



THE MESSENGER

2026

Worship Schedule
Sunday: 10 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:
pastorphil@gracedover.org
Website: www.gracedover.org

Interim Pastor
Rev. Phil Stuart

What's with all this talk about the kingdom of God? We are Americans. Didn't we get rid of the idea of a monarchy 250 years (celebrated this past July 4)? Yes, we chose to live differently from the monarchy of the 18th century. Yet, when living as a disciple of Jesus Christ we are a part of the Kingdom of God.

Since most of us are used to living in America, we prize individual freedom and the notion of kings and kingdoms is not our usual language. It helps to know what Jesus was referring to when he often mentions Kingdom of God (and he mentions it a lot.).

The "kingdom" is an area where someone rules and/or the authority and power to rule. The Kingdom of God happens WHEN people submit to the rule and reign of God in Christ. So, when we are praying together, we have the kingdom of God. When we worship on Sunday morning. We have the kingdom of God when we are submitting to the rule and reign of God in Christ.

When thinking about the Kingdom of God, don't think where. Rather, think when. When you and I submit to the rule and reign of God (no geographic boundaries) there we have the kingdom of God. It is the same kingdom that Jesus ushered in 2000 years ago and our job is to further that kingdom until God brings in that kingdom in its fulness. So don't worry about the "King" language. When God is truly the King, it's quite alright.

Blessings in August,
Interim Pastor Phil Stuart

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Planning Council

PLANNING COUNCIL

Next Meeting
Tuesday,
Sept. 15th, 2026
@ 6:30PM

board meeting

2026-2028 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Gale Limron - President - Vice President
Michelle Durben - Secretary John Wolfe - Treasurer

Congregational Life

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

Property

Jeff Hootman - Director
Jim Gibb
Larry Wallick
Richard Elliott
Mike Sergent
Nathan Vaughan

Christian Faith and Life

Lindsey Jerles - Director
Karla Burrier
Tiffany Shepherd
(Cody Jerles, Coordinator YFM)

Hospitality

Deb Foust - Director
Marcie Castricone
Cindy Jerles
Bobbie Cox
Julie Vanfossen

Stewardship Development

David Johns - Director
Charles Castricone
Sarah Kneuss

Outreach

Ron Stahl - Director
Tim Durben
Pam Beller
Judy Martin
Pam Keller

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

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

Donations Needed for School Kits

Join the Women of Coffee and Conversation in a mission to send school kits overseas with Lutheran World Relief.

Each school kit contains the following:

- 4 - 1 Subject notebooks
- 1 box of 16 or 24 count crayons
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 - 30 centimeter ruler
- 1 pair of blunt scissors
- 5 unsharpened No 2 pencils
- 5 black or blue ball point pens
- 1 - 2.5 inch eraser



Please add any donations to the baskets in the Narthex through the end of August.

The Women of Coffee and Conversation will assemble and pack our kits in September to be shipped out in October.



The Grace Endowment Board is a board developed to help organizations that need assistance. The board sends funding to help our congregation, local community and the world. The board members meet four times per year to gift earnings from the Endowment Fund. The gifts are to help benefit Christian and charity work from missionary work, disaster relief and social programs.

- **To request a gift: endowment forms are available in the church office. The forms must be in good order and turned into the church office at least 2 weeks prior to Endowment Board meetings.**

The Endowment Board members for this year's term are: Jimm Morris, Jenna Limron, Faith Bambeck, Toni Ferritto, Susan Seifert and Joe Vanfossen.



Grace Power of Prayer Group

Did you know that we have a Prayer Group?

Prayer requests are shared via the weekly bulletin insert, text messages or our private Facebook Group.

You can share a prayer request using the text group, Facebook group or by contacting Lisa in the office or Becky Lands at 330-340-9542.

To join the text group, please contact Becky. To join the Facebook group, send a Facebook request to Power of Prayer - Grace Lutheran.

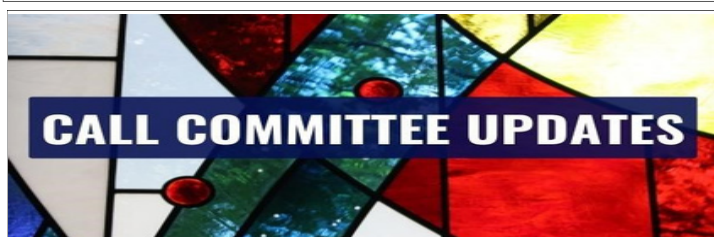


**Saturday Morning
October 12th, 2026**

**Northeast Ohio Synodical
Women's Organization
Cleveland West Cluster**

Fall Gathering
New Horizons Lutheran Church
8439 River Corners Rd.
Homerville, Ohio 44235
Watch for further details.

Men's Corn Roast
Wednesday,
August 12th,
6:00 pm
Fellowship Hall



Greetings from the Call Committee.

Following our second interview with the candidate and consultation with the Synod, we have decided to hold a third, in-person interview with the candidate. During this interview we will also tour the Church facilities* and the Dover area. Due to committee member vacations, an upcoming mission trip, and the candidate's schedule at their current out-of-state congregation, this interview will take place in mid-August. We will provide a further update to the congregation following the August interview.

**Just a
reminder...**



What beautiful facilities we have here at Gracetown and we are putting out a quick reminder that all groups leave the space ready for the next group gathering.

Before you head out, could you please make sure that you are checking the list posted on the doors or walls and clean up as noted.

- Wipe down tables/counters.
- * Take out all trash and replace trash bags in all trash cans.
- * Sweep and mop floors as needed.
- * Return all tables and chairs back to their original position.

Thank you so much for your help in keeping our church clean and welcoming for everyone.

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.



All those serving in the armed forces, especially Christopher Smith, Connor Gwynne.

**Rita Young
BruceSiber
Jeff Beshore
Brooke Lester**

**Glenn Siber
Steve Strohl
Richard Siber
Cheryl Willey**

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 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 Michael Marchant (father of Kyle Marchant).

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.



August 9th - 1 vase
August 16th - 2 vases
August 23rd - 1 vase
Sept. 6th - 1 vase
Sept. 13th - 1 vase



Ladies of Grace Knotters
Lutheran World Relief
Final Project Numbers
for 2025

Quilts: 37
Health Kits: 10
Backpacks: 5



Worship Readings

Altar Guild

Tuesday,
Aug. 25th
9 am

Sunday, Aug. 2nd

Isaiah 55:1-5
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

Sunday, Aug. 9th

1 Kings 19:9-18
Psalm 85:8-13
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

Sunday, Aug. 16th

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
Psalm 67
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Sunday, Aug. 23rd

Isaiah 51:1-6
Psalm 138
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

Sunday, Aug. 30th

Jeremiah 15:15-21
Psalm 26:1-8
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28

online

Yes, on-line services are here to stay!

Now that the pandemic is over we are continuing to record our 10 am service each Sunday. Weekly on-line services are part of our on-going ministry here at Grace.

Worship Assistants

SUNDAY 10:00 AM WORSHIP**LAY READERS**

Aug. 2 Gale Limron
Aug. 9 Betsy Morris
Aug. 16 David Johns
Aug. 23 Lynn Foust
Aug. 30 Gale Limron

COMMUNION ASST.

Aug. 2 Gale Limron
Aug. 9 Elaine Margo
Aug. 16 David Johns
Aug. 23 Lynn Foust
Aug. 30 Gale Limron

USHERS

Aug. 2 JohnLorenz, Ed Harper
Aug. 9 MikeSergent,Jim Gibb, Richard Elliott
Aug. 16 JohnStahl,Keith Lands, Edward Harper
Aug. 23 JeffKeller,JeffHootman, John Wolfe, Joe Vanfossen
Aug. 30 WELCA

SOUND

Aug. 9 Keith Lands
Aug. 9 Richard Elliott
Aug. 16 Tim Durben
Aug. 23 Richard Elliott
Aug. 30 Keith Lands

**ALTAR GUILD**

August: Holly Vesco, Susan Zimmerman, Chris Randles
September: Becky Lands, Betsy Morris, Ashley Eick

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
pastorphil@gracedover.org

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

216 North Wooster Ave

Dover OH 44622-2948

330-343-6915

August 2026

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						
						1
2 10 am Worship Communion	3 7pm Valley Voices	4 12 pm Senior Crafters 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	5 7pm Boy Scouts	6	7 10 am Grocery Bag Drive Thru	8
9 10 am Worship Communion	10 9 am Knotters 7 pm Valley Voices	11 9am Knotters 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	12 10am - 1pm Dress-A- Child - LH 5pm - 7 pm Dress-A- Child - LH 6pm Men's Corn Roast - FH 7pm Boy Scouts	13 7pm Beekeepers - ORC	14	15 8:30am Women's Group - LH
16 10am Worship Communion	17 7pm Valley Voices	18 12pm Senior Crafters 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	19 7pm Boy Scouts	20	21 10am Grocery Bag Drive Thru <u>Messenger Deadline</u>	22
23 10am Worship Communion 6pm Meal to the Homeless Shelter	24 7pm Valley Voices	25 9 am Altar Guild 12 pm Senior Crafters 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	26 7pm Boy Scouts	27	28 <u>Messenger Assembly</u>	29
30 10am Worship Communion	31 7pm Valley Voices	