

September MESSENGER



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

2026



Pastor's Reflection

Tom Brodbeck

September is Stewardship month at Grace. That might sound scary, but it certainly is not meant to be. For many people “stewardship” is one of those church-y words that talks about money. But truthfully, whether you are a Christian or not, your whole life is a matter of stewardship. Stewardship simply asks: “How do you use the resources that you have?”

As Christians we believe that our stewardship ought always to reflect our faith in Jesus. His priorities should be seen through our priorities. Whether it is how we use our time, our abilities or our finances, our choices speak volumes about our faith.

Our Stewardship theme this year emphasizes that truth. We are telling the story of Jesus with each decision we make. So as you ponder your 2027 financial estimate of giving and your Time and Talent questionnaire, be prayerful about your responses. Let the story of Jesus ring out from you.

As we do, God will be glorified in and through you.

The *Tease* of Stewardship

We often speak of Time, Talent, and Treasure, but what about the many other important “T” words that belong in the stewardship conversation? What about our testimony?

Should we not be just as generous with sharing our personal testimony with others? When we share with sincere transparency, we help to build trust in the hearts and minds of those who may be too timid to act. Trust translates into action; whether in coming to Christ or evangelizing to others.

As we testify and teach our children, our friends, coworkers and neighbors, we are truly giving of ourselves at the deepest level. For all these gifts, let us give Thanks to the Lord! Your transparent sharing of time, talent, treasure, thankfulness, and testimony all point to the truth that is so critically needed now. Now is the time!

Martin Luther warned of a time in the future when the church ceases to exist. Doors closed. Pulpits and pews empty. Those times have already come more than once. The times of Hitler, Stalin, Mao, and even now in many middle eastern locations not to mention our own schools and public venues

Sir Edmund Burke is credited with saying: “All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.” Shall we wait or shall we act and share? How will **your** testimony be remembered? Speak up! Now is the time for action! Give generously of the abundance God has provided.

Grace Outreach Impact

GRACE OUTREACH IMPACT 2ND QUARTER 2026



April Breakfast Break: \$3,030 donated to Children's Rescue Center



May: Blessings in a Bottle, collected 19 filled bottles



June: Collected 6 Flood buckets, 7 health kits and \$150 in gift cards, and 20 empty buckets for NALC Disaster Relief

September Outreach Corner



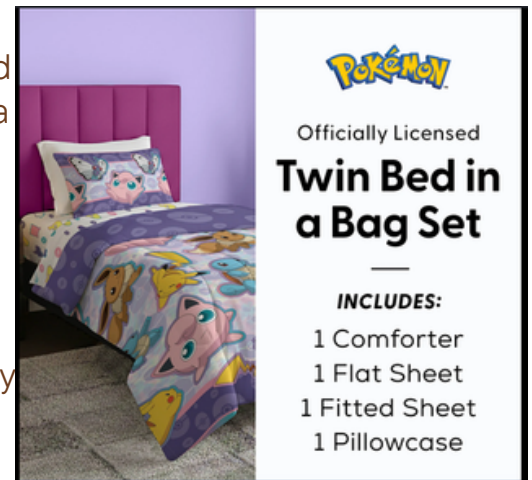
Sleep in Heavenly Peace Comes to Clark County!

Clark County now has its own chapter of [Sleep in Heavenly Peace](#), and they have already built and delivered **54 beds since May!** Sleep in Heavenly Peace builds beds for kids in our community who don't have a bed to sleep in, and there are more than you think! Robert Thompson has been serving as the chapter's Build Manager, and several Grace members are already participating by helping build and deliver beds.

For the month of **September**, Grace will be collecting Twin-size Bed in a Bag sets and/or Twin-size pillows to help provide children with a bed of their own.

Please donate only complete Twin-size Bed in a Bag sets and/or Twin-size pillows. Items should be new or like new.

Want to do more? **We'd love your help!** Please see Robert or Sandy Thompson for more information, especially if you'd like to volunteer for a bed build day or help deliver beds to local families.



SAVE THE DATE:

Our next Breakfast Break will be
Sunday, October 4, at 9:15 a.m.

CarePortal

Come and hear about an exciting new partnership in Clark County!
CarePortal is partnering with **Springfield City Youth Mission (SCYM)** to help provide much-needed mentors for local youth.

Tami Carter from CarePortal and Heather Bielawski from SCYM will be here to tell us more about this fantastic opportunity to come alongside young people in our community who could really use some encouragement, support, and a caring adult in their corner.



Join us for breakfast and learn how you can make a difference in the life of a young person right here in our community!

Women of Grace Invited to Annual Women's Retreat

Living Water Lutheran Church, with whom we have partnered on several occasions, is inviting the **Women of Grace** to join them for their annual women's retreat! The retreat will be held **Saturday, October 24, from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.** at Living Water Lutheran's Community Building, located at **667 Miamisburg Centerville Rd., Centerville, OH.**

Come enjoy a day of **prayer, music, a guest speaker, high tea lunch, gifts, and games**—all for just **\$25!**



Watch for registration information in the Narthex this month, and come join the ladies at Living Water for a wonderful day of fellowship and fun.

Contact Donna Stelzer for more information.

MOVIE NIGHT AT GRACE



DATE: September 25, 2026

TIME: 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

WHAT: Movie "Ushpizin" which is Hebrew for the Guest

WHERE: Fellowship hall

Who can attend: Grace members, friends, family and neighbors

Please join us for a fun movie night here at Grace! Our movie will be the Guest. It is in Hebrew with English subtitles. There will be a short introduction prior to the movie with the festival of Booths (Sukkot) which begins on September 25th. The movie will help us remember the G-d is our shelter.

Psalm 46:1 G-d is our refuge and strength a very help in times of trouble.

Sign up will be Sunday, September 13th and 20th in the narthex. Hope to see you there! For questions, contact Nora Charney at fuzziemom@gmail.com



Operation Christmas Child

Shoeboxes will be available for pickup: October 4
Shoeboxes are due back: November 15

Each shoebox is an opportunity to share the love of Jesus with a child around the world. Fill a box with fun toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and other small gifts—and pray for the child who will receive it.

One simple box can make a lasting difference!

Watch for more information and packing ideas coming soon. Let's bless children around the world through Operation Christmas Child!

Young at Heart

Fellowship, Fun and Adventure

Last month, we had a wonderful time together enjoying “Come From Away” at LaComedia. What a fun evening of music, laughter, and fellowship! Now, we’re looking forward to our next adventure: Something Rotten! on Friday, October 2nd. . We hope you’ll come along and enjoy another great show with friends from Young at Heart.

Looking for something a little more active? A few of us have also started enjoying walks at Buck Creek Reservoir on Monday and Thursday mornings at 8:00 a.m. It’s a great way to get some fresh air, enjoy the beauty around us, and—most importantly—spend time together.

Whether you join us for a musical, a morning walk, or one of our future adventures, we’d love to have you with us! Young at Heart is all about Christian fellowship, friendship, laughter, and sharing life together.

And we’d love to hear from you! Is there somewhere you’ve been wanting to go or something you’d like to do with Young at Heart? Let us know. Your idea could be our next adventure!

Come join us—we’re having fun, making memories, and enjoying the journey together!

Roger and Sonya

Thank You Notes

Dear Friends in Christ,

As you all know, serious injuries involve a long journey of healing. Bill and I wish to thank all of you our church friends and family for walking that road to recovery with us for my broken wrists, for all the meals, cards, calls, visits and prayers, we thank you! Our hearts will remember your kindness always.

Sincerely, Bill and Joy Hester

To our Grace family,

We want to thank everyone who prayed for or sent cards to our son's family as they deal with his sudden health issues caused by cancer in several organs. Your supportive messages filled with prayers and encouragement to trust in God meant so much to our family and us.

We are blessed to have a strong church familyt who reminds us of God's caring love when we need Him most during difficult times.

To God be the glory, Amen

Larry and Karen Snyder

Dear friends at Grace,I want to express my gratitude to you for the cards and expressions of care and sympathy you shared with me after the unexpected loss of my brother Dan. Your thoughtfulness meant so very much to me. It is so reassuring to know that the love of my brothers and sisters in Christ is always at hand when needed. You are a true blessing.

With great appreciation, Bev Kaeck

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, Sep 1

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
8:00 am Miss Inc.
11:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, Sep 2

6:30 pm Griefshare

Thursday, Sep 3

11:00 am Adult Bible Study
1:00 pm Quilters

Friday, Sep 4

8:00 pm Community
Group

Saturday, Sep 5

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, Sep 6

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
8:00 pm Community
Group

Monday, Sep 7

OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, Sep 8

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am Staff Meeting
1:30 pm Joy Guild
6:00 pm Exec. Comm.

Wednesday, Sep 9

9:30 am MomCo
10:00 am Hope Guild
1:30 pm Charity Guild
6:30 pm MomCo
6:30 pm GriefShare

Thursday, Sep 10

11:00 am Adult Bible Study
1:00 am Quilters

Friday, Sep 11

8:00 pm Community Group

Saturday, Sep 12

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
10am-12pm Prayer Partners

Sunday, Sep 13

Teacher Installation
Bible Presentation
8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
8:00 pm Community
Group

Monday, Sep 14

Prayer Canopy
6:15 pm Women's Bible
Study
7:00 pm Track Off

Tuesday, Sep 15

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
11:30 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Council

Wednesday, Sep 16

6:30 pm GriefShare

Thursday, Sep 17

11:00 am Adult Bible Study
6:00 pm FYI

Friday, Sep 18

8:00 pm Community
Group

Saturday, Sep 19

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, Sep 20

8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
1-4 pm Caudill
8:00 pm Community
Group

Monday, Sep 21

5:30 pm Prayer Support Team
6:30 pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, Sep 22

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, Sep 23

9:30 am MomCo
6:30 pm MomCo
6:30 pm Griefshare

Thursday, Sep 24

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

Friday, Sep 25

Nora Morie

Saturday, Sep 26

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, Sep 27

Consecration Sunday
8:00 am Worship
9:15 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
8:00 pm Community
Group

Monday, Sep 28

6:30 pm Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, Sep 29

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, Sep 30

6:30 pm GriefShare

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Evangelical Lutheran Church

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