

Grace Messenger

March 2023



CONCERT AT GRACE –LUTHER COLLEGE CONCERT BAND

Grace will host an evening concert on Friday, March 24 at 7:00 P.M. by the Concert Band from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. We are very fortunate that this musical ensemble has included us on their 2023 Spring Tour schedule. The band is comprised of 60 students from a wide range of academic disciplines at Luther College, all of whom auditioned to earn their spot in the ensemble. The Luther College Concert Band is one of the oldest touring collegiate music ensembles in the nation, embarking on its first domestic tour in the spring of 1886. Since 2020, the ensemble is under the direction of Cory Near. While modes of transportation and communication have evolved immensely over the course of 137 years, the musicianship, precision, spirit, and camaraderie within the ensemble have remained consistently excellent. The concert repertoire centers around this theme: *"Respect is what we owe; love, what we give."* (Philip James Bailey) Audiences of all ages will enjoy spending an evening in concert with the Luther College Concert Band. A freewill offering will be collected, with all proceeds going to the band and its tour expenses. We encourage you to join us for a great musical event!

We are very grateful to many of our Grace members who have expressed a willingness to transport the students to their homes on Friday night and provide warm beds and breakfast, before returning them to Grace on Saturday morning to continue their tour. A dinner will be provided at Grace for the band members before the concert. Please contact Bev Kaech with any questions. -Bev Kaech

PASTOR'S REFLECTION

About a decade ago, as our congregation began its planning for the additions of a community center and youth wing, the leadership of the campaign chose a song title as its theme: *God Is on the Move*. This contemporary Christian chorus was sung through the campaign and has been resurrected from time to time in our month praise services.

I have been humming that tune often in these past weeks as I have read and listened to reports about the revival sweeping across several college campuses. Asbury has received most of the press, but similar things are happening at Ohio Christian, Lee University and nearby Cedarville University. Busloads of Christians at other colleges are making their way to the Asbury campus to participate in this amazing movement of God.

While I rejoice that the young people of this nation are experiencing God in profound ways, I pray that it will not be restricted to the young. People of every generation need experience for themselves the movement of God. Come Holy Spirit!

I write this reflection two days before I preach the first of the series of sermons for Lent 2023. Our theme is "Behold the Lamb of God," based on John 1:29. I began planning for these sermons in November, and have ever since been praying that its message will result in a mighty movement of God as we focus our attention on the amazing act of love and sacrifice that brought to us salvation. Come Holy Spirit!

Will you join me in that prayer?

- Pastor Thomas Brodbeck

MARCH 12 SPECIAL MUSIC IN WORSHIP

We look forward to hearing the Yellow Springs Brass Quintet provide special music for our worship services on March 12. It is always a joy to hear the warm, melodic sounds from this talented ensemble as they glorify God with their selections. We are grateful that they include us in their busy schedule.



SPRINGFIELD MISSION TRIP

Time is flying by and our Springfield Mission Trip time is growing near! As of Feb 9, we have 190 campers signed up to help our Residents with home repair. That equates to about 30 free projects for our community. We have received over 50 applications, so things are moving along nicely. It is time to start gathering volunteers to help with hosting this event. Here is a list of jobs that need to be filled:

June 12 - 16, variable times: oversee delivery of materials to job sites and ensure materials are secured. Must have own transportation to job sites.

June 19 - 23, variable times - can make own schedule for afternoon or evening. Final site visits, all job sites: verify materials on hand, safety concerns, and resident coordination. Must have own transportation to job sites.

June 19 - 23, day hours located at Springfield High School. Serve as "set up" team help for Group early arrival team. Can serve all or just some of the days.

June 25, 7 to 10 AM: Need trucks or trucks with trailers that can carry a range of ladder sizes and deliver to multiple job sites.

June 25 - 30, 9 am to 3 pm: Runner with vehicle available to deliver various items to job sites. Can serve all or just one/some of the days.

June 25 - 30, 9 am to 3 pm: serve as Local Project Advisor. Must be able to serve all week. Construction/project experience required. Will provide mentorship and guidance to youth on job sites.

June 29, 12 to 3 pm: Need trucks or trucks with trailers that can visit multiple job sites to pick up construction debris and take to the Springfield landfill.

June 30, 12 to 3 pm: Need trucks or trucks with trailers that can visit multiple job sites to pick up construction debris and take to the Springfield landfill.

June 30, 1 to 3 pm: Need trucks or trucks with trailers that can carry a range of ladder sizes and pick up from multiple job sites.

Loan my ladder(s) or stepladder for youth to use during the workcamp. Drop off will be on June 23 or 24, pick up on July 1 or July 5 at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church: 1801 St. Paris Pike, Springfield.

Donate treats: cookies, bars, finger snacks for the visiting youth. All treats should be delivered in disposable pans or trays to the Springfield High School on Sunday, June 25 between 10 AM and 2 PM. There will be a cookie receiving table for you to drive up and drop off.

Other services: Painting help for difficult or high places; roofing expertise; construction expertise; "finish crew" July 5-7 for unfinished projects; discounts/donations for campers for Wednesday fun day.



Use this link to sign up, or scan the QR code on this page. You can also speak with Kim Fitzgerald to volunteer.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftWwXNS63VkgMfmGbIaOS2F76dgeXYHtShSlw4LYWSszvm0A/viewform?usp=sf_link

SEDER MEAL

We are in the planning stages for the March 30 Passover meal to be served in our community center. We will be announcing the details in the coming weeks. This will take the place of our Thursday evening worship service that week. Because of the anticipated level of interest in this, we will be requiring reservations. Be sure to watch for the updates!



OUTREACH CORNER



A program of the Clark County Jail Chaplaincy

During the month of March we will be collecting much needed items for the inmates at the Clark County Jail. Items include reading glasses, composition notebooks, and **white:** underwear for men and women, sports bras without wires, socks, and t-shirts. See the Grace Sign-up Central table in the narthex for a complete list of items. All items may be return to the bin in the narthex by March 26, 2023.



Save the date! Sunday, April 16, 2023 Nicole Patch from The Pregnancy Resource Clinic will be coming to speak to us during our Outreach Breakfast Break. Meet the new director to hear about the plans she has for the PRC and how we can continue to support this critical ministry here in Springfield.

HEARTFELT THANKS

Dear Pastor Brodbeck and Grace Family,

I would like to thank you for your prayers during my recent illness and hospitalization. The prayers of the faithful are powerful and effective! I witnessed that first hand through your prayers and the prayers offered by three operating room nurses who cared for me physically and spiritually.

Pastor Powell, thank you for your texts. Pastor Brodbeck, thank you for your visits to the hospital and for bringing Communion to Jerry and me. You certainly lifted our spirits and helped us stay connected to our church family.

God bless you, Su-Ann Newport

Sarah and I are most appreciative of our Grace family's outpouring of cards, messages and prayers as we celebrated 20 year of ministry together – 20 years since my ordination on January 31, 2003. We are most appreciative of those who joined us for worship and celebration at Trinity Lutheran on January 29, 2023.

We extend our heartfelt Thank You to Pastor Dan Powell for his prayers and support over the years, blessing us with his sermon and celebrating with us following the service. We are indeed most blessed to be part of such a vibrant family of faith serving our Lord in ministry.

I began with "Sarah and I" because Sarah, the love-of-my-life, spent countless hours of preparation, patience, persistence, and abundant grace not only for this celebration, but over the past 20+ years to even get to this anniversary of "ordained" ministry celebration.

May our Lord continue to bless all of you – the entire Grace family – with his mercy, grace, peace and unending love as together we continue to faithfully serve him every day of our lives. – Pastor Bruce & Sarah Kramer

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday, March 26, at 9:15 a.m., we will gather in the sanctuary for our first congregational meeting of 2023. A few of the important agenda items will include: approving the Nominating Committee for 2023, accepting our 2022 Annual Report, receiving an update from our treasurer, and Endowment updates.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to attend as we have many important things going on at Grace.

UPDATE ON THE GRACE APP

The Grace App has made several updates and upgrades. We urge you to give it a try again or for the first time! If you have had issues, try uninstalling the app and then re-installing for best functionality. Problems may also be reported by going to the settings menu and submit a report, the company is very good at addressing these issues.

Tips on submitting a Prayer Request in the Grace App

From the Home Page tap on the **Connect** option (Fig. 1)

Under Connect you will see a list of options and Prayer Request is part way down the page, Tap on **Prayer Request** (Fig. 2)

Fill out pertinent boxes and **BE SURE TO TAP SUBMIT AT THE BOTTOM** (Fig. 3)

From Home Page:



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

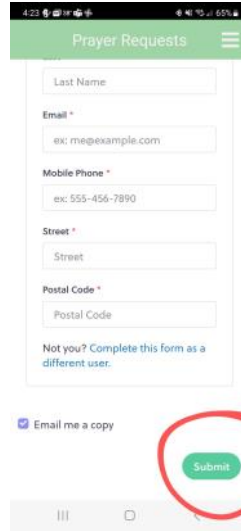


Fig. 3

CURRENT RESIDENT OR



www.grace-nalc.org 937.399.6257

Springfield, OH 45504

1801 St. Paris Pike

Evangelical Lutheran Church



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