

Want to be a part of something bigger?

Off School Property on October 23 is the perfect opportunity to share who LifeWise is and what we do. This one-night event isn't only about seeing a movie; it's about coming together as the body of Christ around a vision that brings hope to students and families.

ONE NIGHT - ONE MESSAGE - ONE MOVEMENT

<http://lifewise.org/offschoolproperty>

Off School Property is going to be playing in select theaters across the nation. We are fortunate to have one of those theaters be right next door in Bellefontaine.

Come join us for an evening of impact on October 23, 7:00 PM at Bellefontaine Theater. We would like to see our volunteers, church members, board and council members, students, teachers, community leaders, parents, and the entire community of Jackson Center fill the theater.

We would like to carpool. If you want to join our group, and can meet at the Family Life Center at 5:45 PM, we would love to have you. Plan to leave the FLC by 6:00 PM.

Tickets **MUST** be bought in advance.

Together, we make the impact stronger.

God is on the move.

Let's be a part of His great movement!

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Matt Kohler, Church President; Nikki Tontrup, Secretary; Rhonda Burch, Janitor:

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**My help comes
from the LORD,
who made heaven
and earth.**

Psalms 121:2

*Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jackson Center, Ohio
October 19, 2025
Contemporary Service- 10:30 am*

For Sunday Morning Livestream

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1837977253423727/>

Welcome to
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 19, 2025 ~ 10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Our Guests

Welcome to worship and Christian fellowship! Please greet the children of God sitting near you. We believe God has a purpose for you being with us today and our desire is to be an instrument in helping you discover and fulfill that purpose. You are always invited to come and worship with us. Please let us know if the pastor or we may be of service to you in any way.

The Common Thread in Today's Reading

We usually think of prayer as something that we do. But if we consider Jacob's wrestling until the break of day as prayer, we see that it was the "man" who wrestled with Jacob. Luther says that this man was none other than the Son of Man. We see then, that God himself initiates prayer and continues the struggle with us until we lift up our eyes and see that our help and deliverance come from the Lord. God wants this same striving with him from us—a life devoted to him and to his word that lasts even longer than a night, that continues both "in season and out of season." Our wrestling in his word then becomes an unceasing prayer ([1 Thes 5:17](#)) of the kind of faith that returns to the mat again and again to encounter God.

As We Gather

** Indicates times during which the congregation stands.*

The Prelude **"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty"** Youth Bell Choir
Lighting of the Candles
Welcome

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*Baptism Hymn ***"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"***

Baptisms of Denise Jane Sponseller & Mary Louise Sponseller

Blue Insert

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us Pray:

ALL: Heavenly Father, nurture our faith in you through your word that we may find strength, hope and salvation in you. Help us to turn to you in prayer, follow your will and delight in your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Lesson: Genesis 32:22-30

ESV pg. 27

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121 (read responsively)

121 I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

2 My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

3 He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

4 Behold, he who watches over you will neither slumber nor sleep.

5 The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

6 The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

7 The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

8 The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

ESV pg. 996

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

*Holy Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

ESV pg. 877

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Prayer

P: May the Spirit of the Lord be in my heart and on my lips so that I may sincerely and humbly, courageously and effectively proclaim the Good News.

C: And may the Spirit of the Lord touch our ears that we may listen carefully. Touch our minds that we may understand correctly and touch our hearts that we may respond to that message courageously.

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sermon

Pastor Bert

*Prayers of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Benediction

Mission and Ministry Moments

*Closing Songs **“Holy Is the Lord”**
 “Happy Day”

Enter to Worship --- Depart to Serve

Your offering to the Lord’s work through Grace. There is a **box for offering** located on a table nearby, for you to drop off offerings. All offerings are greatly appreciated to help the church stay in good financial standings and to do the Lord’s work.

Today’s altar flowers are in honor of Denise Jane Sponseller and Mary Louise Sponseller’s baptism at the 10:30 am worship service. They are the infant daughters of Joe & Emma Sponseller. Their baptismal sponsors are Jordan Turner and Breanna Spencer. Proud grandparents are Bert & Marlene Regula and James & Lori Sponseller. Welcome to the Grace Lutheran Church family!

The **next Luther League meeting** will be on Sunday, October 26th at 4:00 pm. We will have a brief meeting and devotions, have some food, and then participate in Trunk or Treat at 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. The Luther League advisors will get the candy to pass out. Feel free to wear a costume or decorate your vehicle!

Offering Envelopes for 2026 are available at the back of the church for pick up. If you would like to receive envelopes and do not already have them, please contact Nikki at the church office.

Thank You- Until I can personally thank each of you, I want to thank all who so kindly and generously baked cookies for Kairos #15 taking place this very weekend in Lima. As we boxed up the cookies this week, per specific maximum-security requirements and instructions, I can report that we are taking in a total of over 3,500 dozen cookies to share with the incarcerated, the correctional officers and all other facility staff during the weekend. Some have never received such a special gift from someone they don’t even know – you are blessed to be such a blessing!!!!!! Fritz Serr

Congratulations to Aaron & Cassie Klopfenstein on the birth of their daughter Gia Anne Klopfenstein born October 6th. Gia weighed 10 lbs. and is welcomed by big sisters Ada & Kora. Proud grandparents are Scott & Kathy Klopfenstein and Scott & Mia Lobaugh.

WOC October Collection's is New Choices of Sidney, Ohio (Battered Woman's Shelter) Items requested are: Woman's undergarments- bras and panties, Personal hygiene products-soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, cleaning products, laundry detergent, dish washing liquid, paper towels, toilet paper, furniture polish/dust spray. Please place items in the baskets in the vestibules. Any questions please contact Marcia Davis, Chairperson

Grace's Trunk or Treat Sunday, October 26 5:00 -6:30 pm

So what exactly is trunk-or-treat? The idea is simple: Bring your car to the Grace Lutheran north parking lot. The drivers and their families decorate their cars for Halloween, sometimes creating elaborate scenes out of their trunks. Then kids walk from vehicle to vehicle, collecting candy or a Christian novelty item so that we might share Jesus' love. You are invited to participate in this first Trunk or Treat at Grace.

Tanner Hilbun and the JC FCCLA are collecting Legos. The goal for this project is to provide Legos to children in need and spread cheer. He will be collecting new Legos in the original box/bag unopened for children at Dayton Children's and Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospitals. He will also be collecting used Legos that he will sanitize and create kits to give to children in homeless shelters or other less fortunate situations. Please place any new or used Legos in the red Recycle Lego bin in the south vestibule.

Kendall Hilbun and the JC FCCLA are taking pledges of fresh produce. The goal for this project is to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to those living in our community with a focus on those who may not have access to it. She will be using the pledged produce to give to students at school and those who come to the Jackson Center food pantry. You can find the pledge cards on the table at the back of the church.

Maplewood Methodist Church is hosting a **5K Halloween fun run on Saturday, October 25th** at 9:00 am, there also will be a 1/2 mile fun run for the children. We encourage costumes and will be giving out prizes and awards. Medals for all who register. You can register online at Can't Stop Running. Questions can be email to Sharon Asbury, CooperKinley1@gmail.com

Mark your calendars! Backpack packing Tuesday, November 11 at 6:00 pm JC Methodist Church. All that are available are encouraged to attend. We are packing for 74 students this year, 444 bags to pack

For Sunday Morning Livestream

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1837977253423727/>

To view livestream on Facebook click link above.

There will be a window if you do not use Facebook, simply close that window and select "Live Video" on the next page after window closes. Video will be available to view for 30 days.