



APRIL 2024





They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!"

John 12:13

"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." 1 Peter 2:24





w.grace48081.org

HOLY WEEK





I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

John 13:15,16

"You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, Who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee'. Mark 16:6,7







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.





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

Grace Lutheran has been serving the Westerville community for more than 115 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

David Wendel, Pastor d.wendel@grace43081.org 719-650-8171

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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.

Treasurer's Report - from Melissa Hodek, Treasurer

Year to date receipts and disbursements.

	FEBRU/	ARY 2024	YTD	YTD 2024		
	Budget	Actuals	Budget	Actuals		
Receipts	\$46,667	\$ 53,524	\$93,333	\$ 96,287		
Disbursements:	\$51,404	\$52,323	\$ 102,808	\$ 104,841		
	\$ (4,738)	\$ 1,201	\$ (9,475	\$ (8,554))		

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

Treasurer's

Worship Services

Holy Communion

EVERY Sunday Morning

Two Worship Services: 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School

Youth Sunday School classes K-6 9:30 to 10:45 upstairs in Sunday School Room.

Confirmation

9:45 to 10:45 upstairs Sunday School Room

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

Service Recording:

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

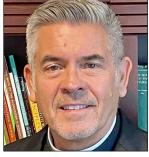
Loaves and Fishes Café

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

Page 2 The VOICE of GRACE

Notes from the Pastor's Desk In the Psalm 29, David writes, "Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness."

After just beginning our ministry together at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, I shared a few comments about why we do what we do in Lutheran worship. I was surprised, yet not surprised by the



Rev. Dr. David Wendel

response! My years of experience have taught me that Lutherans truly appreciate having a deeper understanding of worship within the Lutheran tradition, although we pastors haven't done a good job of teaching it! I mentioned at that time that I would be offering a six-week discussion session on "Lutheran Worship; Why We Do What We Do!" I will begin this brief course on Monday, April 8, 6:30 PM at the church. We will cover such topics as "What is worship?" "What is 'liturgy'?" "What is 'ritual'?" "How and when did our current form of worship come into being?" "Why does Lutheran worship look so "catholic?" "What is 'adiaphora' and why does it matter?" "And for that matter, why does 'matter'—matter?" And then, we will discuss the means of grace; the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Meal; the different parts of the service, from the rite of confession and forgiveness and the Entrance Rite to the Benediction and the Sending Rite and everything in-between! We will use the booklet I wrote in Colorado Springs, "The Sunday Liturgy of the Lutheran Church" as our guide, with lots of time for questions, answers and interesting discussion! I enjoy teaching about worship as much as folks ("old" Lutherans and "new" Lutherans alike) seem to enjoy learning about the history, theology and rationale behind our worship life together. Please sign up in the Welcome Center at the church or call the office to indicate you will participate, so we know how small or large a room we need! If you have questions, feel free to call, text or email me, 719-650-8171 (cell) or d.wendel@ grace43081.org.

Grace Lutheran Church's Mission Fund at work!

In response to the NALC Disaster Response's call for assistance after the recent central Ohio tornados, the GELC council approved sending \$5000 immediately, directly to NALC Disaster

Response to assist those whose primary residences were impacted. There are pressing needs for those at Indian Lake, just NW of Columbus—some of whom are members of NALC congregations in Jackson Center, Marysville and other locations! Also needed are Walmart gift cards in any amount! This allows the greatest flexibility for our Disaster Response team to provide immediate and easily accessible assistance to those in need. Simply purchase a Walmart gift card, indicate the amount on the card and place the card in an envelope with YOUR name clearly printed on the envelope. This facilitates our financial office being able to record this as a tax-deductible donation. While we have a heart for all in our world who are in need, it is especially meaningful to be able to respond to disasters in our own "backyard!"

Calling All Men of Grace Lutheran Church!

After an engaging and fruitful Saturday men's breakfast in March, we will now offer two different monthly men's gatherings. Saturday Men of Grace Bible Study will meet at 8 AM April 20th, continuing the study on the biblical book of Judges. Pastor Wendel will lead the study and all men of Grace are welcome! Thursday, April 11th, 6:30 PM, Pastor Wendel is hosting a gathering he's calling, "Band of Brothers," oriented towards younger men/working men who would like to meet, have a drink and discuss matters related to our faith, family, challenges and difficulties in our current secular culture and other topics raised by the men. The first gathering will happen at Wendell's Pub (no relation to Pastor Wendel!) 925 N. State Street, Westerville.

Pastoral Visitations

I have passed the 76 visit mark! I anticipate four more months to visit with each household!

Holden Evening Prayer, Thursday, April 25, 6:30 PM

All are invited to continue the beloved Holden Evening Prayer in a monthly observance of a saint's day or lesser commemoration! In April, we will observe the day of Saint Mark, Evangelist on Thursday, the 25th at 6:30 PM. It will be 30 minutes or less, followed by Worship and Music Team meeting at 7 PM.



Calling all visitors and those considering membership at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church! We will be receiving new members Sunday, May 5, at both services! A New Member Class will be offered with two sessions Sunday, April 28 at 9:30 am during the Sunday School hour and the second session the same day after the 11 am service. A light lunch will be provided in the Loaves and Fishes fellowship area, followed by the session in the Sanctuary. The class will be led by Pastor David Wendel and facilitated by Vanessa Stewart. If you have questions regarding Grace Lutheran Church or membership, please

contact Pastor Wendel, d.wendel@grace43081, or by phone or text 719-650-8171.

Those wishing to participate in the new member class and planning to join in membership, please register at www.grace43081.org or call the office at 614-882-3026, email at office@grace43081.org.

Mission Funds Available

Members may request grants from the Mission Fund to be used to support the mission and ministries of Grace. Request applications are available in the office and must be returned to Council before April 1, Aug. 1 or Dec. 1 each year to be considered for that cycle's approval. Council, (with the help of the Ministry and Committee leads) will prioritize and approve funding on a rolling basis. If you have questions, reach out to any member of council.



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.



Scuba VBS Registration is now OPEN! Monday, June 10 to Thursday, June 13,

Vacation Bible School Donation Requests:

The VBS donation board is up in the Gathering Space. Check back each week as items are added leading up to VBS.

- Items from the board will be used to prepare for the first 'Creation Day' on April 7th. We will dive head first into creating a memorable VBS, immersing youngsters in the Word and discovering what living water is really all about.
- Sign up to help with the April 7th Creation Day at the Welcome Desk. LUNCH PROVIDED.

Chris Banks has created a cool VBS commercial for the Display TV behind the Welcome Desk. Check it out.

HELP WANTED NEEDED!

THE SECRET TO THE PAST SUCCESSES WE HAVE EXPERIENCED IN OUR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HAS ALWAYS BEEN OUR VOLUNTEERS -

ADULTS AND OLDER TEENS THAT CAN RELATE TO THE YOUNGSTERS ATTENDING.

- <u>Crew Leaders:</u> Elementary—An integral part of VBS, leading kids through VBS each day. (10 adults needed)
- <u>Crew Leaders:</u> Preschoolers— An integral part of VBS, leading kids through VBS each day. (5 adults needed)
- <u>Assistant Leaders</u>: Rising 6th graders thru adults to assist Crew Leaders and Station Leaders (15 volunteers needed)

VBS IS A GREAT CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY FOR OUR CHILDREN AND AN IMPORTANT COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR GRACE LUTHERAN.

Sign up in the Gathering Space or Call Sarah Odum in the Grace office. 614-882-3026



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Youth and Family Event with the Columbus Crew APRIL 21, 3 p.m.

Come join us for Faith and Family Night with the Columbus Crew. The game is with Crew 2 and played in the Historic Crew stadium. Crew 1 will not be having Faith and Family Night this year because tickets are sold out for the home games.



Columbus Crew 2 is a professional soccer team that competes in the MLS Next Pro league, the third division of American soccer. The team is owned by, and operates as the reserve team of the Major League Soccer club Columbus Crew.

If you are interested you can sign up at the Welcome Center. All are welcome to join us as we cheer on the Columbus Crew 2 for

Faith and Family day, April 21 at 3pm. Tickets are \$12. Sign-up at the welcome desk by April 7. Please let Molly King know if you have any questions.

Health Care Safety Net Project Blessing Bags for

Mt. Carmel Street Medicine team Due April 7th.

The Sunday School classes are making Blessing Bags for the Mt. Carmel Street Medicine team. The collection is now till Sunday, April 7th. The children will be putting together the Blessing bags and making encouragement cards on the following Sunday, April 14th. The items being collected are:

Wet Wipes, Individually wrapped toothbrushes, tooth paste, bar of soap and washcloth and hand sanitizer.

Your donations are vital and appreciated.

Any questions see Molly or email at m.king@grace43081.org.

Spring Graduate Recognition



Each year, during the month of May, our high school and college graduates are recognized at a Sunday Service. We also highlight those young people in the *June Voice of Grace*.

We request that you send

a photo and brief bio of your sons, daughters and grandchildren, including the school they are graduating from, their activities and their plans for the future. Thanks so much and congratulations to you and your graduate(s).

Jeanice Alexander Turns Quiet Books Over to Stitchers After 19 Years

The Grace Stitchers met March 14th and prepared another 32 fleece blanket kits for the Grace youth to complete and donate to **My Very Own Blanket** charity. We also discussed an opportunity for us to serve young families in the congregation, by taking over the care and repair of the beloved Quiet Books available to children during services.

Stitchers - and we

The Quiet Book Ministry has been a ministry of joy for Jeanice Alexander for the last 19 years! She was involved with a group of Grace ladies that constructed the 11 Quiet Books and has made it her ministry to maintain them. At this time, Jeanice is needing to pass on these beloved books to the care of the Grace



Jeanice Alexander

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count it a privilege to carry on this ministry! We are planning to spend our April 23rd, 1-3 pm meeting in Rose Garden 2 focused on examining the 11 books and becoming familiar with them and all the supplies and notions Jeanice gave us to maintain them.

Please join us if you are interested in helping with this ministry or in others that the Grace Stitchers are active in - no

RSVP needed! Check out our Little Dresses for Africa closet in the gathering space and share the happiness they will bring to these little girls! Questions regarding the Grace Stitchers? Please call or email Vanessa Stewart 614-588-2712, vschpn55@gmail.com.



Yarn Matters

YARN MATTERS

Yarn matters will meet April 23rd at 6:30 in Rose Garden 1. We will be sharing patterns for vacation bible

school decorations and having fellowship together. Please join us to learn or just to chat! For more information contact Jodie Arrequin at 614-946-3344.



LENTEN RICE BOWLS

Thank you to those who filled rice bowls during this Lenten season. We are donating \$500 to the Rice Bowl organization. The mission of this organization is that the money collected in the Rice Bowls provides much-needed healthy meals to orphaned children in great need by partnering with some incredible children's homes around the world.





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

Music Notes

Grace Chancel Choir rehearsals are 7:00 - 8:15 PM on Wednesdays. Contact Jeff Daubenmire with questions or interest in singing.

Grace Youth Choir rehearsals are Sundays 9:30 - 9:45 AM

SS and Youth Choir combined.

Contact Jeff Daubenmire. Director of Music Ministries.

<u>Grace Ringers Bell Choir rehearsals</u> are Wednesdays, 6:15 - 7 PM. Contact Maria Laderman with questions or interest in ringing.



A Joyful Noise!

On Sunday, March 3, at 12:30 pm A Joyful Noise! Community Concert series was proud to present singing sensation Nick Cosgrove at

Grace. Following up on an amazing November performance where Nick debuted his Christmas album, this concert featured a selection of inspirational and spiritual songs.

Mr. Cosgrove also offered musical selections during the March 3rd Worship Services.

3rd Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024 PRELUDE

"Be Thou My Vision" "Give Me Jesus" Nick Cosgrove, vocalist

MUSICAL OFFERING

"How Great Thou Art" Nick Cosgrove, vocalist

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Panis Angelicus Nick Cosgrove, vocalist

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on "God of Grace" Jeff Daubenmire, organ



5th Sunday in Lent March 17, 2024 PRELUDE

"Interlude on St. Flavian" "Glory Be to Jesus" Linda Hoch, Organ

MUSICAL OFFERING

8:15 "The Shepherd's Complaint" - Robin Buser-Piano 11:00 "The Lord Is My Shepherd" Grace Singers Chancel Choir and Barbara Milone, Oboe



(Selections from "Songs of the Shepherd") Robin Buser, Piano

POSTLUDE

"Verses from the Te Deum" Linda Hoch, Organ



Palm/Passion Sunday March 24, 2024 PRELUDE

"Partita on All, Glory, Laud, and Honor" Linda Hoch, Organ
CHORAL INTROIT

"Blessed is He Who Cometh" Grace Singers Chancel Choir COMMUNION MUSIC

"O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile"

Martha Crist - Piano, Linda Hoch - Organ

"Meditation" "Wondrous Love" Martha Crist - Piano

POSTLUDE

"Choral Postlude on Go to Dark Gethsemane" Linda Hoch, Organ



4th Sunday in Lent March 10, 2024 PRELUDE

"Freu dich sehr, o meine Seele" "Prelude on Rockingham" Linda Hoch, organ

MUSICAL OFFERING

8:15 "The Lord Is My Shepherd" Grace Singers Chancel Choir

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Nearer, My God, to Thee" Linda Hoch and Martha Crist - Piano Duet

POSTLUDE"Lift High the Cross" Linda Hoch, organ

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Music Notes from Holy Week



Good Friday Liturgy

Service of Tenebrae/ Stations of the Cross March 29, 2024

Special Music (Introduction) and Hymn:

"Jesus, In Thy Dying Woes" Larry Seifert, Piano

Resurrection of Our Lord March 31, 2024 PRELUDE

"Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"
"Thine Is the Glory"
Brass Quintet and Organ

MUSICAL OFFERING:

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"
Grace Singers Chancel Choir,
Brass Quintet and Timpani,
Linda Hoch - Organ,
Jeff Daubenmire - Piano,
Christopher Hoch - Conductor

COMMUNION MUSIC

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"
-Nick Cosgrove - Vocalist,
Jeff Daubenmire - Piano
"Christ Arose"
Jeff Daubenmire - Piano,
Linda Hoch - Organ
"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty
Days" -

Jeff Daubenmire - Piano, Linda Hoch - Organ

POSTLUDE

"Christ is Risen, Alleluia"
Brass Quintet, Timpani, Organ
- arr. Christopher Hoch





Grace Singers Chancel Choir



BRASS QUINTET and TIMPANI

Benny Hoch - Timpan, Cam Reinbolt - Tuba,
Zach Irwin - Trombone,
Christopher Hoch - Trombone,
Joel Kellar - Trumpet, Julia Moxley - Trumpet



Jeff Daubenmire - Piano, Linda Hoch - Organ



Nick Cosgrove, Vocalist



ADULT BIBLE STUDIES



SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS (Fellowship Hall)



"That the World May Know" - How do you live in a culture where the world view conflicts with Christianity? Learn from Paul as he presents his beliefs to the most powerful court in Athens and settles among the Greco-Romans of Corinth, among those who valued wealth and class, worshiped

multiple gods, and decadent pleasures above all else. Discover how to live in your own Athens or Corinth - an increasingly secular Western world – in a way that glorifies God.

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" film series will transform your understanding of God and challenge you to be a true follower of Jesus.

Looking forward: "The Seven Mountains" Every nation has seven primary areas of culture, or mountains, that are meant to be the format, or context in which we receive God's ever-increasing Kingdom. They are Media, Family, Arts & Entertainment, Economy, Religion, Education, and Government. How can we, as Christians, effectively impact the areas of culture in which we have influence or a passion for? Join the class for a study on the "Seven Mountains" beginning on April 28 at 9:45 in the fellowship Bill Kulju facilitates the class.



Men of Grace (Loaves and Fishes Cafe) The men of Grace met on March 16 to discuss future plans for the group.

Led by Pastor Wendel, the group first wrestled with the question of "Would you be willing to die for your faith?",

and "What else would you be willing to die for?". The questions prompted deep and meaningful discussion.

Pastor Wendel has announced plans for two meetings in April. The first will be held at Wendell's Pub on N. State St. on Thursday, April 11. This meeting will be oriented to younger men/working men. The second will be the regular meeting time - third Saturday of the month at 8 p.m. (continue the study of Judges). For details, see the Pastors Messages on Page 2 of this issue of the Voice of Grace.



KATHARINE CIRCLE (Rose Garden 2&3)

Katharine Circle met Monday, April 1 and continued their study from "God's Reluctant Leader." Juanita Martin lead the session 8 on "Miraculous Power.

Katharine Circle will meet again on May 6 for Session 9, "Members of the Body". The leader for this session is Sue Mahrt. .All women are invited to join us. Please contact Dorothy

Crain with any questions - 614-264-5304.

THE WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

(Fellowship Hall)

Our Bible study, which began on January 10, 2024, is from RightNow-Media. We are studying The Gospel of John: Part 1 by Dr. Tony Evans. Description: Where do you turn when the world around you grows dark? In this study of the Gospel of John, Dr. Evans encourages us to turn to Christ by reminding us of the two



purposes for this beloved disciples book- that we would believe in Jesus and find life in his name. Despite what our culture may argue, there is only one hope that is truly trustworthy and that is our Savior, Jesus Christ. If you don't already have a RightNow Media account contact Molly King, m.king@grace43081.org. The women's Bible study meets in Fellowship Hall every Wednesday Morning at 10:30 a.m. Contact Molly King with gueries.

RUTH CIRCLE (Rose Garden 1)

Ruth Circle will meet on Monday, April 8th, at 1:00 p.m. in Rose



Garden Room #1. We will be studying Lesson 4, "Respect for the Name" in our study guide on The Ten Commandments. Jan Perry will lead the lesson and Marge Zimmermann will provide light refreshments. We hope you will join us, For more information please call Doro-

tha Fuhrman at 614-205-8111.



GRACE'S VIDEO LIBRARY CONTAINS OVER 10,000 TITLES

Bible studies, lead-

ership 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.

The VOICE of GRACE Page 8



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

2024 RECEIPTS FOR WARM

Blessings to all who are making WARM a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

from Debbie Yoho, Financial Manager

WARM receipts since last month's report total \$1,015. Year-to-date WARM giving (not including the Souper Bowl) comes to \$3,115. The Food/Hygiene donations for the same period = 33 LBS. and year-to-date, 448 LBS. The folks who benefit from WARM truly thank you.

No need for a separate check when you donate; just indicate on your giving envelope how much you want to go to WARM.

If you have questions about Grace's First Fruits Ministry, contact

(financial) Debbie Yoho, d.yoho@grace43081.org 614-882-3026 (food/hygiene) Karen Bale, bale.karen@gmail.com 614-506-3331

Volunteers at Warehouse Needed

WARM is in need of more volunteers in their warehouse, particularly Order Fulfillment. They have a school for it! If you are interested please contact Julie at julia@warmwesterville.org.

Annual Prayer Breakfast in May

Tickets are now on sale for WARM's annual Prayer Breakfast (please see below). Please join us on Thursday, May 2nd at 7:00 am at Medallion Country Club as we Lift up the Word - Light up the World, featuring keynote speaker NBC4's Jennifer Bullock. See Joanne Figge for details.



To Thrivent members who have designated Grace as your Choice

Dollars recipient--we have received \$1,976 so far this year because of you! Thank you!

PLANTING A GARDEN THIS SUMMER? Touch up your green thumb and help W.A.R.M. with your garden skills.

Here is a chance to grow vegetables in your garden for Wester-ville residents who have food anxiety and need nutritious food to enjoy? Your extra produce may be donated and be a big help the clients of W.A.R.M.

If interested, contact Joanne Figge (614-207-1061) or Karen Bale (614-506-3331) to discuss timing and delivery procedures.

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.

Cut out and collect these items for the APRIL First Fruits

Grocery Carts

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

Mustard, BBQ Sauce

Jello/Pudding Mixes – Sugar Free and Regular Juices – Apple, Cranberry, Grape, Tomato

Soup – Bean or Tomato Tomato Paste or Sauce

Green Beans, Corn **LOW SALT ONLY**

Cereal

Kids Diapers – sizes 4, 5, 6 Hand/Soft soap Fabric Softener

Place **ONLY** <u>non-perishable items</u> 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.

Columbarium Niches Now Available



The new monuments for the Grace Columbarium expansion have been installed and are awaiting landscaping and yardscaping. The niches are available for members to purchase. Information packets are available on the south table at the entrance to the sanctuary and at the welcome desk. Please contact Jon Sweet, Facilities Manager, facility@grace43081.org (614-882-3026) in the church office with any questions.

Welcome to Dale Stanley, Pastoral Intern

The Central Pacific Mission District (CPMD) of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC), which serves Northern California and Northern Nevada, recently awarded two scholarships for students pursuing their pastoral formation at the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS). Dale Stanley was one of those students.

Dale has moved his wife and four children to the Seminary Center located at Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania (a suburb of Pittsburgh). There he will complete his formation.

Part of his preparation for ministry is internship work, which he is doing at St. John's in Grove City under the direction of Pr. Patti Morlock. He spent two weeks here at Grace in March shadowing Pastor Wendel He preached at Grace on March 17. The following is an article that Dale wrote for the St. John's newsletter in February: (used with permission)

"I think that God loves surprising us. We humans often want stability and level ground as quickly as possible (mainly adults). But I think that God enjoys leading us into places where the road bends and curves so that only the next few steps are visible. It can often be hard to trust Him. But just as we think our nerves can't take any more, the next bend in the path reveals a blessing to which God has been leading us all along.

"The Stanley family has been on a journey—a little like Abraham and Sarah—in which God has led us each step of the way on a winding road full of surprises. Abraham was surprised by God's call and spent years being continually surprised by Him: a baby with Sarah when he was 100, a sacrificial offering—then another offering provided by God, and a promise to bless the whole world through a wandering nomad!



BLOOD DRIVE GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 NOON to 6:00 P.M.

To schedule: visit RedCrossBlood.org, sponsor code: GraceLuthWesterville, or call 1-800-RED CROSS

If you last donated on or before March 19, you may be eligible to give

Presenting donors will be entered in weekly drawings for a 4 person zipline gift certificate from Hocking Hills Canopy Tours!

Race to give April 29-May 19 and get a coupon for free haircut by email, from Sport Clips Haircuts! Plus, chance to win a VIP NASCAR experience to the 2024 NASCAR Cup Series and Xfinity Races at Darlingon Raceway, rcblood.org/win

Questions?
Contact Vanessa Stewart at 614-588-2712 or vschpn55@ gmail.com.



Dale Stanley, Pastoral Intern

"My wife, Rosalind, and I have been married for 14 years. Rosalind grew up Jewish in New England. I grew up a Methodist in the South. But God brought us together auditioning for a Shakespeare play in college. He also brought Rosalind to Christ in a small Southern Baptist church on the beautiful coast of Maine, and both of us into the Lutheran tradition. God loves surprising us.

"Rosalind and I have four wonderful kids: Ivria "Evie", Miles, Liat, and Devar. Each one keeps growing faster than we can keep up with. Rosalind and I have watched them be baptized, play sports (Miles), read every book they can reach (Evie), do feats of acrobatic skill in the living room (Devar), and have a magic touch with animals (Liat). We thought our kids would spend the rest of their childhoods in Virginia, but God

loves surprising us.

"I spent over ten years avoiding a call to ordained ministry. I tried other areas of ministry, other jobs, and even tried to become a therapist. I was selling used cars when the call to the pastorate became too much for me to ignore. God loves surprising us. So, Roz and I plotted out the next few years: we would both work part-time and I would take classes online. But neither of us could find part-time work that suited our needs. That was a big issue with four little ones running around the house. Then, on a whim Roz applied to one job in Pittsburgh near the seminary—and next thing we knew, the six of us were making a life in Ambridge, PA while I attended school and Rosalind worked as a writer. God loves surprising us. Who could have imagined that He would create a universe with such care through His Word. Who could have imagined that He would populate a planet with two-legged creatures with which He shares His love and image.

"Who could have imagined that He would give those creatures the freedom to choose Him (or not). And who could have imagined that this God would send His beloved Son as a poor, wandering rabbi in the rough Galilean countryside to save us and bring us back to Him when we go astray. And who could imagine that God uses people like us (my family and I, in particular) to spread the news of His love, forgiveness, and eternal plans for us? Certainly not me! God loves surprising us."

- In Christ, Dale Stanley, Pastoral Intern

Scan to Simply Give

This QR code connects you to the mobile version of Grace's on-line 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.

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REPORTS FROM OUR SERVICE PERSONNEL

MSG Rick Arreguin returned safely home to his family on March 20th! Jodie and Rick were able to surprise the kids at school and have been spending time together and acclimating back to normal routines. Rick, Jodie, Miguel and Alaina would like to thank everyone for the prayers and loads of support given to our family while Rick was away these past 10 months.



Continue to pray for all our military personnel and first responders.

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.

Flowers for our Worship Space

from Susan Mahrt

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 or call the office.



Grace Supper Club had a wonderful evening at Villa Nova Ristorante last month. For April, we have a reservation at Cap City Fine Diner and Bar on Thursday, April 18

at 6:15 p.m. Cap City is located at <u>6644 Riverside Drive</u>, <u>DUBLIN 43017</u>. A sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center Desk. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND! Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Any questions, please contact either Bev Grubb - mgrubb1148@gmail.com or Tami Stone - stone8059@sbcglobal.net.



The highlights of the March Council meeting are as follows:

- The highlights of March Council meeting are as follows:
- Sue Mahrt gave a report to council on both the Worship and Music team and the Art and Environment team and their current activities
- Council continues to plan a weekend retreat in April to focus on goals of the church.
- There will be an Easter Breakfast taking place between the two services on Easter Sunday.
- Council approved a request for \$1500 from the Mission Fund to help cover the costs of another Aspire Women's event to take place in October.
- Council approved a maximum of \$10,000 from the Mission Fund to help sponsor the 3 Cords Rally taking place in Westerville on May 31.
- Council received a request from the NALC Disaster Relief to specifically help some NALC members that were directly affected by the tornado near Indian Lake.
- Council approved an amount of \$5,000 from the Mission Endowment Fund to be given to help these families.

For the month of February receipts exceeded expenses by \$1,201. For the year, expenses exceeded receipts by \$8,554.

- Respectfully submitted by Tami Banks, Secretary



Intercessory Prayer Team

from Donna Dettman, donnadett@aol.com

How can we pray for you?

- .The funeral, when everyone has left and your emotions held at bay come crashing in.
- .The email announcing a new round of layoffs appears in your inbox.
- .The Doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing else we can do."
- After the baby comes home, demanding more than was ever imagined possible.

The Grace Church IPT is here to pray for any need you have. Confidentiality of your prayer request is very important to the intercessors. Each prayer request is prayed every day for 2 weeks by the IPT. If you would like more prayer time just fill out another request form.

Ways to ask for prayer. Your name is optional.

- Prayer Chest pens and request forms are at the back of the church.
- Use the Grace website: grace43081.org the link is found on the first page, top right side, "Prayer Request".

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



Monday, April 1 April Fools' Day



Monday, April 15 Tax Dav





Monday, April 22 Earth Day



Friday, April 26 Arbor Day

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS



Joyce Strung, Mary Ross, John Hicks,
Bryce Meneley, Evelyn Boughton, Betty Lou Miliner,
Grace Sima, Don Slemmer, Jan Perry,
John Moffett, Bob Bower, Janice Hardick,
the family of Carol Schlea

BIRTHDAYS

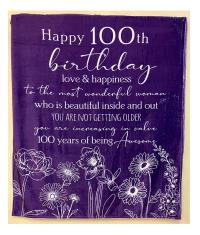
APRIL

2-JAMES CAIN 6-STANLEY ROAN 7-CONNIE HIMES 9-RELLA KEHL 10-KEVIN THUMAN 11-MATTHEW KILE 11-RUDY KOLBERG 11-ANN WOODARD 13-CINDY ODUM 15-MACY BRAATZ 16-NANCY GURGIOLO 17-CHRIS TROUTMAN 20-DONALD REITER 21DOROTHY CRAIN 23-JULIE BRAATZ 25-DYLAN GORGIAS

25-PEGGY KOCH
26-CHRIS BANKS
26-MARIA LADERMAN
26-KYLE LAMB
27-BETHANY NICKOLI
28-PATTI SHILLING
28-JANICE WILL
29-ERNESTINE DIETZ
29-JULIE WELLS
30-KATHRYN SHINABARGAR

MAY

2-JACOB KOTIK 4-OWEN DETEMPLE 7-DOROTHA FUHRMAN 8-JEANICE ALEXANDER 8-GLORIA COCHENOUR





On Saturday, March 9, 2024, Eloise Collier's family held a 100th Birthday celebration at the Harlem

Township Grange Hall in Galena. We thank her family for including all of the Grace family in the invitation to honor her on this special occasion. She is indeed one of a kind. We are so blessed to have Eloise as a beloved member of our Grace church family. On Sunday Morning March 10th, at the 11:00 am service, we had the opportunity to sing "happy birthday" to Eloise.

DEATH

Carol Schlea

Born: February 11, 1934 Died in Christ: March 22, 2024

Do you know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. -Romans 6:3-5

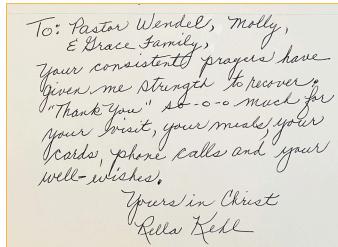
ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL

6-	JOHN & JOYCE KNAPE	56
8-	ROBERT & (LINDA) ANDREWS JR	52
8-	CHUCK & PAULA WASHBURN	63
9-	JOANN & DON SLEMMER	44
14-	TOM & BARB MOSER	4
24-	ADAM & SHANNON CALLANDER	9
28-	GLEN & JEANICE ALEXANDER	6
28-	BOB & BILLIE BOWER	67
MA	Y	
1-	JOANNE & CHRIS FIGGE	43
1-	JEFF & JACKIE WASHBURN	20
2-	ROGER & JULIE WELLS	. 54
8-	PHYLLIS & JOSEPH DRAKULICH	
8-	JOHN & CHRISTINE KOTIK	3
8-	KENNY & CINDY ODUM	48

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NALC Disaster Response Update and Gift Card Request



"Communities from Dallas Texas to Indian Lake Ohio were impacted by a series of storms that produced tornadoes and severe weather across 7 states. Your prayers and support are needed, as NALC Disaster Response is deploying with emergency relief supplies to our congregations and impacted communities. Ohio was hammered by tornadoes March 14 and NALC Disaster Response is deploying to Indian Lake/Russell's Point area in addition to Plymouth Ohio/Huron Co."

- Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response

Council voted and donated \$5,000 to NALC Disaster Response from our Endowment Fund. Mary Bates' husband, Ken, came to the church to collect quilts and various assorted donations including the check.

We are collecting gift cards at this time. Gift cards of all types (Lowes, Home Depot, Menards, Walmart, etc.) Cards can be placed in an envelope marked NALC Disaster Response in the offering or placed in Molly King's mailbox.

The School Kits that we are now collecting include:

School Kit: Elementary

- 1 backpack or duffle bag
- 4 notebooks
- 4 pocket folders
- 1 blunt scissors
- 1 ruler
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 4 pencils
- 2 pens
- 1 eraser
- 1 box of crayons, colored pencils, or markers

School Kit: High School

- 1 backpack or duffle bag
- 4 notebooks
- · 4 pocket folders
- 4 pencils, 1 pencil sharpener & 1 eraser
 - -or- 4 mechanical pencils
- 4 pens

Mary Bates will be at Grace on April 21 to share her message during the Sunday school hour.

Before the tornadoes hit the 7 states mentioned above, the Disaster Response Team's greatest need has been kitchen kits and gift cards. If you wish to pack a Kitchen Kit, place the needed items listed below in a 2 gallon plastic storage bag or a drawstring backpack.

The items for the Kitchen Kit include:

- dish cloths, dish towel, hot pad, spatula,
- measuring cups,
 measuring spoons,
- a helpful kitchen item,
 a storage container,
- · garbage bags (various sizes) and
- a small (7 or 8 ounce) dish liquid.

We will begin collecting these after the Street Medicine supplies drive. (see A Healthcare Safety Net Project page 4)

EASTER BREAKFAST

The Easter Breakfast, held between services on Easter morning, was hosted by Youth and Family Team along with the Middle School Sunday School and parents.













Thanks to all who helped make the breakfast a success, including the Uptown Grill.

Leading up to Holy Week was the meaningful Holden Worship services on Wednesdays during the period of Lent. Preceding those services, members enjoyed soup dinners at 6:00 before the worship services at 7:00. Many thanks to the hosts and soup makers:

February 21 - Kitchen Krew;

February 28 - Altar Guild;

March 6 - Women's Bible Study Group;

March 13 - Care Team:

March 20 - Church Council

Also, a big thanks again to the Men of the Church and Middle schoolers for the Pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday.



Seventh in a series of 11 articles on the Reformation by Pr. Tom Jacobson - Southeastern Ohio Mission **District Dean**

Deeper Conflict

Martin Luther wrote the Ninety-Five Theses in 1517. For later generations, that event came to represent the beginning of the era of the Reformation, which saw the rise of Lutheran and other types of Protestant churches. But the Ninety-Five Theses of 1517 were not a complete statement of Luther's theology as is often supposed, and he would continue over the following years to develop his thought. In fact, what he wrote in 1517 reveals that Luther considered himself to be a faithful subject and servant of the Church of Rome. He simply desired to debate the practice of the Pope and his representatives selling and granting indulgences, which promised people and even their deceased relatives reduction of time in purgatory after they died.

But the Ninety-Five Theses got the ball rolling, so to speak, and Luther soon found himself in deeper conflict. The fact that Luther questioned the Pope on this matter showed that he did not consider the Pope to be incapable of error. The German territories (at the time, there was no unified country called "Germany," but rather separate territories and kingdoms) where Luther resided had a long-standing feud with the Roman Church, and many proclaimed Luther a hero of the German people because he had challenged the Pope.

Luther was called to the city of Heidelberg, today in south-western Germany, in 1518. There he engaged in a debate with others, and the debate revealed deeper theological issues. The idea of granting indulgences is based on the idea of achieving "merit" before God. If you gain enough merit, then you can finally be admitted into heaven. The indulgences were meant to increase the amount of "merit" that a person needs to gain access to God's presence. The whole idea is based on the view that people have the ability to contribute to their salvation through our free will.

But Luther came to see that this was a mistake. Basing his thinking on the tradition of the great church Father Augustine from many centuries before, Luther believed that people are spiritually dead and cannot contribute to their salvation by their will or good works. Instead, they can only receive salvation as a gift. In what was called the Heidelberg Disputation of 1518, Luther explained his thinking using the following example: There is much that a living person can do to make himself dead; there is nothing that a dead person can do to make himself alive.

During this time, Luther's writings reached Pope Leo X in Rome. Alarmed by this challenge to his authority, he summoned Luther to Rome to allow him the chance to take back what he had written. Luther's protector, Duke Frederick of Saxony, managed to arrange for the meeting to be in Germany rather than Rome, which would be safer for Luther. Luther met with a representative of the Pope, Cardinal Cajetan, in the German city of Augsburg. It was expected that Luther would simply recant at this meeting, but he instead began arguing with Cajetan.

The following year, in 1519, Luther was called upon to debate with another representative of the Pope, Johann Eck. Eck's strategy was to get Luther publicly to deny the divine authority of the Pope, and in that Eck succeeded. Luther argued that Christ alone is the head of the Church, not the Pope. Eck sought to show similarities between Luther's statements and those made by Jan Hus just over a hundred years before. Hus had been condemned and burned at the stake in 1415.

As a result of this, the Pope issued what is called a "bull," an official letter, which gave Luther sixty days to recant. This letter, under the title of Exsurge Domine, meaning "arise, O Lord," compared Luther to a wild boar that was destroying God's vineyard. If Luther would not recant within sixty days, he could consider himself excommunicated, meaning that he would be defrocked from his position as priest and cut off from the sacraments, and therefore salvation.

However, when Luther received the papal bull, he burned it along with other official documents of the Pope. He was officially excommunicated in January of 1521.

It is important to understand that Luther did not "break away from the Roman Church." In reality, he was kicked out. Luther's goal was not to start a new church, but rather to speak the truth to the church.

Luther explains his concept of "justification" in the Smalcald Articles:

The first and chief article is this: Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, died for our sins and was raised again for our justification (Romans 3:24–25). He alone is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29), and God has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:6). All have sinned and are justified freely, without their own works and merits, by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in His blood (Romans 3:23–25). This

is necessary to believe. This cannot be otherwise acquired or grasped by any work, law, or merit. As St. Paul says: For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. (Romans 3:28) That He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. [Romans 3:26]

Therefore, it is clear and certain that this faith alone justifies us ... Nothing of this article can be yielded or surrendered, even though heaven and earth and everything else falls (Mark 13:31). [43]

The Smalcald Articles or Schmalkald Articles (German: Schmalkaldische Artikel) are a summary of Lutheran doctrine, written by Martin Luther in 1537 for a meeting of the Schmalkaldic League in preparation for an intended ecumenical Council of the Church.

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 10:30am Women Bible Study	4	5	6 9:30am AA Mtg
	1:00pm Katharine Circle					
		8:00pm AA Mtg	6:00pm Ringers 7:00pm Singers		8:00pm AA Mtg	8:00pm AA Mtg
7 2nd Sunday of Easter (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services	8	9	10:30am Women Bible Study	11	12	9:30am AA Mtg 8:30-3pm Council Retreat
9:30am Youth Sunday School 9:45am Adult Learning, H.S. Sunday School, & Confirmation 12:30pm VBS Craft Day #1 Crew2 Sign up deadline	1:00pm Ruth Circle					
Mt. Carmel Collection Ends	6:30pm Worship of the Lutheran Church Study	8:00pm AA Mtg	6:00pm Ringers 7:00pm Singers	6:30pm Band of Brothers @ Wendell's Pub	6:30-8:30 Council Retreat 8:00pm AA Mtg	8:00pm AA Mtg
14 3rd Sunday of Easter (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00 am Worship Services 9:30 Youth Sunday School and Mt. Camel kit put together 9:45am Adult Learning, H.S. Sunday School, & Confirmation	15	16	17 10:30am Women Bible Study	18	19	8:00am Men of Grace Gathering 8:00am AA set-up 9:30am AA Anniversary Mtg
Secret Sister Luncheon Youth and Family Zoom mtg.	6:30pm Worship of the Lutheran Church Study	8:00pm AA Mtg	6:00pm Ringers 7:00pm Singers	6:15pm Supper Club	8:00pm AA Mtg	8:00pm AA Mtg
21 4th Sunday of Easter/ Disaster Response Sunday (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00 am Worship Services 9:30 Youth Sunday School	22	23 1-3pm Grace Stitchers	24 10:30am Women Bible Study	25	26	27 9:30am AA Mtg
9:45am Adult Learning, H.S. Sunday School, & Confirmation 3pm Columbus Crew2 Game@ Historic Field 6-9pm Lakeside Forest HOA Youth Choir	6:30pm Worship of the Lutheran Church Study	6:30pm Yarn Matters 8:00pm AA Mtg	6:00pm Ringers 7:00pm Singers	6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer Service 7:00pm Music and Worship Mtg	8:00pm AA Mtg	8:00pm AA Mtg
28 5th Sunday of Easter (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00 am Worship Services 9:30 Youth Sunday School 9:30 New Member Class #1 9:45am Adult Learning, H.S. Sunday School, & Confirmation 12:30 New Member Class #2	29	30		We envision Grace to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries. Worship materials and		
	6:30pm Worship of the Lutheran Church Study	8:00pm AA Mtg		sermon avail	able online at e43081.org	

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Phone: (614) 882-3026

Pr. David Wendel: (719) 650-8171 E-mail: 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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- 3. Pastor's Message
- 4. Grace's Gang / VBS Coming in June / Game Day Pictures
- 5. Y&F Event Coming - Columbus Crew / Yarn Matters / Grace Stitchers / Mt. Carmel Street Blessing Bags Due / Spring Graduates
- 6. Music Notes
- 7. Holy Week Music
- 8. Adult Studies Opportunities / RightNowMedia
- 9. WARM Report: Receipts, Volunteers Needed, Annual Prayer Breakfast, Fresh Vegetables / Thrivent Report / Columbarium Niches Available
- 10. Welcome to Dale Stanley / Blood Drive in May / Scan to Give
- MSG Rick Arrequin Returns Home / Flowers / Supper Club / Council Highlights / Intercessory Prayer 11.
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- 13. NALC Disaster Relief Requests / Easter Breakfast Pics.
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