

November MESSENGER



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

2024



Pastor's Reflection

Tom Brodbeck

In our current Adult Sunday School class (Elephants Donkeys and the Lamb) we have been talking about the reality that, as Christians, we find ourselves living in two different kingdoms: the spiritual kingdom of God and the temporal kingdom of this world.

Nowhere in our calendar will that reality be felt more intensely than in the first few days of November. Our month begins with our annual All Saints Day worship service. On that day we will celebrate those who have begun their faith journey through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism (also known as the "Church Militant") and those who have completed their course on earth and entered into their eternal reward (the "Church Triumphant").

And then, just two days later, we cast our votes in a very contentious presidential election.

Amazing, isn't it? Two clear and distinct events that describe the world in which people of faith live!

Throughout this election cycle, I have constantly reminded myself that Christ is still the King of kings and Lord of lords over both kingdoms. He has not ceded any power in either one, nor will He.

PASTORS REFLECTION (CONT.)

By the end of this month, we will worship together to proclaim Christ's eternal rule (November 24). I think I will be ready to enjoy that service more than I ever have before!

Revelation 11:15 tells us that one day the angel in heaven will blow his trumpet, and all of creation will proclaim "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever." Let it be so!

NOVEMBER OUTREACH CORNER



St John's Food Pantry

November is one of our months to serve at St John's Food Pantry on Wednesday mornings. If you are interested in helping to distribute food, please contact Judy Fredrich at 937-925-1177. They could also use cereal, fruit, soup, crackers, and Ramen Noodles. PLEASE PLACE IN ST JOHN'S GROCERY CART BY 11/17/21

Snow-vember Coat Drive: It's that time already for our annual coat drive for Snowhill School. We will be collecting new or like new winter coats for our friends at Snowhill School. Please watch for coat shaped tags in the Narthex in early November. Each tag is for a specific child. **PLEASE** keep the tag with the coat donated. All donations are due back by November 17th. If you'd like to help but prefer not to do the shopping, see Sandy Thompson for options to donate and have someone else do the shopping for you.



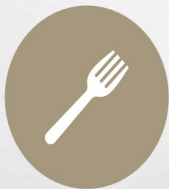
NOVEMBER OUTREACH CORNER (CONT.)



Baskets of Grace: Our team will be collecting food items to prepare boxes and deliver these food boxes to needy families in our community for Thanksgiving. Please watch the Narthex for cards labeled with food items needed to fill the boxes/baskets and return these items by November 17th. Please only bring items identified on the cards. Please Contact Sally or Larry Cisler with any questions.

GRACE OUTREACH IMPACT

GRACE OUTREACH IMPACT THIRD QUARTER 2024



Breakfast Break 3rd Quarter: \$1,395 raised in Sunday school offerings for NALS



July: raised \$766 to help fund 2024 trip to Laurel Mission



August: Collected a Rubbermaid full of school supplies for Snowhill teachers



September: collected a carload of food and hygiene supplies for Haitian Community Help & Support Center

NOVEMBER CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Grace will hold its next Congregational Meeting at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday, November 24. We will gather in the Grace sanctuary. This is the second of two annual meetings required in our Grace constitution.

There are three major items of business on the agenda: (1) the election of members of the Church Council; (2) the election of members to the Endowment Committee; and (3) the adoption of the 2025 ministry plan (budget).

By the time you read this article you should have received a letter from Council President Steve Garrett that identified the names for the ballot and included a copy of the budget. If you did not receive this mailing, please notify the Grace office.

In addition to these agenda items, you will be updated on a number of ministries and issues within the congregation, including updates on our finances, the sale of property, the impact of the Endowment grants and more. Please make your attendance a priority!

STAFF RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with deep sadness that we announce the upcoming retirement of Janet Rice as our Director of Lay Ministry. Her retirement will be effective at the end of March 2025. She has served in this capacity since November 1, 2017.

Through her work Janet has been able to connect with virtually every member of the church, helping them find a place to serve and belong to this congregation, moving them from attenders to ministers. Her servant's heart modeled what she encouraged all of us to do, too.

"Janet has served us well," notes Pastor Tom Brodbeck. "She quickly grasped the connection between our spiritual gifts and the opportunities for ministry in this church and has worked tirelessly to match the two. She will be missed."

GIVING THANKS

On Tuesday, November 26 the Grace congregation will gather in the sanctuary at 7 p.m. for a special service of Thanksgiving and Praise. As we come to the conclusion of the liturgical calendar year and close in on the business of the Advent season, we want to pause to express our gratitude to God for guiding us through another year.

In addition to the common elements of our worship life, this service will include an opportunity for those in attendance to offer aloud their own personal words of thanksgiving for God's blessings this past year. And there are many things to share! It is always a deeply meaningful highlight of our corporate year.

YOUNG AT HEART

Fall is here and there are many things to bring us together in Christian love. In September we visited Covenant Presbyterian Church and enjoyed the "Burning Rivers Wings" concert. October we gathered to listen to the Wittenberg Choir, there is nothing better than enjoying music with friends. Upcoming events:

November 8 LaComedia Dinner Theatre, Holiday Inn by Irwin Berlin

November 10 Ryan Roosen, Sanctuary Series at High Street Methodist

November 17 Syrodesy Flute Trio

Look for more information on the Sign Up Central table in the narthex.

If you are 50 and older come join us. Future events include Ohio Caverns, America's Packard Museum, Air Force Museum and Christmas at Carillon Park in Dayton.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



The Birth of Jesus

Our Grace children will present a play about the birth of Jesus! It will be Sunday, December 8, 2024 at 6:30pm. We would love for you to come and celebrate our Savior's birth.

Leslie McKinney



Our Winter/Spring session of Children's Sunday School will begin on Sunday, January 10th. We are currently in need of a preschool teacher and assistant, a first and second grade teacher, a third and fourth teacher and assistant and a fifth and sixth grade teacher and assistant. If you would like a chance to meet and work with our wonderful children of Grace, please contact Leslie McKinney. Your life will be enriched by the experience!

ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS!

Thrivent Financial Services ® provides its members two options for supporting their local churches.

Each year Thrivent is required to donate a percentage of its receipts to charitable organizations. As a Thrivent member you can designate Grace as your choice for a portion of those funds. You must do this annually and can do it at www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

Additionally members are encouraged to apply for a \$250 grant to support a project at the church (such as youth mission trip, quilters' guild, or outreach ministry). You are permitted to do that two times each year (\$500 total).

If you have questions, please talk with your Thrivent agent or contact the Grace office.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AND ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

ON NOV. 9

Are you a woman? Are you ready to get even more in the Christmas mood? If yes, please plan now to join other women of Grace for the Luncheon and Ornament Exchange on Saturday, November 9, 2024 from noon – 2.

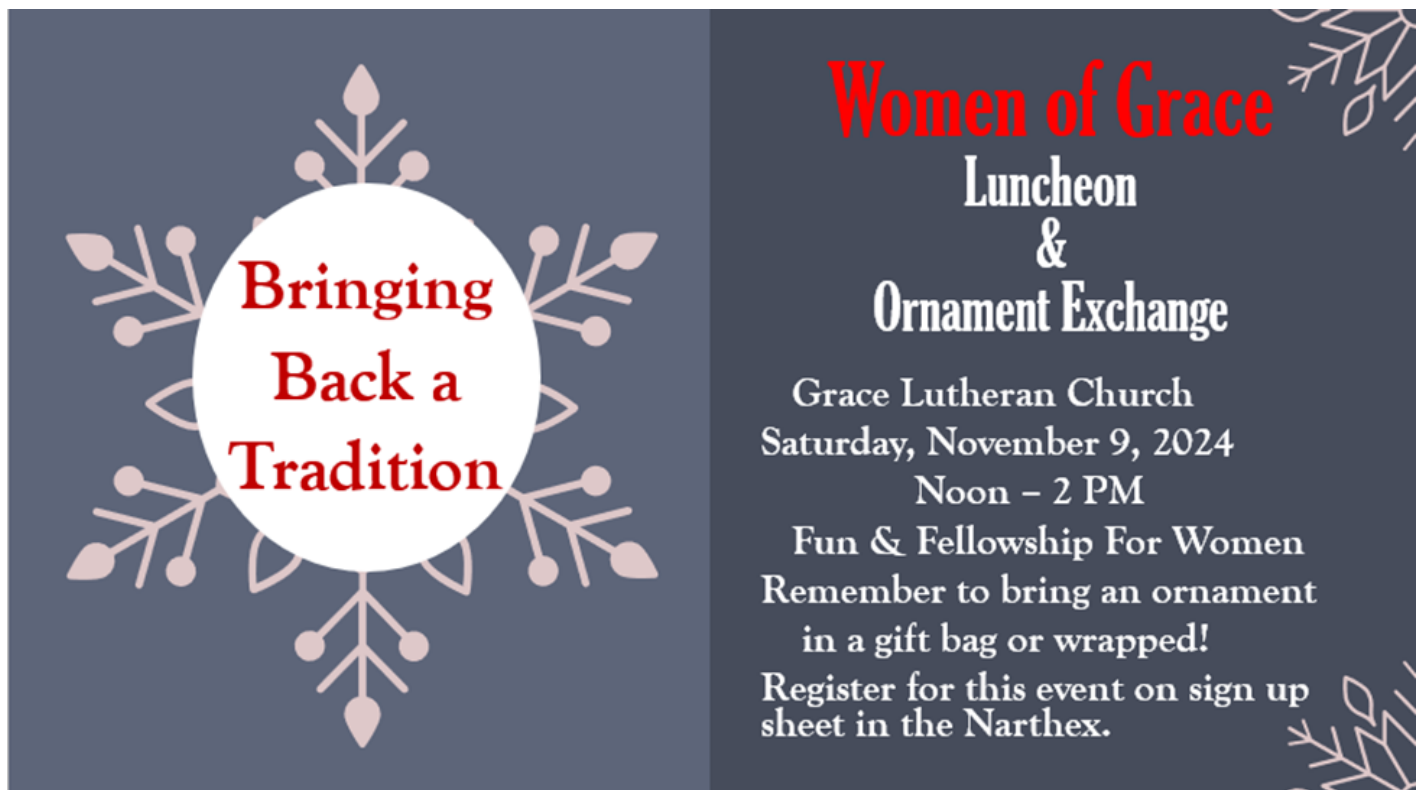
Each participant is requested to **bring a Christmas ornament that is either wrapped or in a gift bag.** On your gift, please **indicate that you are the “giver”** but please don't indicate who the ornament is for because during the event, we will play a game based on scripture to determine which ornament each participant will receive.

When you sign in on Saturday, November 9, a **donation of \$5** will be requested to help to cover the cost of your lunch.

We will announcing additional upcoming events for Women of Grace at this event, also!

Important: You do need to register for this event on the Sign-Up Sheet in the Narthex on or before Sunday, November 3.

If you have any questions and/or would like to help at this event, please contact Donna Stelzer directly at 937 902 0671.



**Bringing
Back a
Tradition**

Women of Grace
Luncheon
&
Ornament Exchange

Grace Lutheran Church
Saturday, November 9, 2024
Noon – 2 PM
Fun & Fellowship For Women
Remember to bring an ornament
in a gift bag or wrapped!
Register for this event on sign up
sheet in the Narthex.

NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP

1 John 1:6 says, "If we say we have fellowship with Him,
while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth."

Did you feel convicted? I sure did. What does that mean 'walk in darkness'? To walk in darkness means to sin and be disobedient. We confess that no one is without sin. BUT, we must desire the truth and obedience which means walking in the Light, in fellowship with Jesus.

Yes, we are all a work in progress. But as we keep our focus on Christ, and continue to walk on in Grace, let us choose to walk in close fellowship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus, and with other believers.

As for me—I want to walk as a child of the Light,
I want to follow Jesus.

For—in Him there is no darkness at all.

Please—dear Son of righteousness shine on my path and show me
the way to the Father. (Words from hymn WOV 649)

Amen.

(Sing it with me!)

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GRACE AUCTION

REMINDER **COME TO THE AUCTION**

December 7, 2024

9:00 a.m. to NOON!

IN THE COMMUNITY CENTER

Enter at the Bell Tower



Benefactor of this year's auction is:
Held By Him



**If you are donating an item or items, please contact
Janet Rice to advise her of your donation.**

**You can begin delivering items to Janet the week of
November 17.**

We are looking forward to seeing your handy work!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL IN NOVEMBER

In November Adult Sunday School attenders will conclude their four-part study "Elephants, Donkeys and the Lamb," a conversation about how Christians can think and act Biblically in political matters.

That paves the way for a seven-week study based on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's classic book "Life Together." This course begins on November 10 with a video biography on Bonhoeffer's incredible life. The course will involve a weekly reading assignment from the Life Together book, copies of which will be available for purchase beginning November 3rd. Pastor Brodbeck will facilitate this course.'

In *Life Together*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, renowned Christian minister, professor, and author of *The Cost of Discipleship* recounts his unique fellowship in an underground seminary during the Nazi years in Germany. Giving practical advice on how life together in Christ can be sustained in families and groups, Life Together is bread for all who are hungry for the real life of Christian fellowship.

November

events

Friday, Nov 1

8:00 am Community Group

Saturday, Nov 2

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, Nov 3

All Saints Sunday

8:00 am Worship

9:15 am Sunday School

all ages

10:45 am Worship (contemp.)

12:00-2:00 pm 10

Commandment event

2:00 pm Worship at Springfield Manor

7:00 pm Youth Group Bowling

7:00 pm Community Group

Monday, Nov 4

Tuesday, Nov 5

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

8:00 am Mission INC.

9:00 am Community group

11:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm Cub Scouts

Wednesday, Nov 6

6:00 pm Wednesday Night dinner

6:30 pm GriefShare

7:00 pm Hosea Study

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, Nov 7

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

1:00 pm Quilters

Friday, Nov 8

6:00 pm Held By Him

8:00 pm Community Group

Saturday, Nov 9

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

12:00-2:00 pm Women of Grace Ornament Exchange

Sunday, Nov 10

8:00 am Worship

9:15 am Sunday School all ages

10:45 am Worship

7:00 pm Community Group

Monday, Nov 11

12:00 pm SCYM

Tuesday, Nov 12

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

8:00 am Miss. Inc.

9:00 am Community group

11:30 am Staff Meeting

2:00 pm Joy Guild

6:00 pm Exec. Comm

7:00 pm Cub Scouts

Wednesday, Nov 13

10:00 am Hope Guild

1:30 pm Charity Guild

5:30 pm Grace Notes

6:00 pm Nominating Comm

6:00 pm Wednesday Night dinner

6:30 pm GriefShare

7:00 pm Hosea Study

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, Nov 14

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

1:00 pm Quilters

Friday, Nov 15

8:00 am Community Group

Saturday, Nov 16

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

10:00 am SWOMD

Sunday, Nov 17

8:00 am Worship

9:15 am Sunday School

all ages

10:45 am Worship

12:30 pm Youth Blanket

7:00 pm Community Group

Monday, Nov 18

11:00-9:00 Master Gardner

6:00 pm Prayer Team

Tuesday, Nov 19

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

11:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm Council

7:00 pm Cub Scouts

Wednesday, Nov 20

5:30 pm Grace Notes

6:00 pm Wednesday Night dinner

6:30 pm GriefShare

7:00 pm Hosea Study

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, Nov 21

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

Friday, Nov 22

8:00 pm Community Group

Saturday, Nov 23

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, Nov 24

8:00 am Worship

9:15 am Sunday School Children

and Youth/Congregational Meeting

10:45 am Worship

7:00 pm Community Group

Monday, Nov 25

Pixie Thanksgiving

Hanging of the Greens

Tuesday, Nov 26

Pixie Thanksgiving

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

11:30 am Staff Meeting

7:00 pm Worship

Wednesday, Nov 27

Thursday, Nov 28

OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, Nov 29

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, Nov 30

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

