

# AMAZING GRACE

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 607 S. Main St., Jackson Center, Ohio 45334  
[www.jcgracelutheran.org](http://www.jcgracelutheran.org), [jcgracelutheran@outlook.com](mailto:jcgracelutheran@outlook.com), 937-596-6516

## HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN, INDEED! ALLELUJAH!

These are the words we will shout later this month in worship. And they are the words we shout at every funeral, at every graveside, every Sunday in worship. Those are the words of GOOD NEWS of JESUS CHRIST; He is risen! Death no longer has the upper hand. For those who trust Jesus as the Son of God, the One risen from the dead, the Promise is LIFE everlasting with Him. Not the judgement and condemnation of death for your sin, BUT the declaration of His forgiveness and life for you. Our ears need to hear it repeatedly. Not only in worship every Sunday but also in Sunday school every Sunday as we study what those words mean for daily life, what difference Jesus makes in your daily life.

We will encourage you to participate in weekly worship and weekly Sunday school.

A few decades ago, Pastor Tom Frey shared these words with you. We repeat them to encourage you in your dedication to weekly worship and Sunday school for yourself and your family. We cannot hear Jesus' words of forgiveness and everlasting life too much.

"Please Daddy, Let's Go!"

A little girl with shining eyes, Her little face aglow,

Said: "Daddy, it is almost time for Sunday school. Let's go!

They teach us there of Jesus' love, of how He died for all those who on Him call."

"Oh, no," said Daddy, "not today. I've worked so hard all week; I'm going to the creek,

For there I can relax and rest, and fishing's fine – they say.

So run along; don't bother me. We'll go to church someday."

Months and years have passed away, but Daddy hears that plea no more,

"Let's go to Sunday school." Those childish days are o'er.

And now that Daddy's growing old, when life is almost through.

He finds some time to go to church, but what does daughter do?

She says, "O Daddy, not today, I stayed up almost all night.

I've just got to get some sleep. Besides I look a fright."

Then Daddy lifts a trembling hand to brush away the tears,

As again he hears the pleading voice distinctly through the years.

He sees a small girl's shining face upturned, with eyes aglow,

As she says, "It's time for Sunday school – please Daddy, won't you go?"

The Lord Jesus encourages you with His word, "Let us not forsake our meeting together as believers for worship and instruction, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more faithfully as you see the day of Christ's return approaching." Hebrews 10:25 Amplified Bible

See you in worship and Sunday school,  
*Pastors Bert and Shelly Schultz*



### Midweek Lenten Worship Lenten Worship

**Wednesdays** April 2-9

6 pm Supper

7 pm Worship

**Jerusalem At Passover  
"A Lenten Tour"**

Sunday, April 13:

**Palm Sunday Worship**

Thursday, April 17:

**Maundy Thursday  
Worship 7:00 pm**

Friday, April 18:

**Good Friday Worship  
7:00 pm**

Sunday, April 20:

**Easter Sunday Worship**

◇ 8:00 am Worship w/  
Choir & Communion

◇ 10:30 am Worship w/  
Communion

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CAC Minutes	2
Committee Reports	3
Upcoming Events	4
Worship Servants & Details	5
Women of Grace Church	6
Thank You's	7
Grace @ Prayer	7
Calendar	9

***Deadline for the next  
newsletter is  
April 21st***

# Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Church Administrative Council Minutes

March 10, 2025

Matt Kohler, called the March 10, 2025, meeting to order with the following CAC members present: Garrett Serr, Pastor Bert, John Pence, Dianna Davis, Andrea Kirtley, Marcia Davis, Pastor Shelly, Matt Kohler, Kent Leininger, Trent Platfoot, and Tanya Hinegardner.

John Pence had the devotion. We had a discussion about demons in current world.

Pastor Bert opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's report was approved as presented. John Pence moved and Kent Leininger seconded the secretary's report.

Motion carried.

Trent Platfoot, presented the treasurer's report for February 2025. Total receipts for February were \$16,904.57 and expenses were \$24,529.05. The ending balance on 02/28/2025 was \$54,334.80. The ending balance of the savings account was \$43,184.59. The Mutual Fund balance as of 02/28/2025 was \$47,789.62. The only extra expense was the real estate tax. Trent will be checking into the last couple of years and get data together for CAC to review. Marcia Davis moved and Garrett Serr seconded the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

## \*Pastor's Report for the month of March 2025

### Pastoral Visitation for February 2025

Home and Office Visits	11
Ministry Meetings	16
Hospital Visits	4
Bereavement Visits	2

### Pastoral Acts for February 2025

Funeral	February 28	Karl Arnett
---------	-------------	-------------

We have also participated in a variety of other parish and community interactions which include phone calls, emails, texts, and other activities.

### Informational Updates

- Pastor Bert led worship February 9 at St. John's Lutheran, Montpelier, OH to install the Rev. March Lapointe as their new pastor
- Continued and concluded 6-week lay preaching class (part 2) through Saint Paul Seminary with 5 Grace members January 16 – February 20, 2025
- Concluded an eight-month Life-to-Life discipleship group that is joining Jesus on His Mission
- Young Adult Leaders YALs ages 18-30 continuing a ministry group met February 9 with 7 participants for study, service, and fellowship
- Planning for a new member class in March 2025
- Dana Ware who participated in both lay preaching classes, preached and lead worship at Grace February 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Planned midweek Lenten theme of Jerusalem at Passover, a Lenten Tour
- Lutheran Lay Renewal invitation for Sunday School – Will try to schedule during Adult Sunday School on May 4<sup>th</sup>

- Invitation to seminarian Luke Ratke to preach at Grace

### NALC and NW OH Mission District Updates

- NALC Lenten & Easter Devotional "Unfolding Victory", web link online
- NALC seeking nominations for denominational positions MD updates
- OMR delegates needed

### \*Old Business

- We Care Fund – Matt – Brad Wren from the Methodist church is the other board member and Matt is keeping all information in a spreadsheet.
- Fresh Eye update – Matt – YAL's will probably help.
- NALC – Pastor Shelly – She will talk to the people.
- Furnace update – Kent – Waiting on scope of work.
- Website content – All – Content needed from all committees.
- Kitchen remodel needs – Marcia & Dianna – They gave us a list of items. Matt and Kent will talk after the meeting.
- 2025 Grace campus workday – is there a need for inside or outside workday? Touch up is the only thing needed outside.
- LifeWise Academy – Bert – financial support – Four members have signed up to volunteer – Marcia Davis moved to release TBD money in the budget to LifeWise and Trent Platfoot seconded. Motion carried. There will be a community worship on March 30<sup>th</sup> at Grace and the donations will be going to LifeWise.

### \*New Business

- Table and Chair request – Matt – There was a request for tables and chairs which we all agreed to.
- Email attachments – Matt – No more issue.
- Rally Day – August 24<sup>th</sup>(food?) – Pastor Shelly – Education Committee will discuss time and food.
- Community Day Raffle – Pastor Shelly – We agreed to \$100.00 and Pastor Shelly will take care of this.
- CAC April meeting date (quarterly congregation meeting is April 13<sup>th</sup>...should CAC meet on April 7<sup>th</sup>?) Agreed to meet on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.
- Community Faith night – On Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> and asking for donations. Will try to have a time table for when money is needed by next meeting.
- Staff Evaluations – Matt will email the Executive Committee.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Choice:** Tanya Hinegardner – Thrivent Choice fund met February 26, 2025. At this time there was no need for money to be distributed. The officers are as follows: Jodi Davis – President; Roberta Pitts – Vice President; Treasurer -TBA; Kaiden Hinegardner – Secretary. They will look in to moving a portion of the money into an interest earning account. They closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be on May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

**Education:** Andrea Kirtley – No report received. Next meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Endowment:** Matt Kohler – Senior scholarship information sent.

**Friendship:** Marcia Davis – No report.

**Lay/Witness:** John Pence – No report received. Will be meeting March 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a new member class on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Youth:** Garrett Serr – Gospel Gang – Nothing to report at present, on a break through Lent – Luther League – Raised \$361.00

from their Fellowship Breakfast on 3/2. This money will be used to purchase Bibles for the students participating in the Jackson Center LifeWise Program. This will enable students to take their own Bible home to read and study. Will be hosting the Lenten Meal before Worship on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting will be Sunday, 3/16.

**Worship:** Dianna Davis – The Worship Committee met on February 11, 2025, with the following members present: Nancy McName, Cheryl Burch, Rick Russell, Seth Regula, Toni Leining-er, and Pastor Shelly. The meeting was opened by Pastor Shelly, with prayer. Upcoming events were discussed as fol-lows:

- The Children’s Bell Choir will be playing the Prelude this coming Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 service. They will play again on April 13<sup>th</sup> at the 8:00 am service. They will not play again until the fall and winter months.
- Pastor Wayne DeWet will be giving a presentation at both services on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, concerning Bariadi Tanaznia
- March 5<sup>th</sup> is Ash Wednesday, and we will be having Com-munion as well as imposition of ashes. We will also begin the Lenton dramas that will take place every Wednesday evening during Lent on Ash Wednesday. We are in need of volunteers to take part in the dramas, which will be mostly done from the back of the church again, like was done last year. We will be doing a combination of using Holden Even-ing Prayer for liturgy, and incorporating the dramas, along with a short sermon for each Wednesday evening service. The Theme of this year’s dramas is called Jerusalem at Passover. Toni will look for slides to put on the screen, to help people visualize the dramas as they unfold each week.
- April 13<sup>th</sup> is Palm Sunday
- April 17<sup>th</sup> is Maundy Thursday, and we will have communion at the chancel rail.
- April 18<sup>th</sup> is Good Friday, and we will again have a Tene-brae service.
- April 20<sup>th</sup> is Easter Sunday, and we will be having the regu-lar Sunday worship schedule.
- The Adult Choir will be leading the 8:00 am service on April 27<sup>th</sup>, with Scripture readings and a song.
- May 4<sup>th</sup> is Confirmation Sunday, and it will take place at the 10:30 service. Two students will be confirmed that day.
- May 11<sup>th</sup> will be the blessing of all graduating seniors.
- June 1<sup>st</sup> will be the Community Worship Service, in the en-tertainment tent uptown during Community Days. The Edu-cation Committee is also planning to have an entry in the Community Day Parade.
- The Praise Team is also planning to lead another Praise and Worship Sunday at the 10:30 service like was done two years ago. A date has yet to be decided.

Pastor Shelly stated that there needs to be more content de-signed for our church webpage which is still being constructed. She asked members of the Worship Committee to help come up with a statement for the Worship Tab for the website. Audio Vis-ual Technical needs were then discussed. There are two of the Confirmation Students who would like to be trained to run the screen during the last service. Toni will get with them to help

with training. The Worship Committee will meet again on August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. As there was no further business to be dis-cussed, the meeting was closed with all praying the Lord’s Pray-er.

**Mission:** Trent Platfoot – No report received. Next meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The mission trip to Tanazia is tentatively scheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

**Property & Trustee:** Kent Leining-er, Trent Platfoot, & John Pence – Outdoor landscaping needs – Beds need dressed up and no need for mulch. Floor light control knobs in sanctuary – Contacted Lutron, Case 041750001, awaiting reply back on available knobs.

#### **\*Any other business before adjourning?**

Trent Platfoot moved to adjourn the meeting and Kent Leining-er seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

The next meeting will be held on April 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Tanya Hinegardner, Sec.

### **Committee Reports**

**Lay Ministry/Witness Committee:** Lay/Witness members met on Sunday, March 23, 2025. Members in attendance were Fritz and Deb Serr, Barb Elsass, Linda Jenkins, Lisa Wright, Karen Hatfield, Susan Ware, and Pastor Bert.

-Susan shared devotions encouraging us to follow the example that Jesus set- that we serve others with a servant’s heart- putting others first- spreading love and kindness wherever we go.

-Members reported 4 visits with our shut ins, 6 phone calls, and 2 communions. Pat Woolley was added to our list of contacts.

-Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> was the date chosen for the first “JOY” (Just Older Youth) gathering. This is an invitation for sen-ior members of our church and community to come together for fellowship as we provide opportunity for those in attendance to play a variety of games or cards. We will meet from 1:00-3:00 and all are welcome to attend-young and old- for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

-Linda suggested we consider applying for a Thrivent card to supply the LifeWise program with needed items. No action tak-en at this time.

-Pastor Bert announced a new members gathering on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Some of our members will attend to share infor-mation about church organizations and we will provide a light meal.

Linda-BBQ and buns

Karen-deviled eggs

Barb-chips

Lisa-soup

Deb-cookies

Susan- dessert

-There being no further business the meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer. Our next meeting will be on April 27<sup>th</sup> and Barb will have devotions.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Ware, Secretary

## Upcoming Events

- Tuesday, April 1: WOC Blood Drive JC American Legion Hall.
- Wednesday, April 2: Lenten Meal & Worship.
- Friday, April 4: Community Faith Night Parents Night Out.
- Sunday, April 6: Seminarian Luke Radke Preaching.
- Sunday, April 6: Luther League Breakfast.
- Monday, April 7: CAC Meeting.
- Wednesday, April 9: Lenten Meal & Worship.
- Sunday, April 13: Palm Sunday.
- Sunday, April 13: Quarterly Congregational Meeting.
- Thursday, April 17: Maundy Thursday Worship.
- Friday, April 18: Good Friday Worship.
- Saturday, April 19: Luther League Easter Egg Hunt (Shelter house area).
- Sunday, April 20: Easter Sunday.
- Monday, April 21: Choir Practice.
- Thursday, April 24: JOY Gathering.
- Sunday, April 27: Choir Service @ 8:00 am Worship.
- Sunday, April 27: Luther League Breakfast.
- Sunday, April 27: Lay/Witness Committee Meeting.



### Official Notice - Quarterly Congregational Meeting 9:20 AM April 13, 2025

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church will hold a quarterly congregational meeting beginning at 9:20 AM Sunday, April 13, 2025.

### Wednesday Lenten Meal Schedule

- April 2: Mission Committee  
April 9: Men's Group



## Choir Service

Everyone is invited to attend this year's Choir Service. The adult choir of Grace will be in charge of the 8:00 service on **Sunday, April 27**. The message will be a combination of songs performed by the choir and an inspirational message from Fritz Serr. We hope to see you at this year's choir service on Sunday, April 27, at 8:00 am.



# Grace at Worship ...

## Worship Servants for Sundays in April 2025

*The  
Season  
of  
Lent*



	<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent April 6</b>	<b>Palm Sunday April 13</b>	<b>Easter Sunday April 20</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Easter April 27</b>
<b>Lessons</b>	Isaiah 43:16-21; Pa 126; Phil. 3:8-14; Luke 20:9-20	Deut. 32: 36-39; Ps 118: 19-29; Phil. 2:5-11; Luke 22:1-23:56	Isaiah 65:17-25; Ps. 16; 1 Corinth. 15:19- 26; Luke 24:1-12	Acts 5:12-20; Ps 148; Reve. 1:4-18; John 20:19-31
	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Organists</b>	Nancy McName	Nancy McName	Cheryl Burch	Nancy McName
<b>Acolytes</b>	Claire Morris	Julia Burch	Archer Copeland	Claire Morris
<b>Crucifers</b>	Claire Morris	Julia Burch	Archer Copeland	Claire Morris
<b>Lay Readers</b>	Linda Jenkins	Rick Russell	Seth Regula	Patty Mann
<b>A/V</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	Ayden Wiswell	Kaydree Withrow	Bryson Scott	Ayden Wiswell
<b>Lay Readers</b>	Karen Hatfield	April Platfoot	Cheryl Janssen	Matt Kohler
<b>Communion Preparation</b>	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
<b>A/V</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
<b>Song Leaders</b>	Krista Withrow Rick Sailor	Kay Frieders Matt Kohler	Kassie Ludwig Rick Sailor	Jill Ludwig Matt Kohler

## Worship Assistants for Lenten Evening Services

	<b>April 2 7:00 pm Lent Service</b>	<b>April 9 7:00 pm Lent Service</b>	<b>April 17 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>April 18 7:00 pm Good Friday</b>
<b>Organists</b>	Cheryl Burch	Cheryl Burch	Cheryl Burch	Nancy McName
<b>Acolytes</b>	Bryson Scott	Julia Burch	Lake Woolley	Braxton Roberts
<b>Crucifers</b>	Bryson Scott	Julia Burch	Lake Woolley	Braxton Roberts

# Women of the Church

## **Circle 1**

Circle one met March 5th in the church meeting room. Barb Krugh opened the meeting with a reading, "Spring, a Season for Renewal." A Spring prayer followed. Eight members answered roll call naming a Bible verse with the word bless or blessing.

Minutes were read and approved. Treasury balance is \$200.92. President Karen Hatfield announced sewing day is March 20. Personal care items are being collected for Fish Pond Food Pantry. Blood bank is April 1 with our circle supplying 2 helpers and 5 dozen cookies. WOC has the March 19 Lenten meal with our circle doing desserts and drinks.

Bible study was led by Barb Krugh as we studied the "bent woman" in Luke 13. Jesus is always there for us. He never considers us an interruption or a bother. We do not need to be burdened as He can liberate us of our troubles. He wants us to stand up and live an abundant life.

The meeting was closed with praying the Lord's Prayer.  
Secretary,  
Barb Wical

## **Circle 3**

Circle 3 met March 18th with 8 members answering roll call with a Bible verse containing "tree". Darlene Woolley led Bible Study entitled "Earth". We opened with an opening dialog & prayer. God created for us a world to live in, however in sin and rebellion, the earth has become a battleground and we pray to be delivered from power of the evil One. We must try to become faithful servants and trust God with our lives. The devil may be a strong man, but, God is stronger. The Bible calls his children as caretakers of all that belongs to God and we pray to be delivered from the power of sin and evil.

Secretary and Treasurers reports were given. Treasury balance \$255.90.

Business:

- Voted to purchase 2 \$50 gift cards to be sent to NALC Disaster Relief.
- Finish receiving person care items.
- Watch bulletin for current needs for "New Life Center".
- Assignments for fresh fruit needed for Easter Breakfast.

Hostess Roberta Pitts treated us with cake & ice cream and St. Patrick's Day decorated cookies.

Meeting closed in prayers.

Secretary,

Nancy McName

---

## **WOC April Collections**

Elizabeth's New Life Center is located at 2201 N. Main Street Sidney, Ohio. They educate & help support pregnant women in our area. They are currently in need of Baby Diapers size 3,4,& 5. Watch the April bulletin for a list of current items in need of in April. Any questions contact Joyce Regula, Chairperson.

# Men's Ministry

Men's Group met on March 17th. Opened with prayer by Fritz Serr. We started "Session 4: Second Base GOOD CHATTER". We started the discussion about our responsibility as the head of the house to ensure our family is committed to the Lord. Joshua said it best: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord". It is our responsibility to pass on the Lord our God's teachings to our children and our children's children from generation to generation. Another interesting point that we learned is that the Hebrew word for fear has a broad meaning. It means to "stand in awe, reverence, honor, and respect". The rest of our discussion was about how to start these conversations with our wives, children, grandchildren and with any other person we are given the opportunity to engage with. We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is on April 21st at 7:00 PM. We will conclude Session 4 and start Session 5: "Rounding Third and Heading Home". We will be serving our Lenten meal on April 9th. Submitted by Dennis Weaver

---

## **Announcements**

**Mark your calendars Jackson Center Community Blood Drive** will be held Tuesday, April 1st. from 12:30 pm – 6:30 pm at the American Legion Post 627 E. College Street. There will be platelet collection until 5:30 pm along with the whole blood collection ending at 6:30 pm. You can schedule your appointment at [www.DonorTime.com](http://www.DonorTime.com) or CBC 937-461-3220. Any questions please contact Nancy McName.

**Attention!!!** There are a number of **servicing trays missing** from the church kitchen. If you possibly borrowed them for a personal function, and forgot to return them, please return ASAP. They would be very useful during the Lenten meals for the next several weeks. Thanks! Women of the Church

**The Backpack program** is asking for donations for the program. They are asking for fruit cups, applesauce cups, pudding cups and peanut butter cups, small individual boxes of cereal, & small individual microwave meal cups. There is a labeled box in the south vestibule for your donations.

**Unfolding Victory: This Lenten-Easter devotional** series posted by the North American Lutheran Church will lead us through the unfolding victory of Christ over sin, death, and the grave. As we journey with Jesus to the cross, we will witness the decisive battle against the powers of darkness and the ultimate triumph revealed in the resurrection. This victory is not just Christ's alone but also ours, as we share in His defeat of death and the promise of the resurrection of our own bodies. Each reflection will deepen our understanding of how Christ's victory secures our eternal hope, calling us to live in the power of the resurrection now and forever. Lenten & Easter Devotional 2025 - North American Lutheran Church [www.thenalc.org/lenten-easter-devotional-2025](http://www.thenalc.org/lenten-easter-devotional-2025)



# Grace @ Prayer

## Standing in the Need of Prayer

### Immediate Need of Prayers:

Henry Springer, John Sloan

### Prayers for Long-Term Situations:

Dwight Johnson, Mindy Steinbrunner, Lisa Williams, Paige Schneider, Hayes Homan, Penny Borchers, Chris Burch, Joe Oakley, Shirley DeWeese, Ron & Linda Leininger, Michele Rodriguez, Brent Kerns, St. Peter Lutheran Church, Ft. Myers Beach, FL.

### Prayers for Military:

Jay Clark,  
Kaiden Hinegardner,  
Caden Paavola

### Parish Statistic: March 2025

#### Deaths

- ◆ Marcia K. Lippert joined her Father in Heaven on March 20, 2025.

### Ohio Mission Region Convocation

May 2 - 3, 2025

*"Come and See"*

*"Rabbi, where are you staying?" [Jesus] said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. John 1:38-39*

Featured Speakers: Rev. Tom Hilpert, *Life Together Churches &* Rev. Brian Hughes

Topics to be addressed include Discipleship and Small Group Ministries within and beyond the congregation.

The Offering collected this weekend will support **NALC Disaster Response** to purchase building supplies for the area around Burnsville and Yancy County, North Carolina. Mary has 300 houses being repaired and 20 mission trips already planned.

#### **Grace Lutheran Church**

1801 St Paris Pike,  
**Springfield, OH 45504**  
937-399-6257  
[www.grace-nalc.org](http://www.grace-nalc.org)

*Convocation Brochure & Registration will be distributed early March.*

### Thank you's

I would like to thank my church family and gospel gang for the cards, words of encouragement and prayers which all brought tears. Please continue with prayers as I am doing better each week. God bless all of you.

Shirley DeWeese

To the Members of Grace Lutheran Church, Thank you to everyone for your cards and well wishes after my January knee surgery. They were uplifting during the painful weeks that followed. I also enjoyed the artwork and signatures on the cards from the Sunday School teachers and kids. So fun to receive! A special thank you to Pastors Bert & Shelly for your prayers, visits and communion. You provided extra strength and comfort during a challenging time.

Blessings to all,  
Jo Regula



## IT'S GAME DAY

Inviting all senior members of Grace (and the community) to our first "JOY" (Just Older Youth) gathering. We've planned an afternoon of fun and fellowship for anybody (regardless of age)-all are welcome! If you like to play cards or games, Grace Church is where you'll want to be on Thursday, April 24th at 1:00-3:00. We will provide the cards and a variety of games (and we'll have some refreshments too)! We hope you'll join us for this afternoon of fun and fellowship!  
Sponsored by the Lay/Witness Committee

## Announcements Continued

**Welcoming Seminarian** Luke Ratke and his wife, Megan Dear Congregation of Grace Lutheran. Peace and blessings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. My name is Luke Ratke, and I am one of the North American Lutheran Church's seminarians. I grew up and am from Edmond, Oklahoma, a suburb of Oklahoma City, and my home church is Peace Lutheran Church in Edmond, Oklahoma. Prior to starting seminary, I went to Oklahoma State University where I earned a degree in Industrial Engineering & Management and met my wife, Megan, who earned a degree in Business Management (focus in non-profit). For the past couple of years, I have studied at the North American Lutheran Seminary in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. After this current spring semester of seminary, I will have an additional year of seminary training before I begin my yearlong internship at a NALC congregation. This current semester I have been taking the following courses: Hebrew II, Pastoral Leadership, Introduction to Theology II, and Homiletics II. I desire to do full-time ministry work as my career, and Megan desires to help people throughout her life. God will lead us throughout life! I hope to become either a pastor and/or chaplain, where God can use me to help people that are struggling emotionally and spiritually. Pastors Bert and Shelly invited me to preach at worship on Sunday, April 6. Megan and I look forward to worshipping God alongside all of you soon. May God fill all of your hearts with joy!

### **Catechism Connection**

Catechism youth continue with Sunday morning studies at 9:15 am. Wednesday catechism is worship at 7:00 pm. Please continue submitting sermon notes (in the offering plate, the offering box, or to your Sunday school teacher).

### **Adult Sunday Morning Sunday School at 9:15 The Parables of Jesus – April and May Sundays**

Jesus' parables are timeless, powerful, and profound. Yet there is a dimension to them that can only be appreciated fully when seen through ancient Middle Eastern eyes. Drawing on remarkable cultural and historical insights from renowned New Testament and Middle East scholar Dr. Kenneth Bailey, this study explores how Jesus' audience would have understood eleven of Jesus' parables as recorded in Luke. See these great stories come to life for you.

**Calling All Young Adults** Ages 18-30 You and your friends are gathering Sunday, April 13th at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall (north end). Purpose: young adults doing life together as followers of Jesus. Our focus topic will be TBD.

**2026 MISSION TRIP to Tanzania** sign-up sheet is at the back of the church if you are interested in going. Trip will be July 9-21, 2026.

**CHICKEN FRY** Jackson Center American Legion Chicken Fry, Saturday, April 5th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 627 East College Street. 1/2 chicken, coleslaw, french fries, and roll. Presale tickets available at J. C. Village office as well as the J.C. Pro Hwd. Also available the day of the fry at the legion. Drive thru only. Thank you for supporting our veterans.



The **Luther League will be hosting** several upcoming meals in the next month: Lent meal on Wednesday, March 26th, breakfast during fellowship on Sunday, April 6th and breakfast during fellowship on Sunday, April 27th. Donations for these meals will be going towards a Luther League Mission Trip that is in the process of getting planned for the summer. More details to come. Thank you in advance!

**Easter Egg Hunt:** The Luther League will be hosting the annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19th at 10:00 am. The hunt will take place at Grace Lutheran church and as long as the weather permits it will be held outdoors in the shelter house area. All children are welcome!

**The Luther League** was able to purchase 30 Bibles for the Jackson Center LifeWise Academy. This means the students are able to take these Bibles home with them for keeps to read and study God's word as much as they want! Thank you for your donations and being a positive impact in these student's lives!

**Mission Trip for High School Youth and Congregation Members -- Disaster Relief Rebuilding** The Luther League high school youth are inviting congregation members to join them for a mission trip to North Carolina to assist in rebuilding homes in Burnsville, NC. This summer June 19-26, 2025. Join the high school youth as you are able, it is not necessary to be there the full time. All skill levels are needed for cleanup, building, meal preparation, devotional and prayer leadership. Please let Lori Wiswell 937-538-7182 or the Pastors know of your interest and to receive more information.





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> 12:00 pm-6:30 pm WOC Blood Bank American Legion  Dave Mann April Platfoot	<b>2</b> 1:30 pm Circle 1 6:00 pm Lent Meal 7:00 Lent Worship Choir practice after Service  Larry Shroyer	<b>3</b> 5:30 pm Praise Band  Doug Hinegardner	<b>4</b> 4:00pm-10:00 pm Parents Night Out  Larry Symonds Rhett Wells	<b>5</b> 4:30pm-6:30pm Legion Chicken Fry  Sharon Lenhart Kathy Metz
<b>6 5th Sunday in Lent</b> 8:00 am Worship w/ Communion 9:00 am LL Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 7:00 pm Creative Clovers 4-H  Erika Metz Jared Ratermann	<b>7</b> 7:00 pm Circle 2 7:00 pm CAC Meeting  Kelsi Poppe	<b>8</b>  Fritz & Deb Serr*	<b>9</b> 6:00 pm Lent Meal 7:00 Lent Worship Choir practice after Service  Garrett Serr	<b>10</b> 5:30 pm Praise Band  Ross Ludwig	<b>11</b>  Christina Bowen	
<b>13 Palm Sunday</b> 8:00 am Worship w/Choir 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am YALs 9:20 am Cong. Meeting 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion 6:30 pm Pro. Live . 4-H 6:30 pm -8:30 pm Queen Comm. Meeting Danielle Davis	<b>14</b>  Spencer Knouff Sue Ludwig	<b>15</b> 7:00 pm Circle 3	<b>16</b> 6:15 pm-7:45 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Choir Practice  Austin & Amy Regula*	<b>17</b> 5:30 pm Praise Band 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship  Tatum Davis	<b>18</b> 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship  Carly Shipp Dennis & Sandy Weaver*	<b>19</b> 10:00 am L.L. Easter Egg Hunt Shelter house Area  Zayden Schmiesing
<b>20 Easter Sunday</b> 8:00 am Worship w/ Choir & Communion 9:00 am WOC Breakfast 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion  Ethan Barhorst	<b>21</b> 7:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm Men's Group  Marcia Davis Tom Schindel	<b>22</b>  Melanie Wolf	<b>23</b> 6:15 pm-7:45 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Choir Practice  Bonnie Kaufman Gly Sloan Dick Wildermuth	<b>24</b> 1:00 pm-3:00 pm JOY gathering 5:30 pm Praise Band  Dave & Patty Mann*	<b>25</b>  Shawn Smith	<b>26</b>  Elliott Davis
<b>27 2nd Sunday of            Easter</b> 8:00 am Choir Service 9:00 am LL Breakfast 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion 11:30 am Lay Witness  Traci Myers Rick & Tina Sailor*	<b>28</b>  Cameron Middleton Halden Doseck	<b>29</b>  Don DeWeese Pastors Bert & Shelly Schultz*	<b>30</b> 6:15 pm-7:45 pm Catechism  Don DeWeese Pastors Bert & Shelly Schultz*			

**GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
607 S. MAIN ST., PO BOX 328  
JACKSON CENTER, OH 45334  
REVS. BERT & SHELLY SCHULTZ,  
PASTORS

PHONE: 937-596-6516

FAX: 937-596-0516

E-MAIL:

jcgracelutheran@outlook.com



***The Mission of Grace...***

***Glorify God***

***Reach Out To The Unchurched***

***Accept And Share God's Love***

***Come Together In His Name***

***Equip People to Reach Christlike Maturity***

***April, 2025***

*April showers bring  
May flowers*



***Grace on-line***

***Visit us at:***

**[www.jcgracelutheran.org](http://www.jcgracelutheran.org)**

**Facebook: JC Grace Lutheran**

***Amazing Grace***

The monthly newsletter of  
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
PO Box 328, 607 South Main Street  
Jackson Center OH 45334

Pre-sorted Standard  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Sidney, Ohio 45365  
PERMIT NO. 38  
Non-Profit Organization

**Do Not Delay – Dated Material Enclosed**

