



THE MESSENGER

2013

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

Happy New Year—Whenever!

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! II Corinthians 5:17

They say as you grow older, the years seem to go by faster and faster. Poor old Methuselah, by the time he reached 965, the years must have flown by in the blink of the eye.

Though I am nowhere near his age, 2012 seemed to go by rather quickly. I guess I've got to say good-bye to 2012 and be ready for 2013, like it or not. Or do I?

Well, if you are not ready to welcome the New Year on January 1, you can put it off for awhile. The Chinese do not celebrate their New Year until the beginning of the "lunar new year" (whatever that is) on January 20. On that day the Year of the Dragon gives way to the Year of the Snake. On second thought, a year of snakes might not be such a good idea. I think I'll pass.

If you really want to postpone the New Year, the Jews will let you wait until September! Rosh Hashanah is September 5. According to Jewish tradition, this is the time of year God created the heavens and the earth.

If that doesn't suit you, you have a wide selection of dates so that you can start your New Year just about any time you want. For many businesses, colleges and universities, their fiscal New Year begins July 1. For some reason (or lack thereof), the government insists on beginning its fiscal New Year on October 1. Or, you could go back to the real old-fashioned way and celebrate New Year's Day on March 1. In fact, the Western World did not celebrate New Year's on January 1 until 46 BC with the introduction of the Julian Calendar.

Of course, here in the Church we commemorate the New Year on the First Sunday in Advent. Our Sunday School starts its year on Rally Day, usually the second Sunday in September.

So, Happy New Year—whenever!

Actually, celebrating a New Year more than once a year might not be such a bad idea. It can remind us that today and every day, God makes all things new. Through God's word, God promises to renew and re-invigorate our faith. God re-charges our will and refreshes us so that we may open ourselves to new opportunities and new challenges in loving God and neighbor.

As we begin 2013, may God restore unto to us the joy of our salvation so that every day is a new celebration of Gods promises of life and love in Jesus' name. Amen.

By the way, as you read this, I have been on vacation since Christmas Day. I will be back the start of the New Year. I just haven't decided which one.


Senior Pastor Donald L. Rice Jr.

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Planning Council

**PLANNING
COUNCIL**

**Next Meeting
January 8th, 2013
@ 6:45 PM**



**Grace
Notes**

Facts and Figures

<p>Attendance November 2012 Average Attendance: 176 Difference: -12 (-8%)</p> <p>Offerings November 2012 Total: \$14,107.81 Difference: -\$1936.78 Weekly Average: \$3526.95 Difference: -802.95 (-18%)</p>	<p>Attendance November 2011 Average Attendance: 188</p> <p>Offerings November 2011 Total: \$15,744.59 Weekly Average: \$4329.90</p>
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2012-2013 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Robert Viereck - President	Jimm Morris - Vice President
Susan Zimmerman - Secretary	Beverly Frantz - Treasurer

Congregational Life

Jimm Morris - Director
Jim Gibb
Michelle Haverfield
Elaine Margo
Deborah Horn
Larry Davidson

Hospitality

Audra Miceli-Director
Cindy Jerles- Co-Director
Bobbie Cox
Rhonda Fisher
Liz Nelson
Deb Foust

Property

Richard Elliott- Director
Howard Stein
Ruth Stein
John Stahl
Tim Keplinger
Susan Elliott
Jeff Hootman

Stewardship Development

Bob Sclater – Director
Nathan Vaughan
Tom Margo
Ron Stahl
Jill Hootman

Christian Faith and Life

Marcie Castricone - Director
Linda McFadden
Debbie Flood
Kingsland Pretorius
Katie Hootman
Ashley Eick
(Sharman Hartson:
Youth & Family Ministries)

Outreach

Dorothy Morrison
Janice Weber
Scott Ebert
David Elliott
Keith Lands
Holly Vesco
Liz Miller

Senior Pastor: Rev. Donald L. Rice Jr.
Organist: Joseph W. Palmer
Assistant Organist: Linda Hanna
Director of Music/Gallery Choir: Roberta Myers
Youth & Family Ministries Coordinator: Rev. Sharman Hartson
Secretary: Lisa Morris
Treasurer: Beverly Frantz
Custodian: Adrian Mathias

Since You Asked...

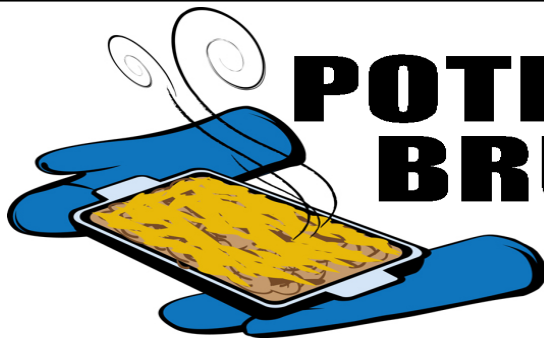
Since You Asked...

I know the Advent-Christmas season is over, but I'm curious. Is the third candle on the Advent Wreath supposed to be pink or blue? I am used to seeing a pink candle in that position.

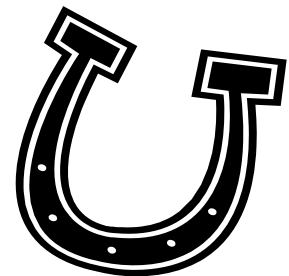
Just as there are several traditions in naming the Advent Candles, there are varying traditions in placing them according to color.

The candle for the Third Sunday of Advent is generally pink or rose, and symbolizes the **Shepherds' Joy** upon hearing the Good News at the Advent of the Christ Child. It marks a shift from the more solemn tone of the first two Sundays of Advent (**Prophets/Hope, Bethlehem/Love**) that focus on preparation, to a more joyous atmosphere of anticipation and expectancy. Sometimes the colors of the sanctuary and vestments are also changed to rose for this Sunday.

However, in some church traditions the **pink Advent candle is used on the Fourth Sunday** to mark the joy at the imminent Nativity of Jesus and the **Angels'** glad song of "Glory to God in the Highest and **Peace**, goodwill to all people on earth!" Also, if the fourth candle is used to represent **Mary**, it is most usually pink.



POTLUCKY BRUNCH



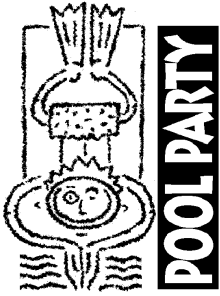
Lucky January 13th after
the 10:30 am service

A traditional breakfast for lunch!

We are planning a huge feast of breakfast fixin's - sure to please any
appetite!

Join us for some wonderful fellowship!

Announcements



Winter POOL PARTY
SUNDAY – January 27,
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

EVERYONE -- Come to the FAMILY POOL Party at Ramada Inn, Strasburg!

The fun begins at 4:00p.m. Please bring a 2 liter bottle of pop and a dessert (or bag of chips.) Pizza will be provided by the Christian Faith and Life Committee. Adults, if you have the “winter blues,” come join the fun. Bring a game or cards; watch the kids swim and enjoy an afternoon with your church family.



February 8 & 9 -- LOCK-IN
for children in Grades 3 – 8

KIDS – Mark your FEBRUARY CALENDARS! There will be lock-in here at church for children who are in third through eighth grades. WHAT IS A LOCK-IN? Children bring their sleeping bags for an overnight stay at church. Adult chaperones will oversee an evening of activities, food and evening vespers. The Lock-in will begin Friday evening at 7:30 p.m., and conclude after breakfast on Saturday morning. Watch for more details in the weekly church bulletin. The Christian Faith and Life Committee is sponsor of this event.



Attention
Seasonal Singers

Rehearsals for the Lenten Season begin Thursday, January 3rd at 7 pm in the choir room. Please call Bobbie Myers 330-343-3268 if you plan on attending.

TOO MANY SHEPHERDS !

Thank you to all WONDERFUL SHEPHERDS, Mary and Joseph, and ANGELS who gathered under the Star of Bethlehem to welcome Baby Jesus to Grace Lutheran Church! You gave everyone the gift of the Christmas story in a very special way -- with your smiles, clear voices, and special kid charm! A BIG THANK YOU to everyone, especially to: Director Nicole Willey, Joann Bower, Joe Palmer, Richard Elliott, Mike Harper, and all our parents. YOU made the Christmas pageant a memorable and worshipful experience for us all! May the Light of the Christ Child shine in your hearts this Advent season!





For Lutheran World Relief



Quilts: 41 Personal Care Kits: 38
 Soap: 90 Baby Care Kits: 21
 School Kits: 13

We are continuing to collect bath size bars of soap in its original wrapping. Place in basket in the Narthex.



KNOTTERS

Tuesday, January 8 , 2013

9:00 AM



Tuesday, January 15th, 2013

Hostesses: Sharman Hartson
 Thelma Phillips

Bring a kitchen towel.



Dear God,

Please bless the hands that worked the needles & yarn into a lovely shawl. To whoever gave their time & prayers for someone they have never met; you are a true Christian.

Marilyn Mathias

(Neighbor of Norma Grywalski)

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
			\$ 455.10

<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

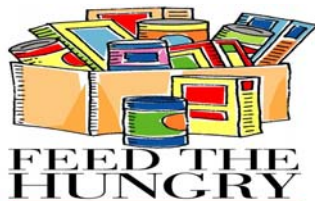
Thanks to all who have volunteered to be packers for the Grocery Bag Ministry this year.

Donations to the Food Pantry have increased in response to a greater need for our food bags. In November, we distributed 127 bags, and have already distributed 95 in December. 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.

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, Tim Case, Kenny Burrier.

Ella DeVore	Linda Domer
Pastor Drake	Carol Davidson
Caden Rufener	Carl Beller
William Page	Ann Burrier
Amy Rufener	Doris Keener
Mary Ann Gray	Kolsen Fleming
Tom Patton	Vic Gessner
Dan Urfer	Genny Peterson
Bonnie Ravine	Fran Brogan
Tom Hardin	Julie Fisher
Elijah Kyle	Sandy Rektor
Quenten Fabiano	Gerard Dorn
Christina Beitzel	Sue Hummel
Richard Bleininger	Paul McFadden
Gaynelle K. Myers (friend of Glenda Sclater)	

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.



With Caring Christian Condolences

Our deep and heartfelt sympathies are with the family and friends of Ken Huprich (father of Debora Foust) and Pauline Mazzy (grandmother of Shelly Stahl).

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

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 meal to the homeless shelter. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex.

PERSONAL CARE KITS AND SCHOOL KITS

Two of our Lutheran World Relief Projects are making Personal Care Kits and School Kits. These kits provide much needed supplies to many people around the world. Items that go into each kit are:

Personal Care Kits

- 1 light weight bath towel (dark color)
- 2 bath size bars of soap, 1 wide tooth comb
- 1 adult size toothbrush, 1 nail clipper with file

School Kits

- 4 - 70 sheet notebooks of ruled paper approx. 8 1/2" X 11" ;
do not include loose leaf paper
- 1 blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- 1 30-centimeter ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- 1 pencil sharpener, 1 eraser approx. 2 1/2 " long
- 5 new, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons,
- 5 black or blue ball point pens - no gel ink; secure with a rubber band.

If you would like to provide any of the items used in these kits please drop them off at the church office and we will assemble them.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

Thank you to the volunteers who will prepare and deliver food for the **Homeless Shelter on January 27th.**

February's dinner at the Homeless Shelter is on Sunday, February 27th 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.



Jan. 6th - 2 vases

Jan. 13th - 2 vases

Jan. 20th - 2 vases

Jan. 27th - 2 vases

Feb. 3rd - 2 vases

Nursery Care Available

Grace Lutheran is please to offer Nursery Care for our infants and toddlers during both the 9:15 a.m. Sunday School hour and the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The congregation has hired Karla Burrier to provide this important service for our youngest children and their parents.

Nursery Care will be available September through the end of June. Thank you, Karla for your commitment and helpful ministry.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH



Jan. 6th - Marcie Castricone

Jan. 13th - Esther Philabaum

Jan. 20th - Deb Foust

Jan. 27th - Sarah Wolfe

Order of St. Luke

Tuesday,
January 22nd, 2013

1:00 pm

Altar Guild

Monday,
January 28th, 2013

7:00 pm

Tuesday,
January 29th, 2013

9:00 am

Worship Readings

Sunday, Jan. 6th

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Sunday, Jan. 13th

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sunday, Jan. 20

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Sunday, Jan. 27th

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

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
1/6 Will Haverfield
1/13
1/20
1/27

LAY READERS
1/6 Gale Limron
1/13 Terry Miller
1/20 Sharman Hartson
1/27 Steve Zimmerman

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

SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP

USHERS
Jan. 6 John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Art Siber
Jan. 13 Mike Sergent, Jimm Morris, Butch Morris, Jim Gibb
Jan. 20 John Stahl, Robert McCulloch, Keith Lands, Howard Stein
Jan. 27 Art Keener, William Page, Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, Joe Vanfossen

ACOLYTES
1/6
1/13 Maguire Morris
1/20 Grace Castricone
1/27 Will Haverfield

LAY READERS
1/6 Tony Lecce
1/13 Pastor Grosse
1/20 Jimm Morris
1/27 John Stahl

**DEACON/
COMMUNION ASSISTANT**
1/6
1/13
1/20 Deborah Horn
1/27

ALTAR GUILD

January: Louise Keplinger, Joan Davis, Linda Bertle, Janice Weber, Deborah Horn

February: Judy Martin, Bonnie Richardson, Pam Keller, Carol Betche



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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 330-343-6915

January 2013

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1  <u>Church Office Closed</u>	2 7 pm Boy Scouts	3 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	4	5
6 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	7 2:30 pm Communion Park Village South 6:30 pm Girl Scouts-LH 6:30 pm Property Board 7 pm Valley Voices	8 9 am Knotters 10 am Rejoice Women 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:45 pm Planning Council	9 7 pm Boy Scouts	10 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 6:45 pm Christian Faith & Life Board 7 pm Gallery Choir	11	12 8 am Men's Breakfast
13 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion <u>Potluckv Brunch</u>	14 10:30 am Communion Park Village North 6:30 pm Girl Scouts-LH 7 pm Valley Voices	15 6 pm Girl Scouts - LH 6:30 pm Cub Scouts Harcatus Helping Hands - FH	16 7 pm Boy Scouts	17 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	18	19
20 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	21 6:30 pm Girl Scouts-LH 7 pm Valley Voices  <u>Church Office Closed</u>	22 1 pm Order of St. Luke 5:30 pm Headstart - FH 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	23 7 pm Boy Scouts	24 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir		26
27 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion 6 pm Meal to the Homeless Shelter 4-7 pm Church Swim Party Ramada Inn	28 6:30 pm Girl Scouts-LH 7 pm Valley Voices 7 pm Altar Guild	29 9 am Altar Guild 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	30 7 pm Boy Scouts	31 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	1 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> 9 am Messenger Assembly </div>	