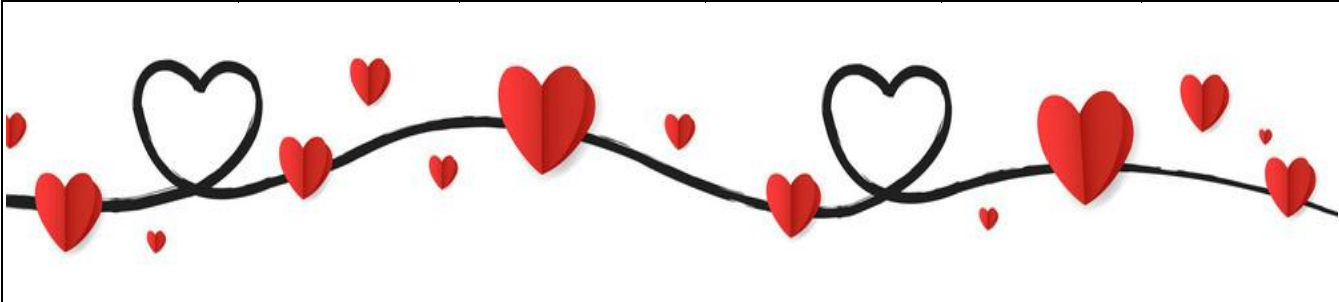



gracehappens@gracedover.org

pastor@gracedover.org

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 Dover OH 44622-2948
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February 2025

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 9 am SCS 10 am Worship Communion 	3 9 am BCC - ORC 5:30 pm BCC - FH 7 pm Valley Voices	4 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 6:30 Cub Scouts	5 2 pm Park Village - Communion 5:30 pm BCC - FH 7 pm Boy Scouts	6 12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	7 10 am Grocery Bag Drive Thru	8 8 am Men's Breakfast 5 pm Grace Happens Contemporary Service
9 9 am SCS 10 am Worship Communion	10 9 am Knotters 5:30 pm BCC - FH 7 pm Valley Voices	11 9 am Knotters 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	12 5:30 pm BCC - FH 7 pm Boy Scouts	13 12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir 7 pm Beekeepers - ORC	14 	15 8:30 am Women's Group - LH
16 9 am SCS 10 am Worship Communion <u>Winter Luncheon</u>	17 7 pm Valley Voices 	18 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Christian Faith & Life Mtg. - LH	19 5:30 pm BCC - FH 7 pm Boy Scouts	20 12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	21 10 am Grocery Bag Drive Thru <u>Messenger Deadline</u>	22 Pastor vacation
23 9 am SCS 10 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 6:30 Cub Scouts	26 7 pm Boy Scouts	27 12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	28 7:30 am Harcatus - In Service - ORC, LH, FH <u>Messenger Assembly</u>	Pastor vacation