

THE VOICE OF GRACE

WWW.GRACE43081.ORG

SEPTEMBER 2023



“AN INTELLIGENT HEART ACQUIRES KNOWLEDGE, AND THE EAR OF THE WISE SEEKS KNOWLEDGE.” PROVERBS 18:15

Ben Lucas
Columbus' Resident Crooner



In Concert
With Pianist
Jeff Daubenmire

Sunday September 3
12:15PM

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 E Schrock Road
Westerville, OH 43081



See Page 8



A Blessing on Teachers and Students

On Sunday, August 13, before the opening of the new school term, students and teachers received a blessing for a purposeful and productive year in their classrooms.

“Train children in the way they should go; when they grow old, they won’t depart from it.”
- Proverbs 22:6

During the banquet held on Thursday, August 10, 2023, Becky Seifert was recognized and honored for her service as the assistant to the executive staff from 2011 to 2023. Becky served at the NALC Ohio office and later from her home when that office was closed. She has served under every Bishop that the NALC has had from the beginning. Thank you Becky Seifert.



Lutheran Week 2023 Delegates Re-elect Bishop Selbo. Grace Members Honored and Elected.



The Rev. Dr. Dan Selbo was reelected as bishop of the North American Lutheran Church by delegates to the 2023 NALC Mission Convocation Aug. 9-11 in Oklahoma City. More than 600 delegates and visitors gathered for the convocation around the theme, *“Missio Dei: The Work and Mission of God.”*



Pictured below is Bishop Dan Selbo and former Bishop John Brodosky during the installation of Julie Hartfelder to the Executive Council. The Council functions as the board of directors for the NALC and consists of the Bishop, four clergy and four lay members. Julie’s term on the Board begins October 1. Congratulations, Julie Hartfelder.



A summary of the events and results of the Lutheran Week 2023 Convocation is available from the Grace Church office. Documents and videos from the convocation and other events of Lutheran Week are available online at lutheranweek.com.

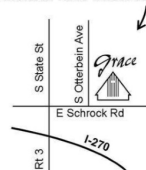
Pastor Cox, Molly King, Larry and Becky Seifert, and Will and Julie Hartfelder participated in the convocation activities.

To our guests

WELCOME TO GRACE
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

We invite our guests to accept a "Guest Bag" that contains information about Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. The guest bags are located at the Welcome Center, just outside the entrance to the sanctuary. Ask an usher or any member for assistance.

You're invited! Here's how to find us.



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

100 E. Schrock Road, Westerville, OH 43081

Office Hours:

Monday thru Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Friday 9 a.m. to Noon

PH: 614-882-3026 • e-mail: office@grace43081.org • Website: www.grace43081.org

Facebook: facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville

**Office Closed:
Monday, September 4**

Grace Lutheran has been serving the Westerville community for more than 112 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry (W.A.R.M.), Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity and the Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and provides weekly space for four AA groups (*Tuesday, Friday & Saturday*). The Red Cross Bloodmobile, Vacation Bible School, the Autism Buddy Camp and Joyful Noise Concerts also are a benefit to the Westerville community.

Grace Staff

Matt Cox, Interim Pastor mcox54@hotmail.com
614-327-4328

Molly King, Director of Youth and Family Ministries
614-581-6675 m.king@grace43081.org

Jeff Daubenmire, Director of Music
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Linda Hoch, Organist lkgraf102078@earthlink.net

Sarah Odum, Business Manager
s.odum@grace43081.org

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d.yoho@grace43081.org

Jon Sweet, Facilities Manager
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Maria Laderman, Director, Bell Choir
laderman522@yahoo.com

Fred Pfanz, Sacristan Pfanz1@aol.com

John Kleberg, Archivist archives@grace43081.org

Tom Seamon, Editor - Voice of Grace
seatom5853@gmail.com



2023 Church Council

President Jim Caldwell
614-361-6631 jtcfms@aol.com

Vice President Julie Young
614-572-4522 youngja82@gmail.com

Treasurer Melissa Hodek
330-416-7705 melissa.hodek@gmail.com

Secretary Tami Banks
614-302-9021 tami.banks@gmail.com

Interim Pastor Pr. Matt Cox
614-327-4328 mcox54@hotmail.com

Members at Large:

Lisa Kuhar lisakuhar@gmail.com
614-818-3975

Andy Laderman aladerman79@gmail.com
614-565-7396

Ted Ray teray55@msn.com
614-886-8272

Becky Seifert seifertbecky@yahoo.com
614-378-6023

Worship Services

Holy Communion

EVERY Sunday Morning

Two Worship Services: 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School

Youth Sunday School classes K-5

9:45 to 10:45 upstairs in the Preschool Room.

Confirmation and High School

9:45 to 10:45. Basement Youth Room

Adult Learning

9:45 a.m. Fellowship Hall

The Nursery

Open Sunday mornings during both services and the Sunday School hour.



North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

The NALC embraces four core values:

Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded and Congregationally Focused.

The NALC is focused on living out Christ's Great Commission to go and make disciples in North America and around the globe.

Learn more about Grace and the NALC.

Phone: +1 888 551 7254 •

E-mail: info@thenalc.org Website: thenalc.org

Vision Statement

We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.

CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Karen Bale 614-506-3331
bale.karen@gmail.com

Chris Hoch 614-648-0601
hoch.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu

Regina Place 614-623-1452
ottrm2@gmail.com

Gregg Rearick 614-483-2747
grearick@yahoo.com

Abby Reynolds 614-849-8299
areynolds364@gmail.com

Vanessa Stewart 614-588-2712
vschnp55@gmail.com

From the Treasurer:

Recap of our MTD and YTD receipts and disbursements.

	JULY 2023		YTD 2023	
	Budget	Actuals	Budget	Actuals
Receipts	\$ 50,346	\$37,459	\$ 302,076	\$ 258,190
Disbursements:	\$ 50,346	\$ 47,055	\$ 302,076	\$ 279,782
		\$ (9,595)		\$ (21,591)

Full Treasurer's Reports can be requested from either Melissa Hodek at melissa.hodek@gmail.com or from the Church Office. If you have questions please contact any member of Council.

Service Recording:

The recorded 8:30 am service will be available at noon
www.grace43081.org

Loaves and Fishes Café

Stop in between services. There is a sign-up sheet in the café if you are interested in helping. Please call Regina Place, 614-623-1452 or Vanessa Stewart, 614-588-2712 with questions or concerns.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The Tamarisk Evergreen The Manna Tree

"Abraham planted a tamarisk tree at Beer-sheba, and there he called on the name of the Lord, the Everlasting God." (Genesis 21:33; NASB)

Tamarisk trees are known to produce the coolest shade in the desert region where Abraham lived. The explanation for this is fascinating. "The tree grows needles rather than leaves. Often the needles excrete salt on their surfaces which give the needles a white color. Because the tamarisk excretes salt, it is sometimes called a 'salt cedar.' At night, moisture increases in the cool air. Water vapor adheres to the salt particles excreted on branches and needles, forming droplets. In the morning, as the sun warms the air, the water droplets evaporate and cool the tree and shade below it." (1)

It is also noted about the tamarisk tree, that, "An edible white honey-like substance known as manna forms drops on the stem of salt cedars, or tamarisk trees. This sweet material is sold in the form of flakes (flake manna), fragments (common manna), or thick droplets (fat manna)." I find it fascinating that Abraham's "covenant tree" produced shade for his offspring hundreds of years later, (Tamarisk trees are slow growers. No one plants a tamarisk tree in the Middle East to produce shade for their own enjoyment), and such trees may have been a source of manna that fed the Israelites in the desert with a substance called "manna"? This is a marvelous picture of God's providence! And yet, why wouldn't God lead Abraham to do this, giving us such a profound picture? After all, Abraham's offspring produced Christ, heaven's manna, the Bread of Life. Abraham was told from the very beginning that God's promised blessings were not only for him, but for the world: "And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, and make your name great; And so, you shall be a blessing; And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed." (Genesis 12:2-3; NASB)

1. <https://lilianausvat.wordpress.com/2013/12/17/bible-plants-tamarisk/>



NALC Disaster Response: Maui Wildfires

from Sarah Odum,
Business Manager

In response to the many questions received by the office about donations for Maui wildfires:

Mary Bates of the NALC Disaster Response Warehouse is loading a container of emergency relief supplies and collecting gift cards for the Maui wildfires. There is a request for gift cards from Home Depot, Lowe's, Visa and Walmart. You can put them in Molly's box outside the office or bring them to the office during the week.

Donations can also be made through the Grace giving website or by indicating "NALC Disaster Response" on your giving envelope. Any questions please contact Molly King (m.king@grace43081.org) or the business office (614-882-3026).



The highlights of the August Council meeting are as follows:

- Jon Sweet gave a presentation to the Council with updates on the current facilities projects including the office carpet installation, HVAC system repairs, sanctuary floor tile repairs, insurance claims on the roof damage and potential columbarium expansion.
- Pastor Cox and Becky Seifert gave a brief recap of the NALC meeting that they attended.
- The second congregational brief meeting held in July was well received. These meetings will continue to be held every few months to keep the congregation informed of the yearly financial status and other important church issues.
- Melissa Hodek has been providing assistance after both services for congregational members wishing to learn more about electronic giving.
- Council began discussions on the yearly ministry fair which is required according to Grace's constitution.
- For the month of July, receipts exceeded expenses by \$2,707. For the year, expenses exceeded receipts by \$18,884.

Respectfully submitted by Tami Banks, Secretary

New Pastor at First English

The Southeast Ohio Mission District (SEOMD) Update has reported that after a year and a half of searching, the First English Lutheran Church of Marysville has called Pr. Kurt Luebke as their new pastor. Pr. Luebke began his duties last month and was installed on August 27th.

We celebrate with First English Lutheran Church in Marysville, OH on their calling of Pr. Kurt Luebke.

LOOKING AHEAD

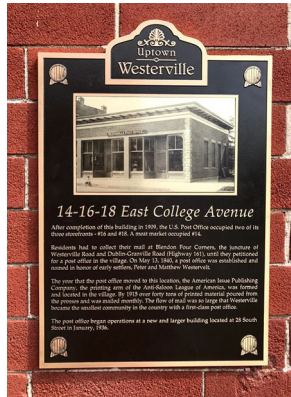
- Sept. 3 Joyful Noise Community Concert: Ben Lucas: Columbus' Resident Crooner in concert with pianist Jeff Daubenmire, 12:15 pm
Sign-up for CROP Hunger Walk to walk or sponsor
Sign-up to be an OWL for the 23-24 school year
- Sept. 5 Katharine Circle resumes, 1 pm
- Sept. 6 Grace Chancel Choir resumes, 7 pm
Sign-up to donate baked goods to CROP hunger Walk sale Sept. 17
- Sept. 7 Dartball season begins, 6:30 pm
- Sept. 10 Rally Day during the Sunday School hour
Confirmation & High School Sunday School resumes
Bible Collection begins and goes through Oct. 8 for Bed Brigade
- Sept. 17 Youth Choir Resumes
CROP Walk Bake Sale between services

History Plaque to be Placed on Former Grace Lutheran Church

Grace began as a mission congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran, with the first sermon being preached on January 17, 1904 in the Westerville Town Hall. The 'in town' congregation grew and the church building on Home St. was built in 1910. The church was remodeled in 1936 and finally relocated to our present location in 1965.

Uptown Westerville, Inc. and the Westerville Historical Society are expanding the history plaques program which initially placed bronze plaques on 20 buildings in the Uptown area, (similar to the one pictured here on a building on East College Avenue).

A second and final round of plaques are under development, one of which will be placed on the former Grace Lutheran Church on East Home Street. This second round also includes plaques for First Presbyterian, Church of the Master UM, and Church of the Messiah UM. The plaques are being manufactured now and should be installed within a month. They will be added to the website of Uptown Westerville, Inc. Most likely there will be some type of media release as well. It will also be announced by the Westerville Historical Society. Grace Archivist John Kleberg provided information and an image of the church for the plaque.



ANNUAL CROP WALK COMING SOON

from Linda Hoch

The annual Central Ohio CROP Hunger Walk for Church World Service will be held **Sunday, October 1st** at Scioto Audubon Metro Park, 400 W. Whittier St., Columbus, OH 43215 at 2:00 PM (registration at 1:00 PM). This year the

Worthington and Westerville churches will participate with all the Central Ohio churches in one walk. A portion of the money raised will support local hunger agencies: Mid-Ohio Food Collective, NSI Food Pantry, Westerville Area Resource Ministry (W.A.R.M.), Westland Ecumenical Community Food Pantry, and Worthington Resource Pantry. Please prayerfully consider becoming a walker to represent Grace this year by signing up online at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/grace-ev-lutheran-church-3> or at the registration table that will be in the Gathering Space starting September 3rd through the day of the walk. If you are unable to participate but want to support a walker, you may visit the same website and sponsor a walker or the Grace Team or visit the CROP Walk table in the Gathering Space. You may also scan this QR code with your smartphone to instantly access the Grace Team CROP Hunger Walk page.



There will be a **Bake Sale on Sunday, September 17th** after both services to help raise money for the Grace Team. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you wish to donate baked goods. For more information, contact Linda Hoch via email (lkgraf102078@earthlink.net) or feel free to call/text at 740-604-1862.

Last year, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Westerville had 9 walkers and raised

almost \$3,000. The walkers last year were Chris, Linda, Benny and Maggie Hoch; Sarah and Emily Odum; and Molly, Mike and Matthew King. They are excited to walk again to fight hunger both here and around the world. Thanks for helping feed the hungry both in our community and throughout the world.



GIVING ONLINE

From the Treasurer - Melissa Hodek

Have you realized you are writing fewer and fewer checks just because it is easier to pay online? You can give online to Grace as well! Grace uses a vendor called Vanco that specializes in safe and secure online giving for many different types of organizations. Some common questions are answered here:

- 1) You can donate to our normal operating budget as well as to other funds, such as Habitat for Humanity, WARM, or the Facilities Reserve Fund, among others.
- 2) You can give using a debit/credit card, checking, or savings accounts.
- 3) You can give one time or set up recurring payments.

Have you been curious about online giving but didn't know how it worked or needed help signing up to make sure you get it right?

Stop by after each service on August 6th or August 20th and I will be happy to answer any questions you have or help you sign up. Feel free to bring your own laptop or tablet if you want to make sure you have the right link, which is accessible through Grace's website: <https://www.grace43081.org/giving.html>

Or reach out directly to me at melissa.hodek@gmail.com and I will make sure you have what you need.

In His service, Melissa

Call Committee Update:

by Vanessa Stewart

We thank the congregation for their continued prayers for the Pastor God is leading to Grace and for discernment in God's leading of the call committee. The Spirit of God is moving in the hearts of the pastors seeking their church call, and in the hearts of the congregations where God would have them serve. We feel privileged to participate in this process with you! Your Call Committee contact information can be found on page 2.

CARPET INSTALLED

The carpet in the church office and staff offices has been replaced as part of the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the building. The new carpet was successfully installed on August 23rd.

The office staff appreciates your patience during this inconvenient time.



Grace's Gang Messages from Molly

Molly King, Director
Youth & Family Ministries
m.king@grace43081.org or
614-882-3026.



Youth and Family Vision Statement:

To nurture Youth and Family
in Christ
through Bible based teaching,
music, activities
and community outreach.



NALC CONTINENTAL YOUTH GATHERING ONE YEAR TO PLAN

NALC Continental Youth Gathering:
This is REALLY exciting news! Space
is limited, so we need to gather names
(ages 12 and up) now to know how
many spots we need! Registration
opens this October. Save the date for
the first ever NALC Continental Youth
Gathering—July 1-4 2024, held in Bo-
erne, Texas! **Those invited to attend:**

Youth - 12-18 years old

Assistant leaders -19-24 years old

Team leaders - 25 years old and up

Molly King will be taking the group.
Please let her know if you are interest-
ed in attending, m.king@grace43081.
org or 614-882-3026.

More info <https://thenalc.org/cyg/>.



Supper Club to Visit Liberty Tavern in Powell

Grace Supper Club had a wonderful
evening at Claudiana Italian Restau-
rant last month. For September, we
have a reservation at Liberty Tavern
on Thursday, September 21 at 6:15
p.m. Liberty Tavern is located at 50
South Liberty Street, Powell 43065.

A sign up sheet is at the Welcome
Center Desk. EVERYONE WELCOME!
Please join us for an evening of fun
and fellowship. Any questions, please
see either Bev Grubb or Tami Stone.



GRACE BOOK CLUB

Questions about the Grace Book
Club can be directed to Karen Bale or
Shirley Hodak.



YARN MATTERS

by Jodie Arreguin

Yarn Matters will meet on Tuesday, Sep-
tember 26th, at 6:30 pm in Rose Garden 1.
We would love to share our hobby with you!
“Learn to” books will be available as well as
crochet hooks and knitting needles for use
while you learn. We look forward to our
fellowship time! Please contact Jodie Arre-
guin with any questions (614-946-3344).

Text Reminder Program Available for Youth and Family

Youth and Family is starting a text pro-
gram called **Simply Text**. You will get
text reminders and updates regard-
ing Sunday School, VBS and all things
Youth and Family. Interested in opting
in for texts? Send Molly King (m.king@
grace43081.org) your cell number.



School has started
so it is time to start the
**OWLs (Older Wiser Lu-
therans)** program again. Sign up at the
Welcome Center and get details on the
program.

Each OWL will have a child from the
congregation and they will pray for them,
write notes and give them small gifts
throughout the school year. The child
does not know who their OWL is and
there will be a reveal party at the end of
the school year. This year the OWL pro-
gram is 4th grade to Freshman in college
Any questions see Molly King.

“Let no one despise you for your youth,
but set the believers an example in
speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in
purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12

Molly's Seminary Update: Summer is over and it's time for me to start
classes again. The summer always seems to go fast! This fall I am taking two
classes and they start the week of September 5. My Seminary (St. Paul Semi-
nary) only offers classes in the evening. All of the professors have full time jobs
during the day.

I am taking Law/Gospel Hermeneutics. I will be learning the principles of
biblical interpretation. This course teaches an approach to the science and art
of interpretation that is shaped by Luther's insight regarding the twofold word
(law/gospel) of God. Whether interpreting the Bible for preaching, teaching,
parish administration, or pastoral counseling the principles of biblical interpre-
tation remain the same.

My second class is “Being a Pastor.” We will be learning about entering a
community.

Starting off on the right foot is important in parish ministry. The process of
getting to know and making yourself known to the people you serve and the
community you live in is filled with opportunities and pitfalls. New pastors can
avoid a host of difficulties by being intentional about how they enter a new com-
munity. Taking the time and attention needed at the beginning of your work in
a congregation is a wise use of the so-called “Honeymoon Phase” of ministry.

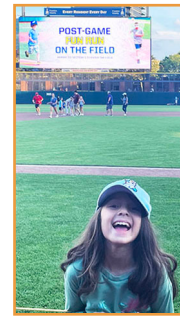
It will be a busy fall! Keep me in your prayers for guidance to use my time
wisely between work and Seminary. :) - Molly King

TRIVENT PLUS GRACE VOLUNTEERS = 262 PBJ's

In a mere 45 minutes, on August 20 after the second service, the group pictured here made 262 peanut and jelly sandwiches to donate to Jordon's Crossing. Thanks to Thrivent for giving us \$250 to purchase the bread, peanut butter and jelly and the baggies. The 45 minutes included the time to make sandwiches and clean up our mess! Thank you to all who helped provide sack lunches for the homeless and addicted through Jordon's Crossing Resources Center.



YOUTH AND FAMILY ENJOY BASEBALL OUTING LAST SUNDAY



On Sunday, August 27, 14 of us from Grace attended the Clippers game. The Clippers lost to the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp 8 to 4. It was a beautiful evening for a baseball game.

Westerville Habitat Partnership:

The 2023 Walls Build was a huge success with over 100 people helping to cut, nail and lift the walls for a two story three-bedroom house onto a truck that took it to the Crawford family homesite in Delaware. Thanks to the Grace volunteers, the Young family, who all came and helped to build many walls alongside Brad and Maggie Crawford, who will be the new home owners in January!

At the end of the build, a number of Otterbein freshman football players and about sixteen Westerville North Girls Soccer players were very helpful carrying the walls from the building to the truck! Our own Vanessa Stewart was nurse-on-site while Lois Rumph and Joanne Figge were hostesses.



The Young family at the Wall Build



Blood Drive

Grace Lutheran Church
Main Entrance Gathering Space
Tuesday, September 5, 2023
Noon to 6:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment visit:
RedCrossBlood.org

Sponsor Code: GraceLuthWesterville or call 1-800-RED CROSS

If you last donated on or before July 11, you may be eligible to give.

Give Hope, get a free tee. Donate between 9/1 & 9/18 and receive a NEW Red Cross shirt - while supplies last.

Our last drive of the year will be Tuesday November 14, 2023. Questions? Contact Vanessa Stewart 614-588-2712.

Dartball Begins September 7.

Dartball season here! The 2023-2024 dartball season opens on Thursday, September 7, 2023! Come and play or come and cheer them on. Contact Robert Bassett at 419.236.4293 or rgbassettiii@gmail.com.



Grace Stitchers Back in Action

After taking the summer off they are back!! The Grace Stitchers are meeting Tuesday September 19, 2023 at 1 pm in Rose Garden 4.



At the last meeting May 23d, they inventoried, packed up and prayed over our Little Africa Dresses, Britches, girl's underwear & sani pads. Grace Sticher Shirley Hodek personally delivered these creations and shipping money donations to the Michigan collection facility on May 30th.

Shirley is anxious to share her delivery experience and pictures at our September meeting. Vanessa Stewart will update the group on the distribution of the material and yarn donation by Vicki Kirk, from her Mother Norma Von Schrilts's estate. Vanessa will also share her quilting adventures this summer with Hope Lutheran Church in Condt and their experienced quilting team. We will discuss where God is leading us in our sewing ministry and plan for the coming year!

Please join us for some homemade desert and joyful celebration of sharing God's Blessings in this ministry! No RSVP needed and you don't need to be a sewer to come celebrate with us! call Vanessa Stewart 614-588-2712 if you have questions!

Bibles and Beds for the Bed Brigade

On October 14 a small group will be going to the Bed Brigade in Grove City. At the Bed Brigade they put beds together and help deliver them to families. When the beds are being delivered the volunteers at the Bed Brigade give each family a bed and a Bible.

We are having a Bible Drive from September 10 to October 14 and taking the Bibles with us to Grove City to help deliver Bibles and beds. The volunteers will also help put beds together.

The Bed Brigade occupies a very small space so we are limited to 14 people that can participate. There will be a sign up sheet coming soon. In the meantime let's collect a lot of Bibles!



Miqueen (the little girl pictured above) and her sister shared this mattress. Thanks to the Bed Brigade Grove City, they each have their own safe bed to sleep in.

Bed Brigade Grove City is a service ministry partnering with St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church to provide much-needed beds and the hope of Jesus to the Columbus, Ohio area. In 2020, despite the pandemic and rising cost of materials, they built and distributed more than 500 beds and bibles to families in need.

Intercessory Prayers Are Available to All



Intercessory prayer is available for everyone, all ages. Prayers can be for family, friends, co-workers, travel, health, safety, surgery, guidance on a decision,

school, and, of course, praise and thankfulness.

Ask for prayers by writing your request(s) on the forms next to the locked prayer chest beside the baptismal font and drop them inside the chest, or go to Grace's website - click "Prayer Requests" and fill in the form and send. Only the IPT leaders will open the locked chest or receive the online requests and they will share it with the team. *Confidentiality is paramount....you do not have to fill in your name if you would rather be anonymous.* The team will pray on your prayer request for 2 weeks.

Questions about the Intercessory Prayer Team contact:

Joanne Figge at jcfigge@gmail.com or 614 -207-1061

Donna Dettmann at donnadett@aol.com or 703-447-7760



Flowers for 2023
Flowers at Grace can honor a special event, remember a loved one or simply give glory to God. You may sign up at the welcome center, on-line or call the office. The actual cost of flowers has increased to \$75.00 a Sunday. The suggested donation will now be \$30. Since that does not cover the cost, this donation is not to purchase flowers for your own, but contribute for the enjoyment of all. After the service, the arrangement is moved to the welcome center for the following week to enhance our space even longer.

CARE TEAM HOLDS ANNUAL PICNIC

by Margery Zimmermann



The Care Team recently held it's annual picnic. Spouses and past members of the team were invited for a "short" meeting and a "long" "picnic". And as all good picnics go, the threat of rain was a reality. It poured! We met at the atrium shelter at Heritage Park and were able to enjoy the rain and then the sun along with the food and each other. The Care Team continues to reach out to shut-ins, whether medical or surgical reasons, or limitations of aging or mobility. Communion is made available 1-2 times per month to about two dozen members of Grace. Our Grief Ministry reaches out to loved ones of the deceased members, offering grief material for several months. If you know of someone who would like in home communion, or, would like to join our team, please call Peggy Jones 614 354-6884, Marge Zimmermann 614 890-3296, or the church office especially for new health issues or need for grief material.



Christian Fellowship is not deterred by rain. Care Team potluck at Antrim shelter in Heritage Park during a downpour on August 16th.

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES



THE WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY (Fellowship Hall)



The Women's Bible Group has been studying "The Wise and the Foolish," a look at Jesus' Discipleship Parables. Dorothy Crain has been leading this study. Molly King will begin leading the class again, beginning September 20. In light of the movie "Sound of Freedom" the group will begin a study by Francis Chan titled "Advocate Defending Hope for the Hopeless," a 5 week course from Rightnow Media. There is no workbook for this study. Handouts will be provided. Email Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org if you are interested.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS (Fellowship Hall)

"That the World May Know" – Adult learning class will continue the series with the volume 13 topic "What's Your Mission" Beginning on Sept. 10. God gave an assignment to his people thousands of years ago: bring lost sheep back into the love and safety of his Kingdom. It's still our task today. In volume 13 you'll glimpse



the urgency and rewards of welcoming the strangers and the prodigals the Lord longs to embrace. Discover the mission that can give your life and the lives of those around you greater meaning than you ever imagined.

Renowned teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan guides you through the lands of the Bible. In each lesson, Vander Laan illuminates the historical, geographical, and cultural context of the sacred Scriptures. Filmed on location in the Middle East, the "That the World May Know" film series will transform your understanding of God and challenge you to be a true follower of Jesus.

The class is led by Bill Kulju and meets between worship services at 9:45 in Fellowship Hall.

GRACE'S VIDEO LIBRARY CONTAINS OVER 10,000 TITLES



Bible studies, leadership aids and kid shows are available to you in Grace's study library at NO CHARGE! The videos are suitable for all ages and stages of life and can be viewed on any device wherever you may be. Family members can have their own account. Take advantage of this service provided by the church.

Molly (m.king@grace43091.org) can help you set up your free account and put you into the system. Many members and study leaders make use of this gift. If you haven't tried it, give it a shot. You are going to like it.

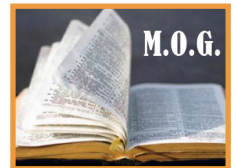
RUTH CIRCLE (Rose Garden 1)



Ruth Circle will begin meeting again in Rose Garden 1 on Monday, Sept. 11th at 1:00 p.m. Margery Zimmermann will lead the Bible study on chapter 6 about Peace in our "I Am" series, "Discovering who Jesus Is." Verna Kreachbaum will provide light refreshments.

We hope to see you there. If you would like to join us, call Dorothea Fuhrman at 614-205-8111 for more information.

THE MEN OF GRACE - M.O.G. (Loaves and Fishes Cafe')



The Men of Grace will meet Saturday September 16, at 8:00 a.m. We will continue our study in Judges. Come early for breakfast and fellowship.

KATHARINE CIRCLE (Rose Garden 2&3)

Katharine Circle will resume our meetings on Tuesday, September 5th at 1 p.m. at church. Normally we meet the first

Monday of the month but due to Labor Day, we meet a day later. We will begin a study called, "God's Reluctant Leaders," a study of Jonah, Gideon and Moses. New members welcome. Please call Dorothy Crain with any questions - 614-264-5304



NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Contact Denise Reynard at denise.reynard@rocketmail.com or 614-800-1725 if you have any questions or need further information on dates, times and subject matter of studies.



Upcoming special music and concert! On September 3 we welcome singer Ben Lucas who will provide special music for both services and share a concert with us at 12:15 PM following the 11:00 AM service. Ben is a life long member of Upper Arlington Lutheran Church where he has been active in the music ministry. Ben grew up singing in church choirs and has been performing regularly in various venues since 2016. His love and passion for music began in church and spans genres from Contemporary Christian to Classical, Jazz, and Broadway. His favorite artists and influences include Michael Bubl , Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Ella Fitzgerald, Michael W. Smith, and Amy Grant. Ben appears regularly at the Valleydale Ballroom with the Rick Brunetto Big Band. - Jeff Daubenmire



Notes

By Jeff Daubenmire,
Director of
Music Ministries
music@grace43081.org

Summer music was made very special by the many volunteers who contributed their time and talent to provide vocal and instrumental offerings for preludes, special music, and communion. We are grateful for all of those talented individuals who enhanced worship in this meaningful way. The men's and women's ensembles that sang this summer were terrific. These were certainly a highlight, with great participation from members of the congregation. We intend to do more pieces for women and men, and expand these ensembles to perform additionally throughout the year.

Linda and Jeff have chartered out a tentative schedule for the fall for the Chancel and Handbell choirs through the end of the year. We will be reviewing these with members of the ensembles and solidifying the schedules. A new rotation of instrumentalists will be used to provide communion music each week. This will provide a variety of styles and engage more volunteers in the music ministry. We continue to recruit members for the choirs (youth and adult) and hope to see even more participation in the coming year.

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost First Communion July 30, 2023



PRELUDE
"All Things Bright and Beautiful"
"Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"
-Linda Hoch - Organ
SPECIAL MUSIC
"O Worship the King"
Martha Crist - Piano,
Linda Hoch - Organ
COMMUNION MUSIC
"Here, O My Lord, I See Thee
Face to Face"

Martha Crist - Piano, Linda Hoch - Organ

POSTLUDE

"Toccata on Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"
Linda Hoch - Organ

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 6, 2023

PRELUDE
"Prelude on Bread of Life" "I Love to Tell the Story"
Linda Hoch - Organ
SPECIAL MUSIC
"Abide With Me" -Grace Ringers Bell Choir
COMMUNION MUSIC
"I Lay My Sins on Jesus" Marth Crist - Piano
POSTLUDE
"Festival Trumpet Tune in D" Linda Hoch - Organ

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 13, 2023

PRELUDE
"I Love Thee"
Martha Crist - Piano, Linda Hoch - Organ
"Witness"
Grace Singers Women's Choir
SPECIAL MUSIC
"O Happy Day"
Grace Women's Choir, Addie Gurgio - Vocal Solo
COMMUNION MUSIC
"Guide Me to Thee" Martha Crist - Piano
POSTLUDE
"Toccata on St. Anne" Linda Hoch -Organ



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 20, 2023

PRELUDE
"Appalachian Hymn" "Be Thou My Vision"
Andrea Bush - Violin
SPECIAL MUSIC
"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
Andrea Bush -Violin
COMMUNION MUSIC
"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
"The Church's One Foundation"
"Jesus Paid It All"
Robin Buser - Piano
POSTLUDE
"Prelude in C Major"
Linda Hoch - Organ

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 27, 2023

PRELUDE
"My Life Flows On in Endless Song"
"The Solid Rock" Linda Hoch-piano
SPECIAL MUSIC
"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"
Nick Cosgrove - Vocal Solo, Jeff Daubenmire - Piano
COMMUNION MUSIC
"Grateful"
Nick Cosgrove - Vocal Solo, Jeff Daubenmire - Piano
POSTLUDE
"Prelude in F Major" Linda Hoch - Organ



The Chancel Choir will begin the choir season with their first rehearsal at 7:00-8:15 pm Wednesday, September 6.
Contact Jeff Daubenmire with questions or interest in singing.



Our First Fruits

You will be enriched in every way for all generosity, which produces thanksgiving to God through us.
-2 Cor 9:11

WARM's Value:

We recognize God through our work.
We believe in the dignity of each individual.
We work to help people become self-sufficient.
We strive to be exemplary stewards of resources with a vision for the future.



Kids Lunch Club

WESTERVILLE AREA RESOURCE MINISTRY

WARM INFORMATION REGARDING THE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM THAT YOUR DONATIONS SUPPORT

Grace members support WARM in a number of ways through the efforts of our Social Concerns Ministry, headed by Joanne Figge, and the First Fruits program that Karen Bale heads up. (Lois Rumph, Joanne Figge and Ande Ucubagabriel volunteer at WARM every week).

The Summer time Kids Lunch Club (KLC) operated by WARM is one of the wonderful benefits that we see in supporting this Local Food Pantry.

Students are headed back to school so the KLC has served its last meal for the summer. Following are the highlights of the program sent to us by Julia Smith of WARM.

- Total number of meals served: 13,550 meals
- Average # of meals served per day: 261 meals/day
- Total pounds of produce distributed: 22,026.6 lbs
- Average pounds of produce distributed per week: 2,2026.6 lbs
- Average number of kids served per week: 576 kids/wk
- Total number of weekend bags distributed: 2,522 bags = 10,088 weekend meals

Huge congratulations to Delaney Stephens, and the entire staff of KLC, on all of the hard work they put in to giving summer joy to so many kids in need!

There are many WARM events ahead. Julia Smith invites everyone to come out and learn about what you can do to help WARM's vibrant community of volunteers.

If you would like to be a WARM Grace volunteer contact Joanne Figge, Lois Rumph or Karen Bale.

or

contact Volunteer Services:

volunteerservices@warmwesterville.org or call 614-899-0196

The Westerville Area Kids Lunch Club is a FREE program that provides children 1-18 with nutritious meals and coordinated enrichment activities throughout the summer when school is not in session at 11 area sites around the Westerville area. The Kids Lunch Club began in the summer of 2011 at Ridgewood Park, and has successfully expanded each year since.

The program runs annually from late May through mid August, outside and rain or shine. There is no paperwork required! All are welcome.



IN OUR SERVICE AREA:

- There are 105,530 people
- In the Westerville School District, there are 14,631 students
 - 40% participate in the free or reduced-price meal program
- WARM serves a client base of:
 - 1,767 children
 - 2,245 adults (ages 18-64)
 - 542 seniors (ages 65+)
- Our family and child nutrition programs include:
 - ONLINE Choice Market
 - Kids Lunch Club
 - Share Bac A Pac



What CAN you do to help?



Food Drive

Host a food drive in your workplace, school, or neighborhood to benefit our hungry neighbors in need. For the most needed items, please visit: <https://www.warmwesterville.org/food-drive>.



Donate

Share your blessings to help feed those in need in our community.

Testimonial.."Getting fresh, healthy food from the pantry has been very helpful. I look forward to all of my appointments. The joy I feel when I come to WARM is contagious. I can't speak highly enough of this organization." – Carlton

WARM has begun a Prayer Team to share prayers with their customers as they receive their food/household supplies. They are asking for volunteers. Contact Volunteer Services: 614-899-0196

ONE  MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION !



JULY RECEIPTS FOR WARM

From Debbie Yoho, Financial Manager

JULY receipts for WARM were **\$1,545.** for a total of **\$8,301.00** donated to WARM in the first 6 months of 2023 toward the congregational annual \$10,000 pledge. Additionally, the food and Hygiene donations totaled **437 lbs.** for the month of JULY. The total for the year stands at **2,527 lbs.**

Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

NOTE: You may be wondering if we are behind in reporting the receipts for WARM. The reason for reporting the JULY receipts in this month's Voice is that we add them up at the beginning of the following month - in this case August - which is too late to report in the August Voice. So what seems like a late report, is actually the latest one we have.

If you have questions about Grace's First Fruits Ministry, please call Karen Bale at 614-506-3331.

Place ONLY non-perishable items into grocery carts.

W.A.R.M. cannot accept food past its expiration date. *Any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products take directly to WARM. 150 Heatherdown Dr. Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

Cut out and collect these items for the **SEPTEMBER**

First Fruits Grocery Carts
Any of these items are greatly appreciated.
Thank you again for your support of WARM and the Westerville Community

- Hand/soft soap
- Rice - any variety
- Canned Pasta
- Pasta noodles - long and short
- Pasta sauces - alfredo, pizza sauce
- Canned fruit - any, including applesauce
- Pancake mix
- Toilet paper/Paper towels
- Detergents - Laundry/Dishwasher
- Condiments - ketchup, mustard, mayo, BBQ

REPORTS FROM OUR SERVICE PERSONNEL

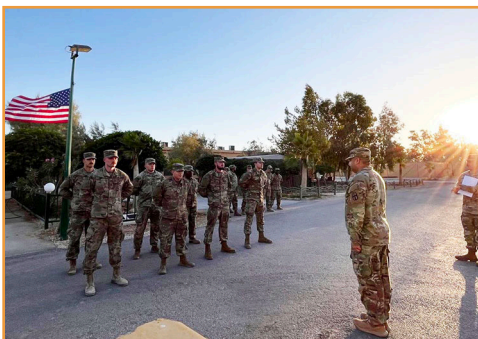


Sean Coonfare is stationed at Marine Corps Base Camp, Pendleton, CA.

Sean is an aviation mechanic working on Huey and Cobra helicopters. He joined the Marine Corps in January

2020. Sean is the son of Chris and Jodie Coonfare.

MSG Rick Arreguin is pictured leading some of his unit in formation to get their combat patches for their current assignment in Jordan. He has also been able to visit Petra a couple of times this past month.



Rick is doing OK, but missing home and family quite a bit. If anyone would like to send a card, his address is MSG Ricardo Arreguin, 371 SB KFAB, APO AE 09315.

Ed. Note: Is a member of your family serving in the Armed Forces? You are invited to share family service personnel stories by sending them to: seatom5853@gmail.com.

Psalms 112:9

They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor, their righteousness endures forever; their horn will be lifted high in honor.

NALC 2020 Vision Reaches Another Milestone

During Lutheran Week, the NALC received word that we hit our next big milestone – \$2,000,000 committed to the 2020 Vision!

Thank you to everyone who prayed for, supported and gave to this vision that's aimed at ensuring a legacy of faith today, tomorrow and forever!



Scan to Simply Give

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's online giving page to give you a quick and easy way to access our webpage without having to type out a long web address. Through this link, you can create a one-time or on-going donation and to specify where you want your gift to be applied. The Simply Giving® Program (endorsed by Thrivent Federal Credit Union) is an automated stewardship program that helps members give generously. Scan to Simply Give today.



September 2023

DEATHS

Shawn D. Turnbull

Born: September 17, 1966

Died in Christ: August 25, 2023

A funeral service was held for Shawn on August 30 at Grace with Pastor Matt Cox presiding.

Keep Teresa and the Turnbull family in your prayers.



Please keep George and Ellen Paulus and family in your prayers, as George's brother Jay Paulus passed away recently.

*Whether we live or whether we die,
we belong to the Lord
Romans 14:8*

BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER

- 2-JOYCE FOX
- 2-KATIE HOLMES
- 2-RON KERLEE
- 3-ROBERT AYERS
- 3-RICHARD LEISS
- 3-LEAH PLACE
- 5-KAREN HOLMES
- 11-LINDA REASONER
- 12-JOHN WESTENHAVER
- 13-CLAIRE CAIN
- 14-RICHARD JONES
- 14-CAMDEN STRETE
- 14-JOYCE STRUNG
- 16-GABRIELLA ROBINETTE
- 16-MIKE RUSSELL
- 17-DAWN DACHENHAUS
- 18-GLEN ALEXANDER
- 18-ANDREA BUSH
- 18-PAUL GORGAS
- 18-ISABELLE KOTIK

- 18-VIVIAN WILSON
- 20-ROBERT BASSETT III
- 20-MAX GEORGE
- 22-CONNIE CALDWELL
- 22-CAROLYN GIBBONEY
- 22-MARGE ZIMMERMANN
- 25-CHERYL LEISS
- 25-LORA MOORE
- 25-ANDREA SWEET
- 26-JACK NICKOLI
- 26-WALTER VERMILYA
- 27-CHRIS COONFARE
- 28-RACHEL GANGESTAD
- 30-LORI DYCHALA

OCTOBER

- 1-GRACE SIMA
- 2-EMMA GEORGE
- 4-MIGUEL ARREGUIN
- 4-CATHY COCHENOUR
- 4-ABIGAIL DETEMPLE

ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER

- 1-CHARLES & DONNA DETTMANN.....55
- 2-JASON & KATHERINE STRETE 11
- 3-RICHARD & ANNE WILSON 19
- 16-KAREN & PAUL GRANT22
- 17-MARY WOLF & ALAN SLACK3
- 23-LARRY & BECKY SEIFERT18
- 23-JULIE & STEVEN YOUNG.....17
- 26-STEPHEN & CONNIE HIMES53
- 27-JOE & SHIRLEY MOLENO54

OCTOBER

- 3-CONNOR & LOU SWANSON 31
- 6-ERIC & CHERYL BUSH 33

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Call Committee, future pastor, Coleen Wooster, Kyle Drakulich, Rod Rice, Pam Cooper, David Doll, Sue Taylor, Don Slemmer, Niki Volpe, Quanta Brown, Jan Perry, Karin Halverson, John Moffett, Rick Arreguin, Bob Bower, Barbara Muller, Mary Ross, Clarence Clapham, Janice Hardick, Joan Hassler, the families of Jay Paulus and Shawn Turnbull.

FIRST COMMUNION

David Nathaniel Holmes and **Madeline Ruth Nickoli** completed preparation for First Communion and expressed a desire to join us as we gather around the Lord's table. On July 30 they received first communion and we celebrated with them and their families during this special time.



Nate (front) is the son of Pete and Karen Holmes and is pictured with his parents and sisters, Katie and Charlotte.

Maddie (standing next to her father) is the daughter of Brandon and Bethany Nickoli. She is pictured with her parents and brothers, Jack, Charles and Samuel.



Note of Thanks and address update: Barbara and Bill Muller have returned to their home from Kensington Place and appreciate the continued prayer. They are thankful for the prayers, visits, cards and calls over the last year.



GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Westerville, Ohio



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>We envision Grace to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.</p> <p>Worship materials and sermon available online at www.grace43081.org</p>					1 8:00pm AA Mtg	2 9:30am AA Mtg 8:00pm AA Mtg
<p>3 14th Sunday after Pentecost (Molly King, CLM) 8:30 & 11am Worship Services 9:45am Adult Learning 12:15pm Joyful Noise Community Concert: Ben Lucas and Jeff Daubenmire CROP Walk Kick-Off</p>	4 —Office Closed—	5 12:00pm Blood Drive 1:00pm Katharine Circle 8:00pm AA Mtg	6 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Singers	7 1:00pm Art and Environment Meeting 6:30pm Dartball	8 8:00pm AA Mtg	9 9:30am AA Mtg 8:00pm AA Mtg
<p>10 15th Sunday after Pentecost/Giving Sunday (Pr. Matt Cox) 8:30 & 11am Worship Services 9:45am Rally Day 9:45am Adult Learning, Confirmation, and High School Sunday School 12:15pm Secret Sister event Bible Drive Collection Kick-Off</p>	11 1:00pm Ruth Circle	12 8:00pm AA Mtg	13 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Singers	14 6:30pm Dartball	15 8:00pm AA Mtg	16 8:00am Men of Grace 9:30am AA Mtg 8:00pm AA Mtg
<p>17 16th Sunday after Pentecost/Giving Sunday (Pr. Matt Cox) 8:30 & 11am Worship Services 9:30am Youth Choir 9:45am Adult Learning and Sunday School CROP Walk Bake Sale</p>	18	19 10:30am-2pm Hope Church Event 1:00pm Grace Stitches 8:00pm AA Mtg	20 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Singers 7:00pm Council Mtg	21 6:15pm Supper Club 6:30pm Dartball	22 8:00pm AA Mtg	23 9:30am AA Mtg 8:00pm AA Mtg
<p>24 17th Sunday after Pentecost (Pr. Matt Cox) 8:30 & 11am Worship Services 9:30am Youth Choir 9:45am Adult Learning and Sunday School 12:15pm Youth and Family Mtg 2:00 pm Y&F: Lynds Fruit Farm</p>	25 10:00am Staff Mtg	26 7:00pm Yarn Matters 8:00pm AA Mtg	27 10:30 am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Singers	28 6:30pm Dartball	29 8:00pm AA Mtg	30 9:30am AA Mtg 8:00pm AA Mtg

Grace

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 E. Schrock Road
Westerville, OH 43081
Office Phone: 614-882-3026
Email: office@grace43081.org
Website: www.grace43081.org



Place address label here

We are a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

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