

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 15, 2024

Parking spots are available in the parking lot and on the Park Drive side of the church. Additional Parking spaces are available across the street, at the school.

Large Print Bulletins including large print hymns are available. If you would like to use a large print bulletin, please help yourself to one on the back pew or ask an usher for assistance.

Children's Worship Bags are located in the back of the sanctuary for children to use during worship services. They have been updated with supplies and toys to help kids successfully be a part of the big worship service. Make sure you check them out.

OFFERING | Stationary plates are placed at the rear of the pews for your offerings. Online giving through the church's website is also encouraged. <https://www.gracethornville.org/giving>

PRAYER | Family of Vivian Crist, Kathy Aberegg, Carol Cormican, Rick Rockwell, Vicky Thomas, Ron Pairan, Pastor Tom Phillips, Jessica Dyer, Andrew Smith, Terry, Alicia Finck, Mark Knauff, Holly Culver, Danny Proch, Erin, Ally, Charlie, Brittany, Sharon, Sherry, John, George, Ethan, Matt Pierce, CJ Severance, Sue Robison, Jeff Craft, Connie Trinkle, Daryl, Brittany, Roger Metz, Norma Baker, Clarence, Jim, Kathy & Ed, Michael & Christina, Corrie, Penny Slater, Glenna Jones, Lowell Meredith Jr., Alexa, Dylan, Vicky Pairan, Ralph Phillips, Jim Palmer, Harry Arnold, Andy, Brittany, Charlie, Jean, Regina, Shelly, Tom, Ritt, Kayla, Kevin, Monica, Joe Little, Janet, Family of Fred Gerling. Prayer-line: prayer@gracethornville.org, 740.246.6576, or Sharon Roshon 740.467.3198.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Valinda Arnold, in memory of her husband, Larry.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God oin honor of Gene & Bonnie Goldsberry's 65th wedding anniversary on December 19, from their children and grandchildren.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to Jeff Crist and family on the December 7th death of his mother, Vivian. Vivian had been a member of Grace since 1967. Funeral services were held here on Friday.

Happy Anniversary wishes to John & Barb Ulmer who are celebrating their 51st wedding anniversary today also to Gene & Bonnie Goldsberry who will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on Thursday.

Happy Birthday wishes to Janet Boyer who will celebrate her birthday tomorrow.

Midweek Advent Service will be held on Wednesday December 18 at 7:00 PM in St. John's Hall. We will use a form of evening prayer (vespers), with the texts set to the tunes of familiar Christmas hymns. We will also sing one Advent and one Christmas hymn, with a brief homily (sermon) on a Scripture reading and the hymns.

Christmas Eve/Day Services:

- Tuesday, Dec. 24: 5:00pm and 9:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Services.
- Wednesday, Dec. 25: 10:30am Christmas Day Worship Service (wearing of pjs acceptable)

Poinsettias for Christmas altar decoration must be ordered now. The flowers will be used to adorn the altar area, and may be taken home following either the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day service. Cost is \$20.00 each and can be ordered by placing a Poinsettia Order Envelope in the offering plate, or contacting the office 740-246-6576 or office@gracethornville.org.

Children's Christmas Program, "*A Prophet Foretold the Messiah*" will be held on Sunday, Dec. 22, 9:15am in the Sanctuary. The program is under the direction of Pastor Theresa Jacobson. Rehearsals will be held on the following days:

- TODAY - During Adventures in Faith from 9:15-10:15 am
- TODAY - AFTER church, we will have a dress rehearsal with participants. Lunch will be provided at 12 noon. We will do a dress rehearsal from 12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. (approx.)
- * Please note the TWO rehearsals!!!!

Newsletter Articles for the January *Gracevine* are due in the church office tomorrow.

Tuesday's Table - December's Tuesday Table has been cancelled due to several scheduling conflicts. Clay Haus is now scheduled for Jan 28 at 5pm. A minimum of 24 are needed so please sign up on the new sign up sheet in the Gathering Space. A buffet is being considered. Questions, contact Jim or Sharon Roshon at 7404673198.

Lancaster Community Band will host a holiday concert, "*Triumph of the Skies*," on Sunday, Dec. 22, 2:00pm, at Faith Memorial Church, 2610 W. Fair Ave., Lancaster, Ohio. Free admission.

Pastor's Holiday Gift - For the next few Sundays we will be collecting money as our Christmas gift for Pastor Tom. If you wish to contribute, please write the word "gift" on your check or envelope and drop it in the offering plate. The gift will be presented to him during the Christmas Eve service.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty notes that Ben Franklin once observed, "It is in the region of ignorance that tyranny begins." The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty provides devotions, podcasts, op-ed pieces, and more in an effort to inform. You are invited to join the LCRL mailing list – see www.LCRLFreedom.org to subscribe.

Adventures in Faith Mission Project: We will be taking a weekly offering during each of our various Adventures in Faith classes. This includes both adult classes as well as confirmation. Our mission focus this year is *One Plus God: Tanzania Orphanage and Outreach Ministry*. This ministry is "A Partnership between the Lutheran churches of Tanzania and the States" and "An initiative of Grace Lutheran Church of Jackson Center, Ohio." We will send a financial offering in May.

Our Adventures in Faith Classes and Leaders:

- Two Adult Classes - Kris Lamphere in St John's Hall, Room 203 (main level), Karen and Jim Lewis in The Franks Fellowship Hall (lower level)
- 6th - 12th grades - Pastor Theresa Jacobson, AIF/SS Coordinator and Amber Feyh (top floor)
- 1st -5th grades - Jessica Rockey (top floor)
- PreK-K - Linda Keaser in Noah's Club (lower level)
- Confirmation Class - Pastor Tom Jacobson Classroom 1, Room 206 (off Gathering space, main level)

Pop Tabs - We will continue this ministry throughout the year. A collection jar for your tabs is in the gathering space. Thank you for your support of Ronald McDonald House with your donation of pop tabs.

Blessing Box - Our Blessing Box is located off the parking lot, in the yard near our church sign. It is a "Little Free Pantry", which provides items to local residents when they need them. These are the items most commonly donated and used to stock the Blessing Box: Canned food with ring-pulls, socks, mittens, crackers, toilet paper, non-perishable foods, bottled water. Donations can be placed in the bin in the Atrium entrance and will be used to fill the Blessing Box as needed. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

"My Fifty-Two Favorite Hymns" - Pr. Tom provides a weekly devotional reflection on his list of fifty-two of his favorite hymns, one for each week of the year. A recent favorite is available to listen to on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@Grace4Thornville/videos> You can access all the weekly reflections at the following link: <https://theelectronicconventicle.weebly.com>

SCHEDULE FOR DEC 15-22		
<u>Today</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Children's Program Rehearsal
	10:30am	Worship
	12:00pm	Children's Program Rehearsal
<u>Monday</u>	7:00pm	Handbell Practice
	7:00pm	Dartball vs. Lancaster
<u>Tuesday</u>	12:00pm	Senior Citizens
<u>Wednesday</u>	11:00am	LifeWise
	7:00pm	Advent Worship
	8:00pm	Choir Practice
<u>Thursday</u>	11:30am	LifeWise
<u>Friday</u>	8:00pm	AA Meeting
<u>Saturday</u>	8:00am	Men's Breakfast @ Nana & Papa's
	4:00pm	O'Reilly
<u>Next Sunday</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Children's Christmas Program
	10:30am	Worship
	3:00pm	R. Dittoe

Serving Today:
Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson
Assisting Minister: Jim Lewis, Grant McCallum
Greeters:
Lector: Jeff Stought (8am); Bob Reynolds (10:30)
Acolytes:
Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Serving Next Sunday:
Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson
Assisting Minister: Kelly O'Reilly
Greeters:
Lector: Kaye Smith (8am); Bill Luft (10:30)
Acolytes:
Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Attendance: Dec. 8: 8:00: 41; 10:30: 88; Weds. Worship : 27

Giving: General: \$10,569.23; LWR: \$12.50; NALC: \$175.; TEAF: \$65.; Backpack: \$20.; Vogt family: \$5.; LifeWise: \$175.; Capital Campaign: \$5.; AIF: \$39.; Flower Fund: \$20.; In/Out: \$160. Total: \$11,245.73