

AMAZING GRACE

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 607 S. Main St., Jackson Center, Ohio 45334
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Joyful in Prayer

God's Word to us in 1Thessalonians 5:16 encourages us to "Always be joyful, keep on praying, No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus" NLT translation. There is a lot going on this time of year to be thankful for and to bring us joy. We have young people affirming their faith in God on May 4th, Mother's Day, high school graduations and the celebrations that follow, marriages, the freedoms we enjoy and especially during the Easter season we celebrate that our Lord Jesus is risen from the dead and one day we will be too.

Not everything in life is always easy or joyous though. We can be struggling with our health, finances, relationships, grief and so much more. God encourages us to turn to him in good times and in challenging ones. Psalm 46 reminds us that God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. The gift of prayer can really be appreciated during these difficult times as well as the good times. We can give thanks and find joy in the gifts of prayer, strength, hope, peace, comfort, and healing God seeks to give us. It is a blessing to our spirits when we can recognize the abundance of blessings God is showering upon us even in the most challenging of times. We even are blessed to be a blessing to others so that we may all experience the love and amazing grace of our Lord Jesus in both word and deed. Please join us in praying that all may come to know the joy of the Lord and give thanks for his many blessings even on days when it feels like everything is going wrong.

See you in worship and Sunday school,

Pastors Bert and Shelly Schultz



Sunday Celebrations

- May 4th: Confirmation
- May 11th: Senior Recognition / Blessing of Graduates
- May 11th: Mother's Day
- May 26th: Memorial Day

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***Deadline for the next
newsletter is
May 26***

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Church Administrative Council Minutes

April 7, 2025

Matt Kohler, called the April 7, 2025, meeting to order with the following CAC members present: Garrett Serr, Pastor Bert, John Pence, Dianna Davis, Andrea Kirtley, Pastor Shelly, Matt Kohler, Kent Leininger, Trent Platfoot, and Tanya Hinegardner. Matt Kohler had the devotion. It was about the strength to be still. In order to know God inward stillness is absolutely necessary. Be still and know that I am God.

Matt Kohler opened the meeting with prayer.

Secretary's report was approved as presented. Trent Platfoot moved and John Pence seconded the secretary's report. Motion carried.

Trent Platfoot, presented the treasurer's report for March 2025. Total receipts for March were \$22,883.64 and expenses were \$24,678.05. The ending balance on 03/31/2025 was \$53,121.73. The ending balance of the savings account was \$44,386.44. The Mutual Fund balance as of 03/31/2025 was \$47,791.64. There was an increase in receipts. We did pay the property insurance this month in the amount of \$2,763.50 and some professional fees in the amount of \$475.00. We did have \$520.00 come in from Thrivent that was not designated so it was deposited into the general fund. Garrett Serr moved and Kent Leininger seconded the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

*Pastor's Report for the month of April 2025

Pastoral Visitation for March 2025

Home and Office Visits	18
Ministry Meetings	16
Bereavement Visits	3

Pastoral Acts for February 2025

Funeral	March 28	Marcia K. Lippert
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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 March 9 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Delta, OH and had Q&A about the NALC
- Had prayer and blessing for a new home for a congregational family March 24
- Held a Grace Lutheran inquiry class for potential new members March 30; reception of new members April 13 at 10:30 am worship. Trent Platfoot moved and Kent Leininger seconded to receive Julia Burch and Archer Copeland as baptized confirmed members on May 4th. Motion carried. Andrea Kirtley moved and Trent Platfoot seconded to receive by baptism Alana, Ava, and Adelyn Harp on April 13th. Motion carried. Garrett Serr moved and Andrea Kirtley seconded to receive baptized confirmed members Charlyne Perrine and Doug Frilling on April 13th. Motion carried.
- Planned and implemented midweek Lenten theme of Jerusalem at Passover, a Lenten Tour
- Invitation to seminarian Luke Ratke to preach at Grace April 6. His wife and him enjoyed the community and congrega-

tion. The \$750.00 that was given to him came from Match Day. We agreed to have two more students for 2025 and have the pastors pick them.

- Received a thank-you note from One Plus God for the donation to the Tanzania Vehicle Project.

NALC and NW OH Mission District Updates

- NALC seeking nominations for denominational positions
- MD updates
- OMR delegates needed. Two people are needed for Springfield on May 2nd and 3rd. At least two people are needed for Pittsburgh in August.

*Old Business

- Fresh Eyes update – Matt – Will send a note to LifeWise students.
- NALC – Pastor Shelly
- Furnace update – Kent – Waiting on the scope of work.
- Kitchen – Matt -
- Website content – All – Content is still needed.
- Outside workday – We need a few people to pick up limbs – Gospel Gang may help with this.
- Rally Day food – Shelly – Education Committee will provide.
- Staff evaluations – Matt – lets set a date – Matt will email the Executive Committee on this to find a date.
- Community faith night – Shelly – are the funds needed - \$3,500.00 is needed for entertainment, some money is given to New Horizons (Youth Choir), and for the service project \$3,500.00 for Kid Coalition Against Hunger which is for 10,000 meals and 5,000 stay locally. It is like Rice A Roni in which you just add water. Kent Leininger moved to donate \$500.00 to the Community Faith Night and Dianna Davis seconded. Motion carried. The money will come from Fresh Eyes. A church in our mission district is interested in coming to the Community Faith Night and we agreed that they can stay at the church.

*New Business

- Audit committee report – We reviewed their recommendations.
- Endowment committee – designated missions for quarterly congregational meeting – The five missions are Morgans Place, Community Faith Night, LifeWise Academy, NALC Seminarian Scholarship, and Rustic Hope will be voted on April 13th.
- Agenda for quarterly congregational meeting (only old and new business)

Old Business

LifeWise Academy

Board member update

Funding

CAC retreat

Furnace update

NALC delegates needed

Ohio Mission Region – May 2nd and 3rd (2)

National Convocation in Pittsburgh August 4th through the 8th (3)

New Business

Audit committee report
Endowment missions

Committee Reports:

Choice: Tanya Hinegardner – No report.

Education: Andrea Kirtley – No report.

Endowment: Matt Kohler – The Endowment committee is meeting on Thursday, April 3rd. We are reviewing the scholarship applications and discussing the organization for our mission monies for the quarterly congregational meeting.

Friendship: Marcia Davis – No report.

Lay/Witness: John Pence – No report received. Meeting on April 27th at 11:30 am. Scheduled a JOY game day on April 24th from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

Youth: Garrett Serr – Luther League – With the donations from the Sunday breakfast – was able to purchase 30 Bibles for the LifeWise Program so the kids could take a Bible home to read. Provided the Lenten Meal on 3/26 to help raise money for a mission trip. Future Sunday Fellowship breakfasts are scheduled for April 6th and April 27th. All donations will go towards a mission trip. Luther League wants to invite Congregational Members to go on a mission trip to Ashville, North Carolina from June 19th – 24th through Mary Bates of the NALC Disaster Relief. Members/teens can stay a few days if they can't stay the whole time of the trip. Will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19th at 10:00 am. Looking to attend "Rock the Lake" on August 2nd---a free Christian Concert at Indian Lake.

Worship: Dianna Davis – No report. Will be meeting in August.

Mission: Trent Platfoot – No report received.

Property & Trustee: Kent Leininger –

Floor light control knobs in sanctuary

1. Lutron provided at no cost under case 04175001, free knob.
2. Knob worked so asked to purchase more. They are providing 10 more free of charge as well.

Boiler update

1. Waiting for scope of work document to be completed by Doug Hinegardner.
2. Material pricing may be reduced from original estimate reviewed in February.

Kitchen concept/remodel

1. March 20th – Met with KSI to measure and conceptualize use of space(s)
2. Waiting for feedback

*Any other business before adjourning?

Trent Platfoot moved to adjourn the meeting and John Pence seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be held on May 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Tanya Hinegardner, Sec.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Quarterly Congregational Meeting Minutes April 13, 2025

The April 13, 2025, quarterly congregational meeting was called to order by President Matt Kohler. There were 40 members present.

The Secretary's report from January 19, 2025, was approved as presented. John Pence moved and Kay Frieders seconded the motion to approve the secretary's report. Motion carried.

Treasurer, Trent Platfoot, presented the quarterly treasurer's report as well. Receipts for the 1st quarter totaled \$59,830.97. Expenses for the 1st quarter totaled \$77,348.60. The balance for the end of the 1st quarter was \$49,815.24. The mutual fund balance at the end of the 1st quarter was \$89,612.82. Abby Pence moved and Toni Leininger seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Pastor Shelly and Pastor Bert provided the pastors report. Thank you for letting us be your pastors. Requesting prayers for the VISA's for our Tanzanian sisters. They will be here with us on August 3rd and September 28th. VBS will be held July 14th-18th and the theme this year is Wonder Junction and they are in need of volunteers. The Luther League will be going on a mission trip to North Carolina on June 19th-25th and are inviting everyone to join them.

Old Business:

- LifeWise Academy – They now have 23 3rd graders enrolled also.
Board member update – Toni Leininger is serving on the board.
Funding – Make sure that if you donate online to designate to Jackson Center.
- CAC retreat – We met in January of 2025 at Tim & Dianna Davis place. Set some goals for the year.
- Facilities update – We have a scope of work for the boiler. The basement flooded and not sure where the water came from. Kent is working with the village on this. The storm windows will be completed this week.
- NALC delegates needed
Ohio Mission District – May 2nd and 3rd
National Convocation in Pittsburgh August 4th through the 8th

New Business:

- Audit committee report – Kristen Davis provided a summary of the audit committee report from when they met on March 25th. A detailed list of recommendations was sent to the CAC to review.
- Endowment missions vote – The congregation voted on how to divide \$2,000.00 among the following groups: Morgans Place, Community Faith Night, LifeWise Academy, NALC Seminarian Scholarship, and Rustic Hope.

Other Business: There being no further business.

Aaron Klopfenstein moved and Bob Zorn seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted,
Tanya Hinegardner, Sec.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 4:	Confirmation 10:30 Worship Service.
Sunday, May 4:	Luther League Breakfast.
Wednesday, May 7:	Gospel Gang.
Sunday, May 11:	High School Senior Recognition.
Sunday, May 11:	Mother's Day.
Monday, May 12:	CAC Meeting.
Wednesday, May 14:	Education Committee Meeting.
Wednesday, May 14:	Choice Committee Meeting.
Sunday, May 18:	Mission Committee Breakfast.
Thursday, May 22:	JOY Gathering.
Monday, May 26:	Memorial Day, Church Office Closed.
Wednesday, May 28:	Community Faith Night JC Community Days.

Committee Reports

Audit Committee: The Audit Committee met on Tuesday, March 25 at 4:30pm to review the 2024 church financial records. Members Greg Woolley, Cassi Klopfenstein, and Kristen Davis were present. Secretary Nikki Tontrup was also present and answered questions about records and policies.

Members reviewed the statements and details of procurement cards and eight bank accounts: Church Checking, Church Savings, Memorial Fund, Luther League, Choice, Endowment, Tanzania Savings, and Women of the Church. We discussed the procedures and reviewed documentation required for cash deposits, credit card purchases, and expense reimbursements.

The 2024 church financial records were complete and supported with required receipts and approvals following internal control procedures. The records were reconciled timely and without exception. A detailed list of recommendations was provided to the CAC for consideration.

Kristen Davis

Chair, Audit Committee

Endowment Committee: Endowment Committee Meet on April 3, 2025 at 5:30 PM at JC Ball Park. Members Present: Matt Kohler, Greg Woolley, Chris Stengel, Kay Frieders, Pr. Bert Schultz. Meeting opened in prayer by Matt Kohler, President.

First meeting agenda was the High School Senior Scholarship applications, and all agreed to give \$600/per applicant (4) for a total of \$2,400.00.

Second meeting agenda was setting the list of Missions to place on the voting ballot for the April Quarterly Congregational Meeting scheduled Sunday April 13, 2025 @ 9:20am Our goal was to select Local, County, Regional, National Missions. The five missions chosen were: Family Faith Night, Rustic Hope, Morgan's Place, LifeWise Academy, NALC Seminary Scholarship Fund.

Each voting member will have five votes to place on the ballot. Mission funds total is \$2,000. Kay will communicate the list of missions to Nikki, church Secretary, to prepare the ballot for the April 13th congregational meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Mission Committee: The Mission Committee met on April 16th at 7:00 pm with 7 members present and Pastor Wayne as guest. Julie led the meeting in prayer. Financial reports were discussed and funds are in good standing. The vehicle fundraiser is currently funded at 50 percent. Ndumieshi and Tunsubilege have their next visa appointment on May 21st. Prayers they will obtain their visas so they are able to come to the US at the end of July. Pastor Wayne submitted receipts of their plane tickets to the NALC who shared they will contribute \$2,500 towards the ladies travel expenses. The One Plus God mission house, in Marion, is almost ready and a big thank you to those that have helped with this, including Darrel and Greg. The Mission Committee is encouraged to meet, if available, at the mission house on Thursday, July 31st at 7:00 pm to have dinner with Ndumieshi and Tunsubilege the day they arrive. We want to provide a warm welcome to them, just as they did when our mission group went to Tanzania. Pastor Bert is working with Kim and Pastor Wayne to get their schedules filled for the 2-month duration that they are in the US. A good chunk of their schedule is already getting filled. It is important to remember the value of one-on-one, family, or small group meetings with them to build relationships and have meaningful conversations. The upcoming Tanzania Orphanage and Outreach newsletter will be coming out in May. The next mission trip to Tanzania with One Plus God is set for July 9-21, 2026. Anyone is able to attend the trip and the mission committee is happy to answer any questions that may arise. The annual pork meal in February raised \$2,290 and we are thankful to all who participated in purchasing a meal. The Mission Committee is donating \$300 to the Growing Community in Faith night that will be held in Jackson Center on Wednesday, May 28th. The meeting ended with Pastor Bert saying a prayer.
Submitted by Julie Klopfenstein


Grace at Worship ...



Season of Easter

The season of Easter is in stark contrast to the preceding season of Lent, with its muted decor and symbols of Christ's suffering and death. Easter bursts into our lives full of color, flowers, upbeat hymnody, and reminders of the new life we share in Christ. Not only are the sights around us energizing and uplifting, the lilies and other flowers touch our sense of smell and heighten our awareness that Jesus is alive! During the 50 days of Easter we are reminded of the blessing of our Baptism; through Christ who were once dead in sin have been made alive and restored to a right relationship with God.

Worship Servants for Sundays in May 2025

	Third Sunday of Easter May 4	Fourth Sunday of Easter May 11	Fifth Sunday of Easter May 18	Sixth Sunday of Easter May 25
Lessons	Acts 9:1-22; Ps 30; Rev. 5:8-14; John 21:1-14	Acts 20:17-35; Ps 23; Rev. 7:9-17; John 10:22-30	Acts 11:1-18; Ps 150; Rev. 21:1-7; John 16:12-22	Acts 16:9-15; Ps 67; Rev. 21:9-14, 21-27; John 16:23-33
	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
Organists	Cheryl Burch	Nancy McName	Cheryl Burch	Nancy McName
Acolytes	Claire Morris	Archer Copeland	Julia Burch	Archer Copeland
Crucifers	Claire Morris	Archer Copeland	Julia Burch	Archer Copeland
Lay Readers	Julie Klopfenstein	Scott Klopfenstein	Kristen Davis	Darren Myers
A/V	None	Ian Stengel Carter Klopfenstein	None	Preston Serr Cortney Copeland
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
Acolytes	Kaydree Withrow	Lake Woolley	Braxton Roberts	Bryson Scott
Lay Readers	Confirmands	Jen Woolley	Tom Woolley	Darlene Woolley
Communion Preparation	8:00 AM & 10:30 AM	10:30 AM	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
A/V	Jill Ludwig	Karen Hatfield	Karen Hatfield	Jill Ludwig
Song Leaders	Cheryl Mann Rick Sailor	Kay Frieders Matt Kohler	Jill Ludwig Rick Sailor	Krista Withrow Greg Woolley

Committee Reports Continued

Lay / Witness Ministry: Six members met for the Lay Witness Ministry meeting on Sunday, April 27th following the second service. (President Linda Jenkins, Pastor Bert, Fritz and Deb Serr, Lisa Wright, and Susan Ware)

Linda shared devotions with the message that when things go wrong in our lives we can trust God to guide us through it.

Members reported 4 phone calls and 2 communions with our shut ins.

Linda thanked members for the food and snack donations for the New Member class and game day. Our next game day is scheduled for May 22nd at 1:00-3:00. Members will furnish snacks. Fritz suggested we each invite someone to attend and we would be happy to provide transportation for anybody who might need it. We could also set up tables in the sanctuary if mobility is a problem.

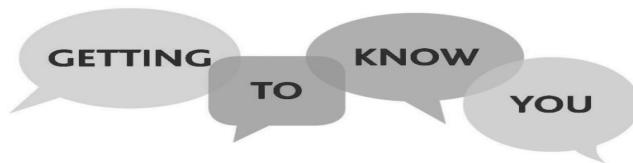
Pastor Bert encouraged members to check out the Grace for Marriage website. Linda and Pastor Bert will check out the materials and if they are suitable we'll look to set a date after the summer months.

Those members volunteering with the LifeWise program gave a very positive report noting that the program is growing, and there is support and enthusiasm for LifeWise. We will check next Fall to see if there's a need for supplies that we might provide through Thrivent cards. Lisa reported that she provided a Thrivent Action Team card and that the program leaders purchased Lifewise shirts for the participants.

Lisa reminded us that the National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 1st. There are planned activities scheduled to take place in Sidney. Linda is going to prepare prayer suggestion sheets for anyone who would like to stop by Grace to pray.

There being no further business the meeting was closed with all praying the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will follow game day on May 22nd and Fritz will share devotions.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary, Susan Ware



The Lay/Witness Committee requested church families to introduce themselves to get to know each other as a Church family. Below is the third of many that were completed and returned.

Featured Family for the Month of May

The Family of Aaron & Cassi Klopfenstein

Aaron & Cassi wrote that they are parents to 2 daughters Ada age 3 & Kora age 1. Aaron grew up in Jackson Center and Cassi in Milton, Georgia. Aaron works at Jackson Center Schools and Cassi works for Superior Environmental Solutions. Aaron attended college at Bowling Green State University, Cassi attended college at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Aaron & Cassi were married at Grace Lutheran on July 27, 2019. Aaron, Ada & Kora were baptized at Grace Lutheran and Cassi was baptized at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Louisville, Kentucky. The family hobbies are playing outside and watching Scooby Doo. When asked what their faith and church mean to them they answered: "We feel blessed to have a faith-filled community to help support our family- It takes a village!"



Volunteers Needed on **Wednesday, May 28th** 2:30-3:30 pm or 4:00 -5:00 pm for packing Kid's Coalition Against Hunger (Packing food for local families in need). GOAL 10,000 food packs. To sign up to volunteer register at <https://kidscoalitionagainsthunger.org/news-events/event-calendar.html/event-form/registration-form/106291/tickets> or sign up on the back sanctuary table.

We will meet in the Jackson Center Firehall to receive instructions and assembly line pack 10,000 meals.

We need 100 volunteers.

New Horizons and Scally Brothers concert to follow under the tent for Growing Community in Faith Night.

6:00 pm-9:00 pm Christian Music from New Horizons and Scally Brothers concert.

Join us for a Service Project and Christian Music to share Jesus' love!



New Horizons Music Group



The Scally Brothers

Mother's Day Blessings

Just as God gives to each rose
A gentle touch of dew
And gives unto each evening sky
The lovely sunset's hue

So may he give to you
From his enduring love
Great happiness
and hearts' content
And blessings from above.

Happy
Mother's
Day



Women of the Church

Circle 1

Circle one met April 2, 2025 with 10 members present welcoming Charlyne Perrine to our circle. Sharon Lenhart opened our session with "God's Love is a Haven in the Storms of Life" by Helen Steiner Rice. She also shared a devotional, "Raised Scars" followed by prayer. Members answered roll call with a Bible verse using the word Love.

Minutes were read, and Treasurer reported a balance of \$190.76. Members signed up for responsibilities for the Easter Breakfast. Diapers are being collected for Elizabeth Center during April. Barb Wical reported on the blood bank on April 1, and also the number of quilts sewn, health kits collected, and personal care items for the food pantry.

Susan Ware, vice-president, shared some news items from the WNALC along with their mission statement.

Sharon Lenhart led our Bible study about the woman who was healed after touching the bottom of Jesus' garment. We learned to be persistent when we have struggles because God can be trusted to help see us through them. We can be impatient waiting for God's answers to our prayers. Prayer can be life-changing for us. Like this woman, we should share our faith with others.

Our meeting was closed by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary,
Barb Wical

Circle 3

Circle 3 met April 15th with 8 members answering roll call with a verse containing "forgive".

Toni Leininger led the Bible Study entitled "The Place of the Dead". We are assured that even in face of death, God never stops taking care of us. Our faith cannot be our own imagination and preference but must be grounded in the Word of God. Christ was victorious over the power of death and Jesus says even the gates of Hades will not prevail. Thus we pray for the Holy Spirit be within us that we trust in the promise of the resurrection of Jesus the Christ. May the Lord be with us in the midst of all doubts and fears of death.

Secretary & Treasurers reports presented. Treasury balance \$175.90.

Business—

- Watch the bulletin for the list of items of items in need for Elizabeth's New Life Center.
- In May we collect Bibles and crosses used by NALC Disaster Response needs.
- Finalize our responsibility for the "fruit" entrée for Easter Breakfast.

Our hostess Traci treated us with a lemon dessert and a large strawberry and assorted nut goodies.

Meeting closed with praying the "Lord's Prayer".

Submitted by Nancy McName

WOC May Collections

WOC May Collections are Bibles and New Testament & Any type of crosses to hold or hang on the wall - new and used for NALC Disaster Response Needs. They can be Children's Bibles, Teen Bibles, Spanish Bibles, Large Print Bibles! Feel free to send underlined, and highlighted Bibles, DON'T HESITATE TO WRITE A MESSAGE OF HOPE IN THE FRONT FOR THE RECIPIENTS! Place in vestibule baskets! Any questions please contact Linda Jenkins, Chairperson

Men's Ministry

We met on April 21st. The meeting was opened with prayer by Dana Ware. After discussion, we decided to use our Lenten meal money to support LifeWise Ministry here in Jackson Center. Next, we completed session 4: "Second Base GOOD CHATTER" with more discussion about how to start conversations about our faith with our family. One suggestion was to plan to tell a Bible story in your own words at a meal but be sure to fill your wife in on what you are doing so she doesn't fall out of her chair. From there we moved on to the final session 5: "Rounding Third and Headed for Home". The question was, "What does a family learn from a committed husband and father?" First of all, we must be there with the family and take every opportunity to show our faith in how we live each day. We are always being watched by family, Church family and those in our community. The example we set is very important. Next, we discussed the Bible story about Abraham being requested to sacrifice his son Isaac and how does our faith compare to Abraham's. We closed with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be May 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Dennis Weaver

Announcements

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 19-25, 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.

Last Gospel Gang meeting for the 2024-2025 year will be Wednesday, May 7th 6:15 pm-7:30 pm. We would like to invite everyone back for the 2025-2026 year with our kickoff on Wednesday, September 3rd.

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.



Grace @ Prayer

Standing in the Need of Prayer

Immediate Need of Prayers:

Margarett Travaille, Rex Oakley

Prayers for Long-Term Situations:

Dwight Johnson, Mindy Steinbrunner, Lisa Williams, Paige Schneider, Hayes Homan, Penny Borchers, Chris Burch, Joe Oakley, John Sloan, Ron & Linda Leininger, Michele Rodriguez, Brent Kerns

Prayers for Military:

Jay Clark,
Kaiden Hinegardner,
Caden Paavola

Parish Statistic: April 2025

Baptisms

- ◆ Baptism of Alana Joy Harp on April 13, 2025.
- ◆ Baptism of Ava Marie Harp on April 13, 2025.
- ◆ Baptism of Adelyn Joy Harp on April 13, 2025.

Welcome New Members to Grace

Charlyne Ann Perrine	April 13, 2025
Douglas Scott Frilling	April 13, 2025

Congratulations to Isaac & Jenna Klopfenstein on the birth of their daughter Isabella Taylor Klopfenstein. Isabella was born April 21, 2025 @ 11:27 pm she weighted 8lbs. 13 oz. and measured 20.5" long. She is welcomed home by brothers Jacob & Jonah. Proud grandparents are Scott & Kathy Klopfenstein.



Announcements Continued

CHICKEN FRY Jackson Center American Legion Chicken Fry, Saturday, May 3th 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.

Catechism Connection

Catechism youth continue throughout the summer with Sunday morning studies at 9:15 am

Seeing Jesus' Parables in Luke Through Ancient Middle Eastern Eyes The Parables of Jesus – May Sundays

Jesus' parables are timeless, powerful, and profound. Yet there is a dimension to them that can best 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 remarkable stories come to life for you. Join us for Adult Sunday morning Sunday School at 9:15 am each week.

Upcoming Parables of Jesus: The Friend at Midnight, The Rich Fool, The Great Banquet, The Lost Sheep & Coin.

IT'S GAME DAY Inviting all senior members of Grace (and the community) to our "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, May 22nd at 1:00 pm-3:00 pm. 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! Please enter through the south side doors.

Sponsored by the Lay/Witness Committee

MEMORIAL DAY

May 26, 2025

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

Emanuel Lutheran Church Cemetery 9:00 a.m.

Seven Day Baptist Cemetery 9:30 a.m.

Memorial Park Jackson Center 10:00 a.m.

(Memorial Park corner of College & Fairview Street)

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO REMEMBER AND GIVE THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE OF THEMSELVES.

VBS Float build will be the week of May 26-29th.

Congratulations to our Confirmation Class of 2025

May 4, 2025

Archer James Copeland, son of Marc & Abby Copeland, has as his confirmation verse, **Philippians 4:13** "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." His Godparents are Mike & Becky Copeland.



Julia Ann Burch, daughter of Mark & Lindsey Burch, has as her confirmation verse, **1 Corinthians 16:14** "Let all that you do be done in love." Her Godparents are Greg Borchers & Nicole Gearing.



Congratulations to our High School Graduates!



*Cortney Ruth Copeland
Carson Timothy Davis
Jackson Robert Davis
Reed Anthony Platfoot*



Congratulations to our College Graduates:

- *Dalton Faler from The Ohio State University with a Doctorate of Optometry. He will be joining the practice Swartz & Swartz Family Optometry in Bellefontaine.*
- *Gabrielle & Grace Woolley from Bluffton University.*
- *Rachel Sailor from Rhodes State College.*

Thank you's

Thank you!! Thank you!! Thank you!!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 21 Health kits that were collected in February. These health kits will be sent to NALC Disaster Response for those people who have suffered from the many natural disasters here in the United States.

Another thank you to all donations of personal care items for the Fish Pond Food Pantry 147 items were collected. Those items are very much appreciated.

On sewing days in February and March, 28 quilts were completed. Thanks to all who donated sheets, sewed pieces, pinned and knotted these quilts for NALC Disaster Response, Also thank you to Tom Schindel for keeping our sewing machines humming along.

Barb Wical, Chairperson

Pastor Bert & Grace Lutheran Church,

We Can't thank you All enough for the Amazing amount of support for the Tanzania Vehicle Project. We could of never accomplished this goal without you all. Many Blessings,
The OPG Team

Thank you for all of the thoughts and prayers for me during my recent surgery. They are all much appreciated.
Barb Krugh

Thank you all very much for sending your thoughts, prayers & cards for my recent surgery. They were very much appreciated.
Bob & Shelly Zorn

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and visits from Pastors Shelly & Bert Schultz.
The family of Marcia Lippert



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 5:30 pm Praise Band Alex Knouff Jason & April Platfoot*	2	3
4 3rd. Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Worship w/ Communion 9:00 am LL Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/ Confirmation & Communion 4:00 pm-6:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm-8:30 pm Queen pageant meeting	5 7:00 pm Circle 2 Nikki Off 5th-9th Carson Davis Jackson Davis	6 Drew Stinebaugh	7 1:30 pm Circle 1 6:15 pm-7:30 pm Gospel Gang 7:00 pm Choir Practice	8 5:30 pm Praise Band	9 Ethan & Kassie Ludwig*	10 Jerry Metz
11 4th Sunday of Easter Senior Recognition 8:00 am Worship w/ Choir 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion 6:30 pm Pro. Live . 4-H Bob Klopfenstein Maddux Ackley	12 7:00 pm CAC Meet. Aaron Leininger Doug & Tanya Hinegardner*	13	14 6:00 pm Choice Committee Meeting 6:00 pm Education Committee Meeting	15 5:30 pm Praise Band	16	17
18 5th Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Worship w/ Communion 9:00 am Miss. Breakfast 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm-8:30 pm Queen Pageant meeting	19 7:00 pm Men's Group Mike & Mary Lee Couchot*	20 7:00 pm Circle 3 Dennis Weaver Alaina Mann Jeff & Danielle Davis*	21 7:00 pm Choir Practice Gary Russell	22 5:30 pm Praise Band 1:00 pm-3:00 pm JOY Dave Burch Joe Oakley Leland Paavola	23 Nikki Off John Sloan	24 Elena Platfoot Deb Wright
25 6th Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion Julie Klopfenstein	26 Memorial Day Church Office Closed John & Cheryl Janssen*	27 7:00 pm Prayer for Family Faith Night Barb Krugh Sandy Roach	28 Community Faith Night 2:00 pm-5:00 pm Food Packing 6:00 pm-9:00 pm Christian Music	29 5:30 pm Praise Band	30 JC Community Days	31 Bennett Withrow Colson Withrow

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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

May, 2025



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