



This Week at Grace: Jan. 12-19, 2025

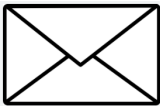
Amazing God-- Amazing Grace-- Amazing Worship!

Jan. 12	BAPTISM OF OUR LORD Pr. David Wendel 8:15 am Worship Service 9:45 am Adult Learning, Sunday School, and Confirmation 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15pm Youth and Family Meeting (Molly's Office)
MON	10:00am Senior (Social) Moments (Loaves and Fishes Café) 1:00pm Ruth Circle (Rose Garden 1) 6:30pm Band of Brothers (Loaves and Fishes Café)
TUES	noon-6pm Red Cross Blood Drive (Gathering Space) 6:30pm Mission Group Meeting 8:00pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
WED.	10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall) 6:00pm Grace Ringers Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 7:00 pm Grace Singers Rehearsal (Rose Garden 2 & 3) 7:30pm Scioto Valley BPC Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
THURS	6:30pm Dartball vs. Grace Pickerington 7:00pm CBJ Faith and Family Night @ Nationwide Arena 7:30 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
FRI.	8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
SAT	8:00am Men Of Grace (Loaves and Fishes Café) 9:30 am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall) 8:00 pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Jan. 19	SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Pr. David Wendel 8:15 am Worship Service 9:45 am Adult Learning, Sunday School, and Confirmation 11:00 am Worship Service 12:15pm Secret Sister Reveal Event (Rose Garden 2 & 3)

Upcoming Events

Jan. 20	Office Closed
Jan. 21	1pm: Grace Stitches
Jan. 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:15pm Supper Club @ Lucky House • 6:30pm Dartball @ Bethel • 7pm: Worship and Music Meeting
Jan. 25	2-4pm: Game Day: Bring your favorite friend, snack and game. All are welcome!
Jan. 27	1pm: Euchre Group
Jan. 28	6:30pm: Council Meeting
Feb. 3	1pm: Katharine Circle 7pm: Grace Sisterhood @ Napa Kitchen
Feb. 8	5-7pm: Sweetheart Supper. The youth are serving spaghetti dinner for date night. More information to come.

Service Recording: The recorded 8:15am service will be available at www.grace43081.org around 11am.



2024 End of Year Giving Statements will be emailed out by January 31. If no email is on file statements will be mailed out. Questions? Debbie Yoho, 614-882-3026 or finance@grace43081.org.



Loaves and Fishes café is OPEN! Please stop in between services for a drink and a snack! There is a sign-up sheet in the café if you are interested in helping. Please call Vanessa Stewart with any questions or concerns.

Flowers for 2025: Flowers have been a tradition in worship spaces for generations. They bring beauty and nature into our service and remind us of God's wonderful creation. They can honor a loved one, celebrate a special event or give glory to God. There are still dates available to sign up for flowers for the sanctuary. Since the suggested donation of \$30 does not cover the entire cost, the flowers are to be enjoyed by all, first in the service and the week following in the gathering space. You may sign up at the welcome center, on-line through our giving page or call the office.



Outreach and Visibility! Our Outreach and Visibility team has been hard at work to get the word out about our wonderful congregation and ministry, especially leading up to Christmas! One hundred yard signs were distributed to members, announcing our Christmas services, allowing us to have a local, neighborhood connection with members and our congregations. Throughout the month of December, we have been advertising in both the print and electronic



versions of the Columbus Dispatch which included ads in USA Today and other outlets! Additionally, we direct mailed 5000 6" x 9" full-color postcards to residences surrounding our church location! We plan five more throughout 2025, as we strive to reach the unchurched, unbelievers and those who have no church home!

Worship and Music Instrument Assessment Task Force! As part of our "God's Grace for Us and For Others" mission outreach strategy, a task force was formed in 2024 to evaluate and assess our current and future musical instrument needs. As high quality/high level music is so much a part of ministry, the first step has been to focus on our current organ. Now more than 20 years old, organ technology has changed greatly so that our current instrument no longer provides the variety, dependability and versatility available in new organs. Most would agree that our organist, Linda Hoch, does wonders with our current organ!



However, when the present organ was purchased, it was a smaller instrument which would eventually be moved to a small chapel intended to be located where the columbarium is now placed. At that time, a larger, permanent organ was to be selected for the sanctuary. Twenty years later, the smaller organ is still in use, with increasing need for repair and upkeep.

So far, the task force has met with representatives of the Allen Organ Company, and T. S. Good Organs, which sells both Johannes and Rogers Organs. Both companies visited our church, evaluated the current instrument as well as acoustics, space available, etc. as they prepared to make proposals to the task force. It is important to note that the desire is not solely or even primarily "more volume!" A new instrument would provide greater range, voicing, clarity and dependability, as electronics and technology have greatly improved in the last two decades.

Similarly, our desire for outreach through our music ministry would be addressed by a possible new organ which would be capable of organ concerts, recitals, hymn festivals, etc.

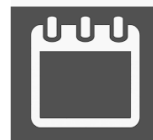
Thankfully, a not insignificant amount of money is currently available because of the generosity of members who have been giving to an organ fund through the years, anticipating the future purchase of a new, appropriate organ for the sanctuary. Sometime after the new year, the task group anticipates making a recommendation to the church council! More information to come!

CHRISTIAN GROWTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Youth and Family Events: Mark Your Calendar

- Jan. 25-Game Day, 2:00 to 4:00. Bring your favorite friend, favorite snack and favorite game.
- Feb 8- Sweetheart Supper, 5:00pm to 7:00pm. The youth are serving spaghetti dinner for date night. More information to come.
- March 15- Bowling at Delaware Lanes, 2:00 to 4:00.
- April 26- Ice Skating at the Chiller.
- May 10- Pins Mechanical at Easton, 2:00 to 4:00
- June 21- Westerville Golf Center for Miniature Golf
- July 20-24- Vacation Bible School
- August 9- Youth and Family Picnic 4:00 to 6:00.



Adult Education - The Acts of the Apostles: In a world that is unsure of where to find truth or purpose, the book of Acts stands apart. It reveals God's plan for global redemption, his purpose for our lives, and the power he has given us to accomplish his mission. Please Join the adult class for an eight week series began on January 5, 2025 as Pastor Louie Giglio walks us through the story of the early church. Acts may have been written two thousand years ago, but God is calling us to be a part of that story today. The Adult Education class meets Sundays at 9:45 in the fellowship hall.

Grace Band of Brothers, Monday, January 13, 2025 at the Church: The Grace Band of Brothers, for younger men/working men will meet at the church, Monday, January 13 th , 6:30 PM. We will discuss *The Screwtape Letters*, by C.S. Lewis, messages from an older demon to a younger, offering advice on how to get humans to forgo their faith in Christ. Participants need not have a copy of the book, as a few letters will be read and discussed. ALL younger/working men are invited to attend and join in the discussion!



The Women's Bible Study is studying 1 Corinthians, The Challenges of Life Together. The group meets each Wednesday at 10:30am. Contact Molly King

Men Of Grace (Loaves and Fishes Cafe) All men of Grace are invited to the next study on January 18 at 8am for breakfast, study and fellowship! This is the third session of the study titled "Bible Backroads: The Gospel of Luke," a six session introduction to the Gospel of Luke, which will be our Gospel for the coming church year. Dave Stotts is familiar to many for his "Drive Through the Bible" series, providing background, context, history and important themes in each book of the Bible!





Busy Bags: We have been b-u-s-y putting together busy bags! Each week there will be different things to do in the bags for the children to sit with mom and dad during worship. When you come into the sanctuary there will be a bag tree for the children to grab a bag for worship! Some of the items that will be in the bags are sewing cards, finger puppets, board books, quiet books, Magnadoodles and more!



Grace Chancel Choir meets at 7:00pm, Wednesdays and will resume January 8! All are welcome! Contact Helen Kang.

Grace Ringers Bell Choir will resume in the new year. Watch for an email from Maria. The group meets at 6:15pm Wednesdays! Contact Maria Laderman.

Grace Youth Choir meets Sundays at 10:30am and will resume rehearsals in the new year! Watch for an email from Maria. Contact Maria Laderman.

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST FRUITS SUNDAYS *Let all that you do be done in love". (1 Corinthians 16:14)*



WARM
Westerville Area Resource Ministry

January Most Needed list: Canned Tomatoes; Canned Fruit Coffee; Canned Beans; Pancake mix/syrup; Condiments; Salad Dressings; Laundry Detergent; Shampoo; Toothbrush/Paste; Rice; Canned meat; Pasta noodles; Peanut Butter; Helper Meals; Flour; Sugar; Soap – Bar, Dish; Paper Towels/TP; Cereal. *We*

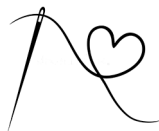
cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. Any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products take directly to WARM. Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

MONTHLY FOOD/HYGIENE=309 lbs.; YEAR END TOTAL FOOD/HYGIENE=4,098.4 lbs.

MONTHLY MONETARY= \$2,036.00; YEAR END TOTAL MONETARY= \$15,668

Total Given to WARM in 2024: \$17,231.25 from the congregation directly and \$1,500 from Mission Reserve:

- Regular giving: \$15,668
- Souper Bowl giving: \$198.25
- Thanksgiving Blessings: \$1,365
- Mission Reserve Thanksgiving match: \$1,000
- Mission Reserve 5K Shopping Cart Shuffle: \$500



Attention Grace Stitchers and any one interested in joining the Stitchers! A meeting is planned for Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 1pm in the Loaves & Fishes. We plan to review what we accomplished in 2024 and look to possible projects for 2025 - please bring your ideas! Questions? Contact Vanessa Stewart.



Blood Drive

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is Tuesday, January 14 from noon -6pm: You can schedule an appointment by contacting the Red Cross at RedCrossBlood.org and use our sponsor code: GraceLuthWesterville or call 1-800-Red Cross. Questions? Contact Vanessa Stewart.

Mark Your Calendar 2025 Blood Drive Schedule Noon to 6:00 p.m.

1/14/25

3/11/25

5/13/25

7/8/25

9/2/25

11/11/25



Do you shop at Kroger? If you do and haven't already, please **enroll** in the **Kroger Community Rewards Program** and choose **Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church (org. #: PV731)** as your non-profit organization. It's a Win-Win for everyone! Of your Kroger purchases 0.5% will be credited to Grace! It adds up quick and is easy to do. If you are already signed up, you no longer need to re-enroll. Enroll at: www.krogercommunityrewards.com.

What is new for 2025 Intercessory Prayer Team?

From Donna Dettmann

We will be praying for each member of Grace Church!

Each IPT member will have a different page from the Grace Directory and will pray for that group of members for a month. Then, the next month, they move to the next directory page.

So, in 2025 you will be lifted in prayer to the Lord to "ask" for what God knows is needed in your life.

This is in addition to your asking for your specific prayer needs – still using the prayer chest or the Grace website.



1. You will find a locked prayer chest at the back of the church on a table with prayer request forms and pens. Just fill out a form and put your request in the locked prayer chest. (Yes, we will take any piece of paper you can find to write your request on.)

2. Prayer requests can also be sent through the Grace website: (grace43081.org/prayerrequest)

The "prayer request" link is found on the top right-hand side of the first page of the website.

Confidentiality of your prayer request is mandatory to the IPT.

You do not need to sign the request if you want to be anonymous.



Westerville Habitat Partnership (WHP) Save the Date First Annual Run/Walk on April 19 (Saturday of Easter weekend) at Hoff Park on McCorkle Avenue.

HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are excited that **Grace Supper Club** is back this month after our hiatus in



December. Supper Club has a reservation at Lucky House Chinese Restaurant on Thursday, January 23 at 6:15 p.m. Please note the change in date to the fourth Thursday for January only. Lucky House is located at 56 East Schrock Road, Westerville 43081. A sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center Desk. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!** Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Any questions, please see

either Bev Grubb or Tami Stone.



Westerville Grace Dartball's next match is 1/16 vs. Grace Pickerington.

All are welcome to come join us and give it a try that evening, and no prior experience is needed! We look forward to seeing returning players as well as anyone new who would like to join our club. Any questions can be directed to Chris Banks or Robert Bassett. Upcoming matches: 12/26 NO GAMES; 1/2 NO GAMES; 1/9 Bye; 1/16 vs. Grace Pickerington.



The Euchre group will meet at 1 o'clock, Monday, January 27 in their usual spot: the Loaves and Fishes cafe. Your contact for January is Lois Rumph. Sign up in the Welcome center so they know how many tables to set up.



GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Westerville, Ohio

100 East Schrock Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081

Phone: (614) 882-3026

Pr. David Wendel: (719) 650-8171

E-mail: office@grace43081.org

Website: www.grace43081.org

<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm, Fri 9am-Noon