



# THE MESSENGER

**2024**

**Worship Schedule**

**Sunday: 8 AM and 10:30 AM**

**Sunday Church School for all ages: 9:15 AM**

**Second Saturday of the month at 5:00 PM**

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](mailto:gracehappens@gracedover.org)  
 Pastor's E-Mail:  
[pastor@gracedover.org](mailto:pastor@gracedover.org)  
 Website: [www.gracedover.org](http://www.gracedover.org)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Just as I was turning my thoughts to January and a new year, I received a letter from Amanda White, the Director for Congregational Generosity for the Churchwide office. She says, "Grace Evangelical happens to be a sustaining, strong donor to ELCA World Hunger & Lutheran Disaster Response. I give thanks to God for Grace's generosity and love of neighbor." Lisa posted the full letter in this Messenger and in the Narthex for you to all read.

I have been thinking about Grace's DNA, such as what is Grace known for, and what drives Grace's presence here in Dover and in the world? Grace's generosity and love of neighbor is our DNA! Because we do so much more over and beyond our monetary donations to the ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response.

I see Grace's DNA of generosity and love of neighbor in our Grace Food Pantry as we personally give free grocery bags of popular nutritious food twice a month directly to the locals who are hungry. I see our DNA in our Power of Prayer Team that not only reaches out to people in our greater community needing prayer but follows through with any needs they might have. I see our DNA in our feeding the homeless every month at the Tuscarawas Friends of the Homeless Shelter with delicious hot fried chicken meals. I see our DNA in our dozens of beautiful handsewn Quilts and Personal Care Kits we give to Lutheran World Relief every year that are personally dropped off at a collection point and shipped overseas to those who are cold, sick, and displaced. I see our DNA in our loving interactions with our VBS and HeadStart children we welcome into our building.

I could go on and on forever, because, generosity and love of neighbor is our DNA and there is no end to it in Christ! Happy New Year!

Blessings, Pastor Bonnie


**Pastor**  
**Rev. Bonnie L. Grimaldi**

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# Planning Council

**PLANNING  
COUNCIL**

**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday,**  
**Jan. 16th, 2024**  
**@ 6:30 PM**



**Jan. 2nd - Outreach Meeting - 7 pm**

## 2020-2021 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Richard Elliott - President      Julie Brothers - Vice President  
Becky Lands - Secretary      John Wolfe - Treasurer

### Congregational Life

**Julie Brothers** - Director  
Susie Erickson  
Elaine Margo  
Betsy Morris  
Melody Rader  
Jim Heller

### Property

**Jim Gibb**- Director  
Audra Miceli  
Nathan Vaughan  
Larry Wallick  
Brad Wharmby

### Christian Faith and Life

**Ashley Eick** - Director  
Karla Burrier  
Debbie Flood  
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

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

*Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministries: Cody Jerles*  
*Director of Music;/Organist : Jeff Beshore*  
*Secretary: Lisa Morris*  
*Treasurer: John Wolfe*  
*Custodian: Ed Robinson*

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

Announcements



Thank you to all the generous people who donated items for the Christmas gifts for our Shut-ins! And thanks to our awesome Confirmation class for packing them all!  
– Ashley Eick



Dear member of Grace,  
Thank you for thinking of me this Christmas. I so enjoyed all of the items in the gift package you sent me. They will all come in handy for the long winter.  
Judy Plunk,  
Park Village Independent Living  
  
Merry Christmas to all of you!

## 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.



# Announcements

# Thank You

Dear Grace Church,  
 Thank you so much for your package, everything is so useful. Most of all, thank you for your thoughts and prayers.  
 Love & Blessings  
 Norma Grywalski



Dear Prospective Altar Guild Member:  
 Worship is our adoring response to the eternal God; it is the central and unique act of the church. Without it there would be no church. Worship is what identifies the church as the church. To serve in the Altar Guild is a privilege of the highest order. It is a service of faith and love to the Holy One. It involves humility in the presence of our God and Father, humility which is renewed by confession and absolution. Remembering who we are in the sight of God gives us hearts grateful for his forgiveness and hands eager to serve him in this unique ministry. Members of the Altar Guild are servants of the liturgy, that is, caretakers of the church's worship life. (From The Altar Guild by S. Anita Stauffer)

Monthly meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month beginning at 9:00 a.m. A meeting schedule is given to each Altar Guild Member.

Please feel free to call me at home, 330.204.1868, or the church office at 330.343.6915 with questions or comments. **The Altar Guild needs you! Call today.**

Yours in Christ  
 Glenda Sclater, Director  
 GELC Altar Guild



Join us January 13<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm for our January Grace Happens! Enjoy worshipping with our live acoustic guitarists and singers in a warm, relaxed way.



The youth will be traveling to New Orleans, LA next summer to attend the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering! We are offering the congregation to be a part of this once in a lifetime event by sponsoring our youth. Sponsorships are split into tiers: Silver is \$1-100, Purple is \$101-300 and Gold is \$301-500. Sponsorships include a handwritten postcard as well as a special dinner after the trip to talk with the youth about their experience! Forms will be offered in the Narthex starting October 29<sup>th</sup> if you are interested. Please consider helping our youth!

## Announcements

Greetings, Pastor Bonnie. I am Amanda White, the Director for Congregational Generosity for the Churchwide office. It is my joy to celebrate and invite congregations into making generous gifts to the ministries of the ELCA. Grace Evangelical happens to be a sustaining, strong donor to ELCA World Hunger & Lutheran Disaster Response. I give thanks to God for Grace's generosity and love of neighbor.

It is because of congregations like Grace Evangelical that ELCA World Hunger is able to be active in 67 countries and 57 synods in 2022. ELCA World Hunger's focuses on working through local churches and companion churches to assess and deliver solutions to fit specific challenges. And, like ELCA WH, Lutheran Disaster Response also works through partnerships that allow funds and resources to be used as quickly as possible, again, delivering solutions to the unique situation. LDR remains long after the dust settles, providing ongoing assistance to those in need.

To the saints of Grace Evangelical, I say, thanks! You're part of this important ministry of care and response.

Your congregation holds a particular spot in my heart as it was the home of my spouse's grandmother, Shirley Johnson. Grandma Shirley died in summer of 2022 and I have good memories of being at Grace for her funeral.

If you have any questions regarding ELCA World Hunger or LDR, please let me know.

Peace & Joy this Christmas Season, Amanda



ELCA

*Amanda White*

Director, Congregational Generosity

Office of the Presiding Bishop, [ELCA](#)

773.380.2876 | [Microsoft Teams Chat](#)

[Amanda.white@elca.org](mailto:Amanda.white@elca.org)

(she/her)

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 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.**



*Please be Praying for...*

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

**Ella DeVore  
Norma Grywalski  
Janice Cronebaugh  
Brinley Davis  
Bertha Carroll  
Glenn Siber  
Bruce Siber  
Tusky Valley Schools and Community**

**Dottie Shott  
Rita Young  
Kay Bambeck  
Pastor Steve Patrick  
Jan Ochsenbine  
Pastor Brandon Keck  
Larry Coulter**

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 Larry Auman, Shirley Grafe, Emma Louise Keplinger & Martha Engel.**

**May the Lord embrace these families 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.



*Altar Flowers*

- Jan. 7th - 2 vases**
- Jan. 14th - 2 vases**
- Jan. 21st - 2 vases**
- Jan. 28th - 2 vases**



# Jennifer & Taylor Vaughan

## **Worship Readings**

**Altar Guild**

Tues. Jan. 30th  
9 am

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

**Sunday, Jan. 14**  
Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51

**Sunday, Jan. 21**  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

**Saturday, Jan. 28**  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28



### **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	LAY READERS	DEACON/COMM. ASST.	USHERS
1/7	1/7 Susan Elliott	1/7 Deborah Horn	Richard Elliott Jim Heller Scott Ebert Edward Harper David Elliott
1/14	1/14	1/14	
1/21	1/21	1/21	
1/28	1/28	1/28	

**SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP**

**Jan. 7** John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Ron Stahl  
**Jan. 14** Jim Gibb, Mike Sergent  
**Jan. 21** John Stahl, Keith Lands, Paul McFadden  
**Jan. 28** Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, John Wolfe, Joe Vanfossen

ACOLYTES	LAY READERS	DEACON/COMM. ASST.
1/7	1/7	1/7
1/14	1/14	1/14
1/21	1/21	1/21
1/28	1/28	1/28

**ALTAR GUILD**

**December:** Judy Martin, Pam Keller, Elaine Margo, Jan Ochsenbine

**January:** Donna Fox, Betty Kaser, Shirley Grafe



**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)








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pastor@gracedover.org

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 Dover OH 44622-2948  
 330-343-6915

# January 2024

## Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	<b>1</b>  <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Outreach Meeting	<b>3</b> 2 pm & 2:30 pm Communion Park Village 7 pm Boy Scouts 6 pm Grief Support - ORC	<b>4</b> 12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>5</b> 10 am Grocery Bag Drive Thru	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8 am Worship Communion 9:30 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	<b>8</b> 7 pm Valley Voices	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>10</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> 12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8 am Men's Breakfast 5 pm Contemporary Service
<b>14</b> 8 am Worship Communion 9:30 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	<b>15</b> 9 am Knotters 7 pm Valley Voices  <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>16</b> 9 am Knotters 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Planning Council	<b>17</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts 6 pm Grief Support - ORC	<b>18</b> 12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>19</b> 10 am Grocery Bag Drive Thru  <b>Messenger Deadline</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8 am Worship Communion 9:30 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	<b>22</b> 7 pm Valley Voices	<b>23</b> 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 5:30 pm Harcatus - LH 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>24</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> 12pm Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	<b>26</b>  <b>Messenger Assembly</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8 am Worship Communion 9:30 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion 6 pm Meal to the Homeless Shelter	<b>29</b> 7 pm Valley Voices	<b>30</b> 12 pm Senior Crafters - ORC 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	<b>31</b> 7 pm Boy Scouts	