

Grace Messenger

January 2019

“Lead On!”

This is the title of our upcoming annual Grace Church Council Retreat, meeting at the Lynnwood Cabin on Saturday, January 12, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.. Our 2019 Council will meet at Grace from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Friday, January 11th for fellowship and community building. Pastors Powell and Brodbeck are creating, and will convene, the content and schedule for our retreat. Pastor Powell, and approved by our Council, has asked our Grace staff to attend the 8:30 a.m. – noon portion of the retreat as an opportunity to have our elected and paid staff praying and planning during these hours. With Grace serving God in this time of transition, our upcoming shared retreat will prove to be a wonder-full opportunity for partnership, visioning, Bible study, and prayer. Please keep our Council and staff in your prayers on Saturday, January 12, 2019.

A Word of Appreciation

As we turn to calendar year 2019, three of our Grace Council members have faithfully completed their elected responsibilities. These three faithful leaders are Sandy Thompson, Scott Brink, and Nicki Castle. Nicki has served ably in fulfilling an unexpired term. Scott has served for 3 years and most recently as our Council Secretary. Sandy Thompson has served two consecutive 3-year terms and most recently as our Council President. God continues to bless Grace with fine leaders and we give thanks for Sandy, Scott, and Nicki. In November 2018 our congregation elected Steven Schumacher [to his second 3-year term] and Joe Jordan, Melanie Petree, and Amy Fraker to their first 3-year term. Again, God continues to provide this congregation with fine leadership. Our 2019 Grace Church Council will be officially Installed during both worship services on Sunday, January 6, 2019.

Senior Pastor Call Committee update for the month of December

Christmas greetings from your Grace Call Committee members, wishing you and yours a fulfilling season of celebration for the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We are pleased to announce that after much discussion and discernment, we have completed the Grace Congregational Profile document and forwarded it to our NALC leadership for distribution. Reinforcing, this is the first major step in the call process...it is a document that reflects the personality, traditions, and needs of our congregation as we move forward in our Call to a new Senior Pastor. It has been a collective effort by our nine committee members, plus the input received from multiple people within Grace – we are very confident that this Congregational Profile provides potential candidates a clear picture of who/what Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is, and expects to be.

We have also received confirmation that the NALC has made our denomination’s Pastors aware of this opening (in a variety of mediums) and is actively making the Profile available to anyone interested in considering a call from our congregation. Although we don’t expect a lot of activity right in the middle of Advent, we hope to report receipt of multiple applications in our January update. God’s blessings to you all,

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Senior Pastor Call Committee

Ty Craddock

Michelle Kouse

Matt Rugh (Co-Chair)

Mark Grimes (Co-Chair)

Jane Kreider

Maxine Shroyer (Secretary)

Ginger Hennig

Tom O’Neal

Sandy Thompson (Council President)

Central Community Center/Rainbow Table II

January is our month to serve at Rainbow Table II at Central United Methodist Church in downtown Springfield. If you have never been to this dinner, come and see what Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church does for the Springfield community. We gather every Tuesday in January to prepare dinner for hungry people, for people in need of a free meal and for people who want to eat with others instead of alone. The fun starts at 2:30 p.m. when we gather in the basement kitchen of the Central United Methodist Church to prepare the meal and set the tables. This continues until 5 p.m. when the second shift of helpers comes in to serve and clean up after the meal. The second shift lasts until 7 p.m.

Central United Methodist Church is located at 102 W. High Street at the corner of High and Center Streets. If you have any questions, contact Robert Thompson at 937-605-0445

Service Quilt Guild Sew-a-thon Saturday, February 9, 2019

The Service Quilt Guild has set Saturday, February 9, 2019 as the day for the Sew-a-thon. We will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 3 p.m. with a lunch break at noon. If you signed up at Sign up Central you will receive a reminder via mail.

If you have a sewing machine, please bring it. The guild has 4 machines which can be assigned on first request basis. Please make your requests known to Susan Truchses.

A few ladies have asked if they could participate even if they don't sew. Yes, we would be happy to have you. There are other tasks besides sewing which we would be happy to teach, such as assembling a quilt, cutting fabric, or completing a quilt with knotting. These are tasks which need to be done and, while they are easy to learn, they are vital to complete a quilt.

If interested, please contact Susan Truchses before February 7 at 324-4429 or email srtruchses@gmail.com. We must have an accurate number so arrangements can be made.

Inclement Weather Policy

With winter upon us, we need to be aware of Grace's policy for cancellations and closures. The policy for how and when we cancel our worship and/or other ministries because of inclement weather is as follows:

Pastor Powell or Pastor Brodbeck will contact at least two members of our Executive Committee for consultation and assistance. If they decide to cancel activities or worship, we will contact TV station WHIO Channel 7.

We will also place a message on our telephone answer machine system at Grace, send a One Call Now message, post it on the Grace Lutheran Church Facebook page and website to let you know that worship service has been cancelled.

Parking Assistance Ministry at Grace

This month we are featuring Parking Assistance Ministry. This team offers assistance at our front doors on Sunday mornings, parking and retrieving cars for those requesting assistance for any reason. Something you may not know about that team is that they have loaner umbrellas to loan to you.

We asked Parking Assistance Team Member, Harry Zernechel why he serves as a Parking Assistance Ministry Team Member. Harry explained that he knows that there are some people who have difficulties with walking distances from the parking lot to get into our church building and he recognizes that assisting people to get in and out of our church building is one small thing he can do help others. He indicates that he helps in any way possible including:



- Parking and retrieving car for the owner;
- Helping individuals being dropped off to get in and out of their vehicles and, if need be, assist them with walkers and/or small stools to step in and out of car;
- Holding doors open for people and
- Helping individuals carry items into Grace from their cars such as groceries for hurricane victims

Additional Parking Assistance Team Members are needed for our second service on Sundays. Is God calling you to serve in this ministry?

Thanks Grace Staff!

Our Grace staff created and wrote our 2018 Advent Devotional, titled *The ABC's of Advent*. This is no small task and is further evidence that God has assembled a wonderful staff here at Grace, a team willing to go above and beyond their job descriptions! We hope you enjoyed the writings and discovered a spiritual renewal as you spent time, day to day, in these devotions.

Grace Men's Retreat

All men of this congregation willing to join a Planning Team for a March 2, 2019 one-day men's retreat are asked to let Pastor Powell or Pastor Brodbeck know ASAP. If there is adequate interest and commitment, we will meet in mid-January and 'get to planning'! Take this to our Lord in prayer and, then, contact our Pastors.

2019 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are available in the narthex to be picked up. If you do not find a set of envelopes with your name, please contact Darla Kalifoot (399-6257 ext. 102). For 2018 tax credit, your offering must be received in the Grace office by noon on Friday, December 28, 2018, or postmarked December 31, 2018. If you use leftover 2018 offering envelopes in 2019, please scratch out the offering envelope number as your 2019 envelope number has changed.

January Events

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church 1801 St. Paris Pike. Springfield, OH 45504

937.399.6257 www.grace-nalc.org

Tuesday, January 1

Grace office closed

Wednesday, January 2

9:30 am Embroiderer's Guild
7:00 pm Disciple Fast Track

Thursday, January 3

9:00 am Service Quilter's Guild
11:00 am Adult Bible Study
7:00 pm Praise Team rehearsal

Friday, January 4

Saturday, January 5

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
4:30 pm 12th Night Choir & Bells Party

Sunday, January 6

8:00 am Worship/Grace Council
Installation
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:15 am Fellowship
10:45 am Contemporary Worship/
Grace Council Installation

Monday, January 7

1:00 pm Stephen Ministry

Tuesday, January 8

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
9:30 am Faith Guild
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed
2:00 pm Joy Guild
6:00 pm Executive Committee
7:00 pm Agape Guild

Wednesday, January 9

1:30 pm Charity Guild
5:30 pm Grace Notes rehearsal
6:00 pm Stephen Ministry
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
7:00 pm Disciple Fast Track

Thursday, January 10

9:00 am Service Quilter's Guild
11:00 am Adult Bible Study

Friday, January 11

6:00 pm Grace Council retreat

Saturday, January 12

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
8am—4pm Grace Council retreat

Sunday, January 13

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:15 am Fellowship
10:45 am Worship
12:15 pm Financial Stewardship
2:30 pm *Worship at
Springfield Manor*

Monday, January 14

Tuesday, January 15

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed
7:00 pm Grace Council

Wednesday, January 16

5:30 pm Grace Notes rehearsal
6:00 pm Endowment Committee
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
7:00 pm Disciple Fast Track

Thursday, January 17

11:00 am Adult Bible Study
6:00 pm Prayer Support Team

Friday, January 18

Saturday, January 19

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, January 20

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for youth
9:15 am Outreach Break: Nehemiah
Foundation
10:15 am Fellowship
10:45 am Worship

Monday, January 21

5:00 pm Stephen Ministry
6:00 pm Stephen Ministry CE

Tuesday, January 22

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed

Wednesday, January 23

5:30 pm Grace Notes rehearsal
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
7:00 pm Disciple Fast Track

Thursday, January 24

11:00 am Adult Bible Study
6:30 pm Culture Crew

Friday, January 25

Saturday, January 26

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, January 27

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School for all ages
10:15 am Fellowship
10:45 am Worship

Monday, January 28

Tuesday, January 29

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am —1:30pm Staff meeting/
office closed

Wednesday, January 30

5:30 pm Grace Notes rehearsal
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
7:00 pm Disciple Fast Track

Thursday, January 31

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

Joyous New Year!

It's traditional to wish friends "Happy New Year," but I don't wish, I pray--not for mere happiness, but for God-granted joy. May 2019 be as joyful for you as 2018 was for me--a granddaughter to love, opportunities to serve, and many kind greetings from faraway friends. May God bless Grace this year, a time of momentous change! I pray for you all, and I'm with you in Christ!
Pastor Beverly DeBord

January 20, 2019

Outreach Break

9:15 a.m.

Grace Fellowship Hall



THE
NEHEMIAH
FOUNDATION

**We equip Christ-centered leaders with spiritual encouragement, leadership training and networking.
We resource ministries serving the spiritual and physical needs of Springfield/Clark County. We
believe equipped leaders, empowered by God, transform communities.**

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Springfield, OH 45504

