



This Week at Grace: April 20-27, 2025

Amazing God-- Amazing Grace-- Amazing Worship!

April 20

Resurrection of Our Lord

Pr. David Wendel

8:15am A festive service of Word and Sacrament, with brass ensemble and choir!

A light continental breakfast and fellowship will be available between services in Loaves and Fishes Café.

11:00am A festive service of Word and Sacrament, with brass ensemble and choir!

Easter flowers can be picked up after the 11am service.

MON

TUES

8:00pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Items due for April 29 Council Meeting

WED.

10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

7:00pm Grace Singers Rehearsal (Rose Garden 2 & 3)

8:00pm Scioto Valley BPC Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THURS

7:00pm Music and Worship Meeting

7:30pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

FRI.

8:00pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SAT

9:30am AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

8:00pm AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

April 27

Second Sunday of Easter

Molly King, Commissioned Lay Minister

8:15am Worship Service

9:40am Sunday School, and Confirmation

9:45am Adult Learning

11:00am Worship Service

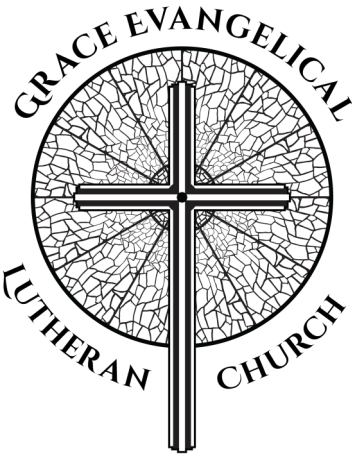
6-9pm Lakeside Forest HOA (Fellowship Hall)

Easter Sunday Photo Opportunity: Easter is a glorious time! We celebrate the Risen Christ and God's love for us. It is also a time to welcome spring with its new life and growth. Our sanctuary will be full of the scents and colors of spring. Many families will gather to worship and share the beauty of the season. It is a good opportunity to take pictures of those gathered using the flowers as a backdrop. To encourage this practice, the Art and Environment Team will have representatives available between the two Easter services and after the second one to help catch the moment. Then everyone can be in the picture! Make a special Easter memory!



Upcoming Events	
April 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1pm Euchre Group • 6:30pm: Monday Night Bible Study begins “Without the Shedding of Blood, there is no forgiveness of sins!”
April 29	6:30pm Council Meeting
May 2-3	Ohio Mission Region Convocation @ Grace Lutheran Church, Springfield, Ohio
May 4	After the 11am service: VBS Craft Day #1
May 5	1pm Katharine Circle
May 10	8am-noon: End of Life-Eternal Life Seminar
May 12	1pm Ruth Circle
May 13	Noon-6pm: Blood Drive
May 17	8am: Men of Grace
May 18	3:30pm: Church Music Festival featuring our choirs and musicians
May 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am-5pm: Instrument tuning • 3:30pm: Care Team Meeting
May 27	6:30pm: Council Meeting
May 31	Bed Brigade: 9-11:30am, lunch together afterwards @ Grove City
June 8	Day of Pentecost/ Affirmation of Faith
June 9	8am-noon Nationwide Children’s Buddy Camp begins Monday through Thursday, until July 17: Aims to provide opportunities to practice social skills in a group setting with same-age peer models
June 14, July 12, August 16, September 27	9am-noon: Grace Tent at the Farmer’s Market (Volunteers can sign up at the Welcome Desk and on SignUp at https://signup.com/go/hameejX)
June 29	TBA (likely 7pm) Crew Game vs. Philadelphia (watch for ticket sign-up after April 20)
July 20-24	5:30-8pm: Vacation Bible School “True North: Trusting in Jesus in a Wild World.”
Sept. 7	4-6pm: Rally Day Picnic
Sept. 28	CROP Hunter Walk @ Scioto Audubon Metro Park

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



New Logo—New Chapter in our Life and Ministry!

You should be noticing our newly redesigned Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church logo popping up in publicity, print materials and Grace "swag!"

Our previous logo was designed by member Michael Braatz, related to past fund-raising/stewardship appeals. That logo highlighted the cross in the front of our sanctuary and stylized rays, suggesting our beautiful stained glass window, although not readily recognizable. Because we are in a new chapter of our life and ministry, it seemed a good time to update our logo taking it a step further! Digital graphics have made it possible to now make the cross and stained glass window more "realistic," with a very clear connection to our actual stained glass window and cross! The updated logo was developed with the help of our new member, Jon Walton, who not only designs logos but

can generate aprons, T-shirts, tablecloths, etc. as we seek to be more intentional in branding, outreach and visibility!

Already, T-shirts with the new logos have been ordered for those who will be serving as Grace Ambassadors, attending the booth at Westerville events. Soon, there will be opportunity for members to order T-shirts, window clings for your car and other materials which create greater visibility in our region!



"A Joyful Noise" Musical Offerings

Is Now The:

"Amazing Grace Concert Series!"

Our Grace Lutheran Church music outreach team met Tuesday, March 25, and planned music opportunities to be offered to our community and congregation throughout 2025! The next concert will be a Church Music Festival, May 18, 3:30 PM, featuring our choirs and musicians!

Why the name change? Many are aware another Lutheran congregation in the area has begun having "Joyful Noise" concerts. As we want to reduce confusion, it seems logical to rebrand our concert series, especially including the name of our congregation in the title, hence,

"Amazing Grace Concert Series!"

Musical offerings are now planned through 2025 and will be published in the near future!

Our music outreach team consists of Julie Hotchkiss, Pr. Emeritus Will Hartfelder, Linda Hoch, Helen Kang and Pastor Wendel.

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

- May 31– Bed Brigade 9-11:30am, lunch together afterwards
- June 21- Westerville Golf Center for Miniature Golf
- June 29– Columbus Crew Game (watch for sign-up after April 20)
- July 20-24- Vacation Bible School (Registration begins April 20)
- August 9 – PINS Mechanical 2-4pm
- Sept. 7– Rally Day Picnic 4:00 to 6:00pm.



No Sunday School Easter Sunday.

The Women's Bible Study is studying "Psalms, Prayers of the Heart" by Eugene Peterson. This is a twelve week study, which began March 12 focusing on a variety of the Psalms. We will be discussing how the Psalms are both poetry and prayer. If interested email Molly at m.king@grace43081.org.

The Monday Night Bible Study will Resume Monday, April 28, 6:30 PM! "Without the Shedding of Blood, there is no forgiveness of sins!" Hebrews: 9:22 With the warmer weather and the longer days, we will resume Monday evening Bible study with a chapter by chapter, verse by verse study of Hebrews. One of the most difficult concepts to grasp is the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Why did Jesus die? Why was that part of God's plan for the salvation of sinful humanity? In what way is Jesus both the High Priest and the sacrificial Lamb of God? The book of Hebrews delves deeply into these topics, leading to a meaningful understanding of Christian worship! Sign-up at the Welcome Desk! See Pastor Wendel if you have questions!

Adult Bible Study – For the Health of the Nation - Beginning on March 16 the adult class will look at how Scripture can help us navigate the complex social issues facing the United States. In this eight-session series, Dr. Walter Kim, president of the National Association of Evangelicals, gathers a team of pastors and leaders to investigate what the Bible says about topics that dominate conversations in our culture: basic human rights, just peace, religious freedom, creation care, justice in issues of race and poverty, and prioritizing life and family. This team will explore how we can live out biblical values in tangible, practical ways that honor God and show love to our neighbors. Join the adult class every Sunday in the fellowship hall at 9:45am. The class is facilitated by Bill Kulju.



Men of Grace will not meet on April 19th due to the proximity of Easter Sunday. MOG will resume on May 17th for the 5th session of the study titled "[Bible Backroads: The Gospel of Luke](#)," a 6 session introduction to the Gospel of Luke. Pastor Wendel facilitates the study. All men are invited for breakfast, study and fellowship, beginning at 8 am.



When you are making plans for summer fun, don't forget to pencil in **Vacation Bible School at Grace, July 20-24, 2025 5:30-8pm**, as we explore **True North: Trusting in Jesus in a Wild World**. Registration opens at noon TODAY! You can register by scanning the QR code or on the website: <https://vbspro.events/p/glc25>
Questions: Molly King, Director of Youth and Family



SAVE The DATE: Joyful Voices Children/Youth Choral Camp, July 28-August 1, 5-8 PM



We are excited to announce "Joyful Voices Children/Youth Choral Camp for children and teens in our congregation and community! Dr. Helen Kang will lead a choral camp for those entering grades 3 through 12, 5-8 PM, Monday, July 28 through Friday, August 1. Singers will then offer a capstone concert Sunday, August 3, 3 PM at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 100 E. Schrock Rd, Westerville, OH!

Children and teens have an innate joy and creativity often expressed by singing. Studies show music offers a multitude of benefits, including improved language skills, enhanced memory, healthy emotional development and increased self-confidence—and it's fun!

This choral camp will provide participants with an opportunity to appreciate and develop a lifelong love of music and singing, with the added benefit of belonging to a like-minded group.

Children and teens who would like to build self-esteem, personal discipline, and artistic development through the universal language of music are invited to participate. Together, participants will create a fun, exciting environment where creativity thrives, varied voices come together in song and everyone has an opportunity to grow. Come join in making music that inspires while connecting children and teens from all walks of life!

Cost of registration is \$25 for the first participant and \$15 for each additional participant from the same family. Registration fee will include a camp T-Shirt. Registration information coming soon to www.grace43081.org. Questions or desire more information? Contact Dr. Helen Kang, h.kang@grace43081.org.



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!



Ruth Circle will meet on Monday, May 12, at 1:00 in Rose Garden Room #1. Please join us!

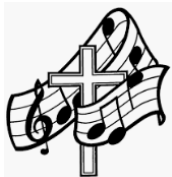
Katharine Circle meets on Monday, May 5 at 1 pm at church. We will continue our study on Ecclesiastes with Session 7, *The Shadow of Death*. Jan Breen leads this session. New members always welcome! Contact Dorothy Crain with questions.

Grace Sisterhood will meet at 7pm, Tuesday, May 13, at the Napa Kitchen, 925 N State St, Westerville. Over the next month, please work through the first unit of "Stronger than Stress: Developing 10 Spiritual Practices to Win the Battle of Overwhelm" by Barb Roose. All younger/working women of the church are invited and encouraged to attend! The book can be ordered on Amazon. Let Melissa Hodek know if you would like to be on the Sisterhood email list where we will be chatting about week 2: day 2, 3, and 4.



The next Band of Brothers gathering for younger men/working men will be Thursday, May 8, 6:30 PM at the home of Pastor Wendel, 6943 Clear Bend Lane, Delaware. We will continue discussion of C. S. Lewis' book *The Screwtape Letters*. Each month, new men show up, so don't be hesitant! All men are warmly welcomed!

Members of the congregation are invited to attend the Handbell Musicians of America Area 5 Spring Ring Concert held Saturday April 26 at 5pm. Concert location is the Union Station Ballroom at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 North High Street, Columbus OH 43215. This free concert will include 650 handbell ringers from 5 states, including several members of Grace Ringers. **We are looking forward to a weekend of ringing, learning, fellowship, and fun!**



Grace Chancel Choir meets at 7:00pm on Wednesdays! All are welcome! Contact Helen Kang.

Grace Ringers Bell Choir: Contact Maria Laderman.

OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENTS



WANTED: OLD BUT USABLE BATH TOWELS
Beginning April 1 we are collecting full size bath towels for the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Old towels are needed to support their wildlife patients. No towels are accepted with strings or holes as they become an injury risk. We will be accepting them till **April 20th**. Any questions see Molly King.



Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is Tuesday, May 13 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.

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



WARM!

tithes and offerings.

April Most Needed list: Cereal; Cooking Oil; Decaf Coffee; Dishwasher Detergent; JELLO/Pudding mixes; Pasta Sides; Potato Sides; Sloppy Joe/Manwich; Soft Soap; and Toilet Paper and Paper Towels. *We cannot accept food that has reached its expiration date. Any fresh produce, baked goods and dairy products take directly to Westerville Area Resource Ministry (WARM). Make Checks Payable to: Grace Lutheran Church, memo notation for WARM. Blessings to all who are making this a part of your regular*



Lenten Food Drive Special Collection: 310 lbs.
MONTHLY FOOD/HYGIENE=519 lbs.; YEAR TO DATE TOTAL FOOD/HYGIENE=1,283 lbs.
MONTHLY MONETARY= \$1,560.00; YEAR TO DATE TOTAL MONETARY= \$3,485

WARM Lenten food collection. The Lenten food collection (a new request from WARM this year because of their increased need at the food pantry) was a huge success! The items requested by WARM were different than their annual Thanksgiving food drive and their holiday food drive; they are based upon a need now in their warehouse! We collected and delivered over 310 pounds of food and household supplies to WARM the day after the drive, April 14.

WHP/WARM collaboration to build the second home at WARM. This August 15 and



16 will be very special days for Westerville Habitat Partnership and WARM. These two missions that are so well supported by Grace Lutheran are teamed up to build another home! Friday evening the skilled volunteers will carry, measure, and cut the lumber and then on Saturday morning (between 7:30 a.m. and Noon) the remaining volunteers will assemble

and nail the sections of walls for another home! WHP has participated financially in supporting building over 80 homes to date!



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.



NALC Disaster Response and Stuff the Truck

There is always a need for bibles, blankets, health kits, kitchen kits, and cleaning buckets at the NALC Disaster Response warehouse in Caldwell, Ohio. This past year the Caldwell location collected and delivered much-needed items to North Carolina, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Texas, and even organized deliveries to California after the fires. ***Grace will be collecting items for its annual Stuff the Truck the last week of June and the first week of July.*** Supply kit lists will be posted in the narthex and on Grace's website, bulletin, and The Voice so that you will know what we need to deliver to the warehouse. You can learn more about NALC Disaster Response in their updates on thenalc.org.

NALC Disaster Response offering Spiritual Care training: NALC Disaster Response is offering spiritual care training for any of us who would like to visit disaster sites with the Disaster Response team specifically to meet, greet, and pray with people who are affected by disasters. This is a good way to give to people in need that does not require physical strength or agility; it requires spiritual strength. The class is offered online on NALC's website, thenalc.org



Intercessory Prayer Team



Intercessors are PERSISTANT

By Donna Dettmann

Intercessory prayer does not give up.

- It endures all setbacks and over-comes obstacles.
- It's prayer that "presses on" to attain God's will in whatever situation you are facing.
- Prayer is the key to finding break-throughs in the lives of those around you.

Jesus said: *"For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks the door will be opened."* Luke 11:10 (NLT).

Those words mean to keep on asking, keep on seeking, keep on knocking. In God's time your persistence in asking for prayer will reap a spiritual harvest in your life and the lives of those around you.

How to make your prayer request:

1. The Prayer Chest at the back of the church - on a table with prayer request forms and pens.
2. Use the Grace website. You can use it from your home, office - anywhere you like: Grace website: grace43081.org. The link for "Prayer

Request” is found on the top right-hand side of the first page. Your name is optional. Members are sent prayer requests to pray daily for 2 weeks • If you would like more prayer after the 2 weeks, please fill out another prayer request in the prayer chest or on the website.

Let the IPT join you in prayer, asking God for your need.



Save the DATE: **Sunday, September 28 at Scioto Audubon Metro Park** for the 2025 Central Ohio CROP Hunger Walk!

HOSPITALITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



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. Sign up for flowers at the Welcome Desk. 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. The Euchre group will meet Monday, April 28 at 1:00. We are hoping for a couple more players to make the third table. The May date will be Monday the 19th.



The Lunch Club

(6th Grade through High School)

Y&F Lunch Group will be meeting in May. Watch for the date coming soon. The plan is to meet at Smashburger. Everyone 6th thru H.S. invited with their families.



Easter Sunday Fellowship Between Services

Looking ahead to Easter Sunday, there will be fellowship provided between services, with pastries, sweet breads, coffee, tea and juices! Realizing many households and families plan special Easter brunches/lunches, it seems more convenient for worshipers to have hand-held refreshments and drinks, rather than a full breakfast! A free-will offering will be taken to cover the cost.

Grace Ambassadors: We are happy to report that over 18 volunteers have signed up to represent Grace at community-wide events beginning this summer at Westerville's Farmers' Market. The market will be on the property of North High Brewing (behind CoHatch), and Grace will be present on June 14, July 12, August 16, and September 27. We have a new tent and will set it up along with a table and chairs. We will have a child-friendly activity each morning, with themes based on Vacation Bible School invitations, art glass similar to the beautiful stained glass in our sanctuary, a Back to school Rally Day theme, and Trunk or Treat! We will help the children with their activities and will give materials to their adults, inviting them to join us for these activities as well as Amazing Grace concerts. We are looking for additional opportunities to be out in the community with our set up!



2025 Annual Westerville Community Prayer Breakfast



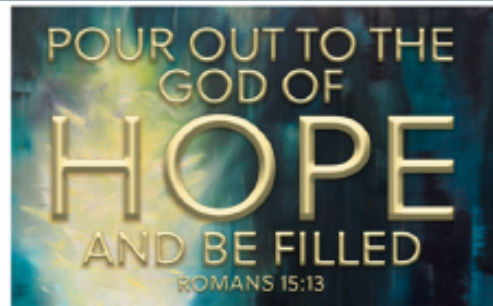
Thursday, May 1st
National Day of Prayer

7:00 - 8:30 am

Doors open at 6:30 am

The Medallion Club
5000 Club Drive Westerville, OH 43082

RSVP by April 17
Tickets: \$40 per person



Keynote Speaker:

Rachel Muha

Founder of The Brian
Muha Foundation and
The Run The Race Club

Join WARM for breakfast on Thursday, May 1, 2025, as we come together to observe and celebrate the National Day of Prayer. Together, we'll lift up our community and nation in Christian love, prayer and unity. The keynote speaker, Rachel Muha, will share a message about forgiveness and faith that came after the murder of her college-aged son and how it inspired her to start her nonprofit, The Brian Muha Foundation and the Run the Race Club.

Additionally, learn more about the mission of WARM and discover how you can help support our neighbors in need. Grace's sponsorship, along with corporate and individual sponsorships, provide a hand up, not a handout.

For more details about this event, see Joanne Figge.

We look forward to this community event.



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church has been serving the Westerville community for more than 115 years, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity, and Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and provides weekly meeting space for five AA groups.

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.

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

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