



# 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

## Bambi Blessings

*Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust.  
 Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.* Psalm 143:8

One early December morning, I had to take Quincy to Oak Shadows Kennel Plus for his Christmas grooming. This meant traveling over Deis Hill and up Middle Run Road and back during deer season.

I drove more slowly than usual and took every precaution, constantly on the outlook for wayward deer ready to cross the road. Believe it or not, Quincy and I made our way there and back home without seeing a single deer! Phew!

The very next morning, after starting my a.m. coffee, I made my way to my front door to get my daily newspaper. As I opened the door and reached for the paper, there standing right in front of me, just inches away, was a deer. She looked me straight in the eye, nodded as if to say, "Good Morning!" and nonchalantly moved on her way. Then, close behind, was a much smaller deer following her. It, too, looked right at me, acknowledged me with a greeting and went on its way.

I sure hope they didn't think I was rude for not returning their salutations. I was just too surprised to do so. I've seen deer in my neighborhood before, but none this so up close and personal.

All morning long, I thought of this unusual encounter. For sure, it woke me up and started my day in a most wonderful, unexpected way. It also gave me a relentless earworm! Soon my head was filled with the "Sound of Music" and the song "Doe, a deer, a female deer; ray, a drop of golden sun..." playing over and over again all through the day. (Whoops! I did it again.)

What a way to start the day! It's as if God's, in God's own special way, opened my eyes; got me going; put His joy in my heart; and gave me a deeper appreciation of His creation. Thank you, LORD.

Mornings are a great time to praise the Lord for his daily goodness and grace. We've made it safely through another night. Both feet are touching the ground. And, we are assured of God's loving presence and tender care throughout the day before us.

As the prophet Isaiah confidently prayed:

*O LORD be gracious to us; we wait for you.  
 Be our strength every morning,  
 our salvation in the time of trouble.* (Isaiah 33:2)


The month of January is often regarded as "the morning of the new year." Perhaps, we can all make a New Year's resolution to begin our days glorifying God for all God has done, is doing and will do in the days, weeks and year ahead. We, too, can join the Psalmist's praise, "This is the day the LORD has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it." Amen.

**Senior Pastor Donald L. Rice Jr.**

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# Planning Council

**PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**Next Meeting**  
**Jan. 14th, 2020**  
**@ 6:30 PM**



## Facts and Figures

<p><b>Attendance November 2019</b>                  Weekly Average: 163                  Difference: +22 (+16%)</p> <p><b>Offerings November 2019</b>                  Total Offerings: \$14,243.00                  Difference: +\$11.00                  Weekly Average: \$3560.75                  Difference: +\$2.75 (+less than 1%)</p>	<p><b>Attendance November 2018</b>                  Weekly Average: 141</p> <p><b>Offerings November 2018</b>                  Total Offerings: \$14,232.00                  Weekly Average: \$3558.00</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...*

**As a follow-up to my article on the front page of this newsletter, I offer below Luther's Morning Prayer.**

*"I thank you, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen."*

**Good morning! Happy New Year!**

EVERYONE - Come to the FAMILY POOL PARTY at Ramada Inn, Strasburg on Sunday, January 26th, 2020! The fun begins at 2:00 pm. Please bring a 2 liter bottle of pop and a dessert (or bag of chips.) Pizza will be provided at 4 pm 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. A sign-up sheet will be on the table in the Narthex.



# Announcements

## Christmas Joy

Thank you for all the Christmas cards and the many other expressions of seasonal caring, support and kindness. Your expressions of goodwill and Christian love are all greatly appreciated. I am so very blessed to serve such a thoughtful and generous congregation.

May God bless you all with the fullness of His grace throughout the New Year.



## "Gifts to the Church"

Are you considering a gift to the church? Whether it be a gift today or a future gift as part of your will or estate planning, we appreciate your willingness to consider Grace Lutheran Church. A list of frequently asked questions regarding gifts and donations is available at the office.

If you wish to speak with someone about



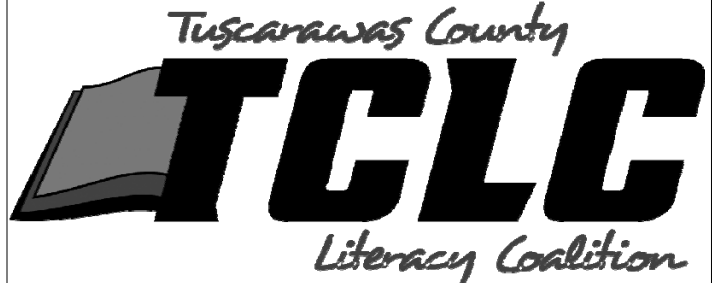
With the start of the New Year, we are operating under our new 2020 Budget.

**Weekly offerings needed to meet our member envelope offering portion of the budget income is \$4326.92**  
*(2019 Average Weekly Offering was \$3778.29)*

Thank You for your continued support through your weekly offerings.

***We can't do it without YOU!!***

**2019 Giving Statements will be mailed by the end of January.**



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Tuscarawas County Literacy Coalition Board Trustees, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$500 in support of the 2019 One Book, One Community project. Your gift helped to support literacy and learning in our community by bringing people together through the shared experience of reading and discussing the same book.

We are grateful for your support in helping us make our 12th Annual One Book, One Community Project a success. Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
Jim Gill

2019 One Book, One Community Chair



Lutheran World Relief  
Final Project Numbers  
for 2019

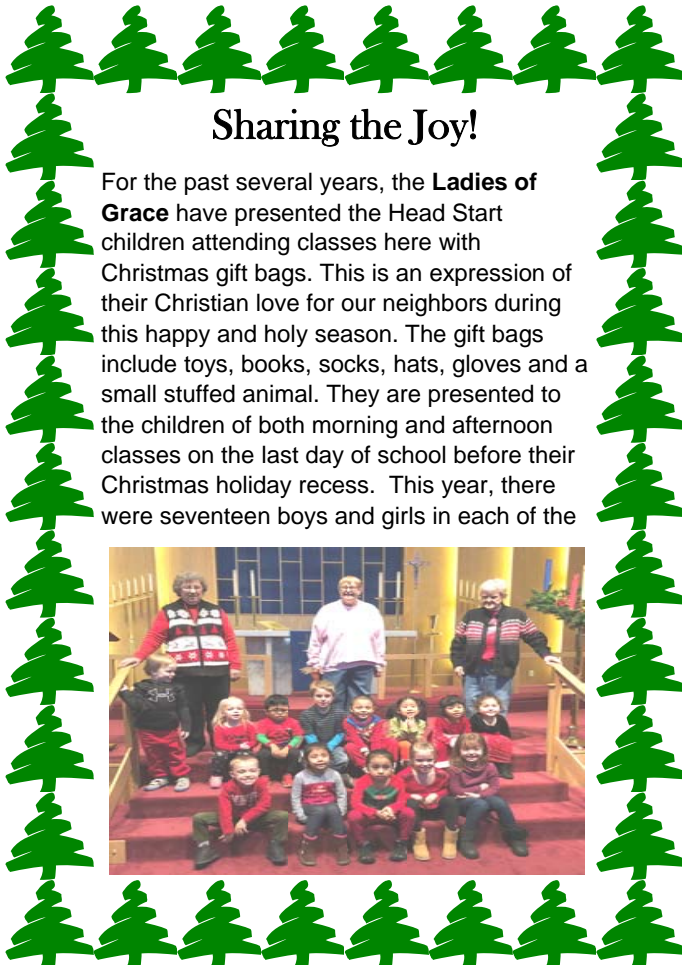


Quilts: 45  
Personal Care Kits: 32  
Soap: 35



**KNOTTERS**

**Tues., Jan. 14th, 2020**



**Sharing the Joy!**

For the past several years, the **Ladies of Grace** have presented the Head Start children attending classes here with Christmas gift bags. This is an expression of their Christian love for our neighbors during this happy and holy season. The gift bags include toys, books, socks, hats, gloves and a small stuffed animal. They are presented to the children of both morning and afternoon classes on the last day of school before their Christmas holiday recess. This year, there were seventeen boys and girls in each of the



**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
			<b>\$ 1369.20</b>

**\*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 November we distributed 129 bags, and have already distributed 126 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 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 which are most urgently needed.



## Please be Praying for...

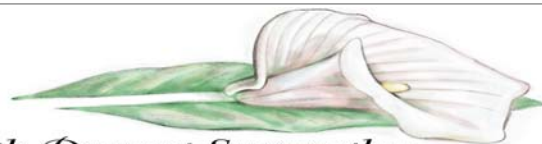
All those serving in the armed forces, especially Christopher Smith, Seth Erickson, Gerald Case, Gary Dean Morrison.

Ella DeVore  
Keith Lands  
Mildred Schauer  
Tim Clark  
JoAnn Hammond  
Dwayne Mann  
Mary Marino  
Norma Grywalski  
Shirley Johnson  
Joe Hammond  
Molly Bauer  
Jane Buehler  
Buffy Gray  
Carol Betche  
Holly Hillen  
Lisa Myers  
Jeff Wallick  
Rachelle Sensel  
Rick Frantz

Bonnie Beem  
Fred Grosse  
Judy Wells  
Kit Semanco  
Glenn Siber  
Jesse A. Brothers  
Jason Phillips  
Wayne Page  
Edward King Sr.  
Donna Donahoe  
Mark Donahoe  
Karen Page  
Judy Arrington  
Louise Harris  
Doris Metzger  
Leslie Beans  
Gail Danford  
Carson Yackey

### 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 Deepest Sympathy*

**Our deep and heartfelt sympathies are with the families and friends of Jim Rosenberry & Connie Lahr.**

**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 January'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 December 22nd, 2019.**

January's dinner at the Homeless Shelter is on Sunday, Jan. 26th, 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. 5th - Deb & Katelyn Foust

Jan. 12th - Deb & Jacob Flood

Jan. 19th - Julie Vanfossen & Nanette McFadden

Jan. 26th - Faith & Natalie Bambeck



Jan. 5th - 2 vases

Jan. 12th - 2 vases

Jan. 19th - 2 vases

Jan. 26th - 2 vases

*Altar Flowers*

## **Worship Readings**

### **Altar Guild**

**Tuesday,  
Jan. 28th, 2020  
9:00 am**

### **Sunday, Jan. 5th**

Jeremiah 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:10-18

### **Sunday, Jan. 12th**

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Psalm 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matthew 3:13-17

### **Sunday, Jan. 19th**

Isaiah 49:1-7  
Psalm 40:1-11  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

### **Sunday, Jan. 26th**

Isaiah 9:1-4  
Psalm 27:1, 4-9  
1 Corinthians 1:10-18  
Matthew 4:12-23

## **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
1/5	1/5 Terry Miller	1/5	Tim Keplinger
1/12	1/12 Lynn Foust	1/12	Richard Elliott
1/19	1/19 Gale Limron	1/19	Steve Zimmerman
1/26	1/26 Kim Gray	1/26	Jim Heller
			Scott Ebert
			Edward Harper

**SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP**

**Jan. 5** John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Ron Stahl  
**Jan. 12** Jim Gibb, Mike Sergent, Jimm Morris, Karl Vitovic  
**Jan. 19** John Stahl, Robert McCulloch, Keith Lands, Paul McFadden  
**Jan. 26** Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, John Wolfe, Joe Vanfossen

ACOLYTES	LAY READERS	DEACON/COMM. ASST.
1/5	1/5 Jim Gibb	1/5
1/12	1/12 Betsy Morris	1/12 Deborah Horn
1/19	1/19 Jimm Morris	1/19
1/26	1/26 Rick Homrighausen	1/26

**ALTAR GUILD**

**January:** Melody Rader, Wendy Mady, Betsy Morris, Becky Lands  
**February:** Glenda Sclater, Marcie Castricone, Liz Miller



**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

**January**

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.
			<b>1</b>  <b>Church Office</b>	<b>2</b> 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>3</b> Red Cross Blood Drive - ORC	<b>4</b>
			<b>Pastor On Vacation</b>			<b>Pastor On Vacation</b>
<b>5</b> 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	<b>6</b> 7 pm Valley Voices	<b>7</b> 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>8</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	<b>9</b> 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8 am Men's Breakfast - LH
<b>Pastor On Vacation</b>						
<b>12</b> 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	<b>13</b> 7 pm Valley Voices	<b>14</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Planning Council	<b>15</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	<b>16</b> 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	<b>20</b> 7 pm Valley Voices	<b>21</b> 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 5:30 pm Little Theatre Youth - FH 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>22</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	<b>23</b> 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>24</b> <u>Messenger            Deadline</u>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion 6 pm Meal to the Homeless Shelter	<b>27</b> 7 pm Valley Voices	<b>28</b> 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>29</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	<b>30</b> 12-1 pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>31</b> <u>Messenger            Assembly</u>	