

THE VOICE

WWW.GRACE43081.ORG



NOVEMBER 2026

OF GRACE

An Affiliate of the North American Lutheran Church

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church • 100 E. Schrock Rd. • Westerville, OH 43081

Notes From the Pastor's Desk



Rev. Dr. David Wendel

As we observed the day of Saint Luke, October 18th, our Sunday lessons included two passages reflective of each other. In the first lesson from Isaiah 43, the Lord God is telling Isaiah (and the Israelites) that He had called them to be witnesses to other nations and peoples, that there is a God, and that the God of Israel is the one true God. The Lord tells Isaiah, *"Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior.*

I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses," says the Lord. And then, after His resurrection and before His ascension, Jesus said to His disciples, in Luke 24, *"You are my witnesses,"* says the Lord, *"and my servant whom I have chosen..."* In my sermon, I spoke about this "witnessing," and how challenging it is for Lutherans to witness! And yet, Luke goes on to describe that witnessing includes *"worshiping Jesus...with great joy, being in the Temple blessing God."*

I believe it's worth mentioning again how simply coming to worship on Sunday morning, "being in the Temple" which is Grace Lutheran Church, is itself a powerful public witness! There is a familiar adage used by those who teach stewardship, that you can tell a Christian's priorities in life by reviewing their bank account and expenditures! Where we spend our money indicates what is important to us in life. The same could be true of how we "spend" our time on Sunday mornings! Unbelievers and those who have left the church spend Sunday morning in bed or listening to the news or playing golf. Worshiping God is clearly not their priority. They are witnessing to that by how they spend their Sunday—certainly not *"Remembering the Sabbath to keep it holy,"* as God states in the third commandment. Similarly, the household which arises on Sunday morning to participate in Sunday worship, is making a public statement about their priorities in life! Never think that your neighbors don't notice when you go to church faithfully on Sunday, when most of the neighborhood are still in their pajamas! Of course, we don't worship God to make a point to non-believers, but it does make a point to the world. Even as a full sanctuary on Sunday or a full parking lot makes a statement. It is a visible manifestation of our priorities. Our Sunday worship is our witness to the truth of

these things: the death and resurrection of Jesus and the fact that every Sunday, the Lord presents Himself to us, offers His Word and presence to us, embodied in worship.

That's why Sunday worship isn't first and foremost a social hour nor is it entertainment. While we gather as a community, we gather around the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ who speaks God's Word to us and presides at the Lord's Table, presenting to us and for us, His own Body and Blood, broken and poured out for us in the Sacrament of the Altar. I invite you to think of Sunday worship in this way:

The Lord Jesus, Himself, is hosting a banquet on Sunday morning. He promises to be present to welcome us and to feed us with His presence, for our forgiveness, life and salvation. He has extended the invitation, prepared the banquet and is awaiting our arrival. By accepting the invitation and coming to participate, we are being witnesses to the fact of His resurrection and His risen presence, as He appears where two or three are gathered in His name. It witnesses to the world that our first priority in life is Jesus Christ and His presence among us in Word and Sacrament!

Thanksgiving Eve Services at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church November 25, 12:15 and 6:30 PM

O Give Thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His mercy endures forever!" Psalm 136:1

It is altogether right and fitting that we should gather together to offer thanks and praise to God for the many gifts and blessings He showers upon us! This year, we will offer two identical services on **Thanksgiving eve, November 25, 12:15 and 6:30 PM**. These will be services of the Word, hymns and prayers, with Pastor Wendel preaching. It's surprising how many churches do not offer Services of Thanksgiving, even though the national proclamation for a Day of Thanksgiving is to give thanks to God for His divine providence! If you have family, friends or neighbors who may be interested, please invite them to worship with us!

Continued on page 2

Annual Meeting

November 15 12:30 pm - Presentation and approval of 2027 spending plan

**Midweek Advent Communion and
Holden Evening Prayer,
December 2, 9, 16**

As we approach the season of Advent, we will again offer midweek services on Wednesdays, with a spoken, simply service of Holy Communion at 12:15 PM and Holden Evening Prayer, 6:30-7 PM Wednesdays December 2, 9 and 16. Homilies will be offered by Pastor Wendel, Pastor Emeritus Will Hartfelder and retired Pastor (and member) Eric Riesen. Please make time in your schedule for these quieter, more meditative services as we make additional time for prayer and inner preparation for our celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas!

**Advent Daily Devotionals
by Pastor David Wendel**

Pastor Wendel has prepared a daily devotional booklet for Advent, 2026! It is titled, *"Waiting for the Light,"* with a Scripture reading and devotion for each day from the first day of Advent through Christmas Day. Included this year are Martin Luther's simple prayers for morning and evening, for those who would like additional prayer each day. The devotional booklet is available at the church in print form or electronically via email and on the church website and Subsplash app! Feel free to make them available to friends and family who may also appreciate Advent devotions!

**Grace Youth Group
November and December!**



Our Grace Youth Group will meet **November 1st, 8th and 15th**! No gatherings on Nov. 22 or 29th, due to Thanksgiving. No GYG meetings in December! We will resume meetings January 10th 2027! All middle school and high school youth are invited to participate, as all youth of our church are part of Grace Youth Group! Each meeting, there is biblical devotion and discussion, activity planned by youth, and snacks!



On October 25th, Reformation Sunday, was also Stewardship/Commitment Sunday. Our annual Ministry Fair was on display in the Gathering Space. Tables highlighting our many areas of missions and ministry were set up complete with explanations of each ministry and sign-up sheets for those who wish to participate in one or more of those opportunities to serve.

Youth, Family & Education - We believe Grace's ministries to and with youth and families are called to empower all family members to live out their faith through service to others. We therefore seek to create a multitude of age-appropriate, family-oriented opportunities for youth and families to grow in faith and discipleship. We believe we are called to encourage and support lifelong Christian learning. We therefore seek to provide a variety of opportunities for all ages and styles of learning to learn a Christ-centered, biblical and apostolic faith that promotes understanding the practice of faithful discipleship. Chair: Abby Bloor

Hospitality and Invitation – We believe we are called to live the words of Hebrews 13:2 – “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” We therefore include not only our congregation but also the community where we live, work and play through intentional invitation and by growing disciples. Chair: Vanessa Stewart

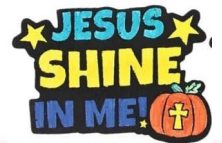
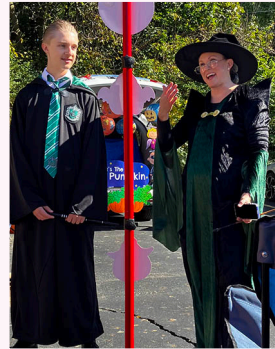
Social Concerns – We believe we are called to touch people's lives with the gospel in their hurts and hopes, struggles and celebrations. We therefore seek to serve our congregation and community through a variety of social service ministries. Chair: Joanne Figge

Worship and Music – We believe we are called is to invite all to glorify God through Word, Sacrament, and music. We therefore seek to enrich worship through a creative and inspiring variety of musical programs that are welcoming and accessible to all. Chair: Sue Mahrt
Displays will be up for two weeks. Please stop by and find your place to serve.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING TRUNK OR TREAT SO MUCH FUN! A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make Grace Lutheran's Trunk or Treat a wonderful afternoon of Merry, Not Scary fun! We're grateful to everyone who attended, decorated a trunk, volunteered, donated candy and supplies, helped with setup and cleanup, or spread the word. Because of you, our parking lot was filled with smiles, costumes, games, treats, and community fun! And thanks to your generosity, extra candy was donated to WARM (Westerville Area Resource Ministry) to help share the sweetness with our neighbors. Thank you for helping Grace share Amazing Grace with our church and Westerville community!



Trunk or Treat - Merry not Scary SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18





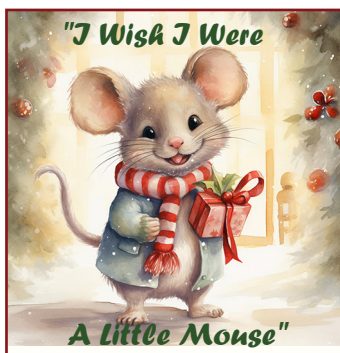
"Through prayer, fellowship, and worship, your Grace family stands ready to support every step of your faith-filled journey."



At the 11:00 o'clock service on October 25th, we welcomed new members: (L to R) - Betsy McClain, Kathy McDaniel and Natalie Thompson.

Christmas Program Practice Begins

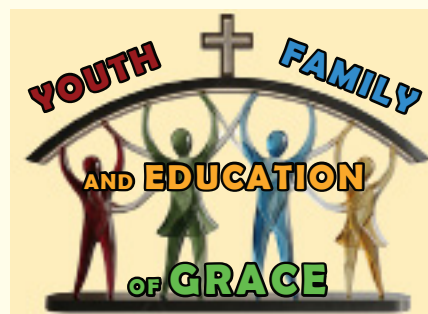
This Year's Christmas Program is **"I Wish I Were A Little Mouse"**. Practice began during the Sunday School hour, October 25 and will continue through December 13 at 9:40am in the sanctuary. No practice November 29, the weekend after Thanksgiving. Dress Rehearsal is December 12, 10:00am to noon. The program is December 13th during the 11:00 service. Contact Helen Kang (h.kang@grace43081.org) and Maria Laderman (laderman522@yahoo.com) are co-directing.



We look forward to celebrating Jesus' birth with the children and families of Grace!

Hear the Pennies Dropping Sunday School Project

This fall, our youth Sunday School is turning their pennies into big blessings! Their offerings will help purchase a goat and a fruit tree—providing food, nourishment, and a sustainable source of income for a family in need. Every coin counts! Listen for those pennies dropping each Sunday morning and our youth making a difference, one small gift at a time. Pennies, nickles, dimes, quarters, etc. It all adds up.



Youth, Family and Education at Grace Evangelical Church:

We are excited to support families and help children grow in faith! Here's how we welcome and care for your family during worship and beyond:

Nursery Care: For infants through age 6

- Enjoy worship while your little ones are lovingly cared for.
- Pagers available for parents – we'll page you if needed.
- Busy Bags: Keep little hands busy during the service! On the coat tree by the entrance to the sanctuary.
- Age-appropriate books and activities.

Children's Bulletins

- Bulletins with activities that follow the lectionary available at the usher's table.

Little Lambs Children's Ministry

- For ages 3 through 3rd grade
- Children leave worship after the Gospel reading for an age-appropriate Bible lesson and return during the offering for Holy Communion. Available at both worship services.

Sunday School

- Every Sunday, 9:40 – 10:30 AM, September 7 – Memorial Day Weekend
- Classes for Preschool through High School
- Adult class also available

Grace Youth Group : Middle & High School Students

- Youth Led, Adult Supported. See information in next column.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is committed to helping young people and families grow in faith and community.

Questions? Contact: Abby Bloor, areynolds364@gmail.com or

Sarah Odum, s.odum@grace43081.org - 614-882-3026



O.W.L. Resumes

Youth and Family has announced the start of this year's O.W.L. Ministry (Older, Wiser, Lutherans) program.

Grace's OWLs encourage the children in grades 4-8th in our congregation. The children need support and encouragement with everything that is going on in the world and the pressures of school in this day and age. The OWL's responsibility is to pray for their child and give them a card or small gift on the cart each month. The children do not know who their OWL is for the school year. At the end of the school year we have a Reveal Party where they find out who their OWL is and have lunch together. There is also a small craft to work on together. If you have any questions contact Amy Quinn, a.quinn@grace43081.org.

NALC Disaster Relief Warehouse Trip to Caldwell, Ohio

from Ellen Paulus

October 3, 2026 from 9:00am - 3:00pm EDT

To those who traveled to Caldwell on October 3, thank you again for all your hard work at the NALC Disaster Relief warehouse.

It was great to work with all of you, and so many others from different congregations as well. We accomplished a lot in the time we were there.

I know there were 63 flood buckets made, about 50 education backpack kits, many health kits that needed missing items and still sorted, making pallet loads, working on the shed, plus loading and unloading trucks and trailers. WOW!

So all and all, it was a very productive day and Director Mary Bates was very appreciative of the work completed.

This is one of GELC's major mission focuses and I know God will let it continue in whatever way needed!

Keep Mary and all the leaders involved in such a worthy mission in your prayers. Questions? Contact esppaul32@gmail.com for more information.

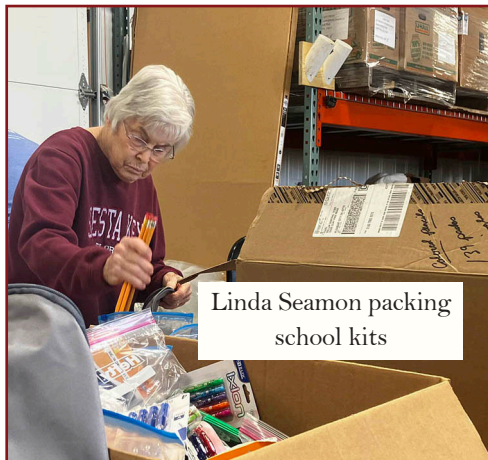
In peace, Ellen



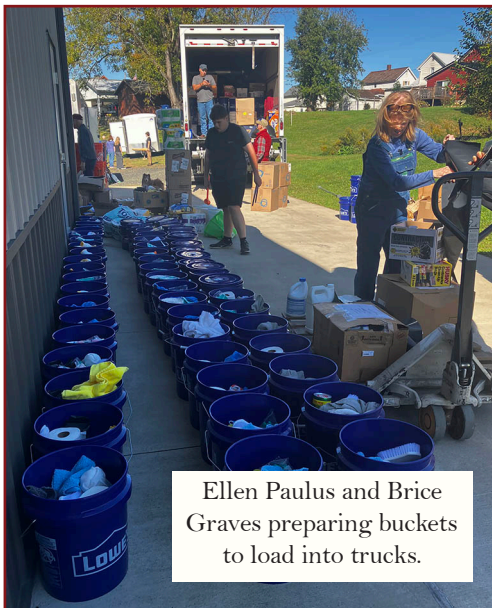
George Paulus and Bill Kulju helping with the shed build



Some of our team after a good day at the Warehouse



Linda Seamon packing school kits



Ellen Paulus and Brice Graves preparing buckets to load into trucks.



Shirley Moleno finishing Health Kits.



A dozen members of Grace Supper Club dined at The Cheesecake Factory on October 15 for food and fellowship. Because it was Pastor Wendel's birthday, Bev Grubb brought a cupcake and everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to him.

Next month we have a reservation at **Bru Burger Bar on Thursday, November 19 for 6:15 p.m.** Bru Burger Bar is located at 691 North Cleveland Avenue, Westerville 43082. In order for us to have an accurate head count, we ask that you please sign up in advance and include the total number in your party. A sign up sheet is available at the Welcome Center Desk. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!** Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship.

If you have a recommendation for a restaurant, please let either Bev Grubb or Tami Stone know. We are always looking for new locations which are willing to seat our group. Any questions, please see either Bev or Tami.



BLOOD DONATION SAVE LIFE

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE: Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is **Tuesday, November 17** from noon-6pm in the Gathering Space. Appointments appreciated and walk-ins after 1pm are accepted! You can schedule an appointment by contacting the Red Cross at RedCrossBlood.org and use our sponsor code: GraceLuthWesterville or call 1-800-Red Cross. Questions? See Vanessa Stewart

Serve

"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Serving others involves actively considering their needs alongside our own"

Philippians 2:4



Dr. Helen Kang
Choir
Director

MUSIC NOTES

Grace Ringers Bell Choir rehearsal Wednesday at 6:15pm.

Contact Maria Laderman.

Grace Chancel Choir rehearsal Wednesday at 7:00pm! All are welcome!

Contact Helen Kang.

Joyful Voices Youth Choir rehearsal schedule:

contact Helen Kang.

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost October 4, 2026 PRELUDE

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

"Prelude on Deo Gracias"

Linda Hoch- Organ

"MUSICAL OFFERING

8:15 "Jesus Is the Living Stone"

Grace Singers Chancel Choir

11:00 "You Are My All in All"

Roger and Marian Retherford

COMMUNION MUSIC

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

Linda Hoch- Organ

POSTLUDE

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Linda Hoch- Organ



Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost October 11, 2026 PRELUDE

"Now We Join in Celebration"

"On Our Way Rejoicing"

Linda Hoch- Organ

"MUSICAL OFFERING

8:15 "Be Thou My Vision/ My Shepherd

Will Supply my Need"

Maria Laderman - Flute,

Linda Hoch - Piano

11:00 "Psalm 23"

COMMUNION MUSIC

"O Christ the Same"

"Come, Let Us Eat"

Linda Hoch- Organ

POSTLUDE

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

Linda Hoch- Organ

Festival of Saint Luke October 18, 2026 PRELUDE

"O Christ, Who Called the Twelve"

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Linda Hoch- Organ

"MUSICAL OFFERING

"Footsteps in Faith"

Grace Ringers Bell Choir

COMMUNION MUSIC

"One Bread, One Body"

Grace Ringers Bell Choir

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare"

Linda Hoch- Organ



Reformation Sunday New Member Reception October 25, 2026 PRELUDE

"Pastorale on Aurelia"

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

Andrea Bush - Violin, Linda Hoch - Organ

"MUSICAL OFFERING

"God Is Our Refuge and Strength"

Grace Singers Chancel Choir

COMMUNION MUSIC

Selected Communion Music

by Andrea Bush-Violin

POSTLUDE

"Built on a Rock"

Linda Hoch- Organ



The 16th Annual
Progressive Christmas Concert

Christmas Concert

Friday, December 11th

The 16th Annual Progressive Christmas Concert

**Friday, Dec. 11,
7:00 – 9:15 pm**

from Lois Rumph
Join the Westerville community for

a joyous night of music to celebrate the Christmas season. The 16th Annual Progressive Christmas Concert will be **Friday, December 11th beginning at 7:00PM**. This year, **Grace's choir** will be paired with First Presbyterian.

You can start the Progressive Concert at any one of the Uptown Westerville churches - *First Presbyterian on E. College Ave, Church of the Master at Grove & Main, or Messiah on N. State*. At the end of each concert you are led as a group to the next church for the next concert. There will be a van available for those who cannot walk between the 3 churches. If you plan to use the shuttle, you must start at Church of the Messiah.

Tickets are \$15.00 - all proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity building projects.

Tickets are digital, (a paper ticket is available at church) You can use the square, or online @ westervillehabitat.org. The night of the concert, tickets may be purchased at one of the three churches.



**The Amazing Grace Concert
Series Hosts the
Youth Philharmonic of
Central Ohio (YPCO)
on October 19, 2026**



The YPCO is a conductor-less, strings only chamber orchestra led by local professional musicians and includes advanced high school string players. Their music on October 13 in our sanctuary was beautiful and inspiring. It was a joy to see these talented young people perform on violin, viola, cello and bass instruments at a high level of mastery.

Amazing Grace concerts are free, open to the public and feature a wide range of musical offerings throughout the year.

The next Amazing Concert at Grace is scheduled for Sunday, December 13, 4pm by the Scioto Valley Brass and Percussion Company, led by Dr. Christopher Hoch.

Serving at the Eucharist

from Tami Stone

Would you like to be more involved with our worship service at Grace? Would you be willing to serve Holy Communion at one or two services per month?



One of the most meaningful moments in our worship service is when we gather around the Lord's table to receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are inviting you to play a vital role in the distribution of this sacrament. If you have been looking for a way to grow spiritually, this ministry is a wonderful place to begin.

This ministry is open to confirmed members of any age. No prior experience is necessary and a brief training will be provided. Scheduling is based on your availability at your service of choice. Please contact one of our Communion Assistant team leaders, Chris Bank, cbanks5@gmail.com (8:15 service) or Tami Stone, stone8059@sbcglobal.net (11:00 service) for more information.



October Results Looked Good

Grace's dartball team had a successful month of October as they went 8 - 4. The month included an 8 game winning streak including sweeps of Epiphany and Bethel. The month ended on a sour note as Grace was swept by

Grace Lutheran - Pickerington. Offensive leaders for the team include Andy Laderman with 13 doubles and 36 total hits, Dan Morrison with 4 triples, Chris Banks with 11 Home Runs, and Gregg Rearick with 17 runs scored. Mike Grubb had a night to remember October 15 when he went 10 for 22 on the night with 3 singles, 5 doubles and 2 home runs. The team is leading division 2 with a 15 - 9 record.

The league is taking October 29 off for trick or treat, November 26 for Thanksgiving. We have a bye on November 5. So we'll only have 2 games in November beginning with a home match November 12 against Grace of God followed by a road match at Grace Pickerington.

GLCCenter Update

from Linda Fichtelman

The plans for the physical renovations for the GLCC are nearing completion. Hopefully, many of you were able to stop by the GLCC table during the Ministry Fair to see the floor plans for the different rooms and get a sense of what the completed project will look like. As the space is being prepared, the steering team will continue to work behind the scenes on establishing the programming aspects of the center. Currently, we are reviewing various early childhood curricula to determine which will be the best fit for the GLCC.



OUR FIRST FRUITS

WARM's Value:

We recognize God through our work.
 We believe in the dignity of each individual.
 We work to help people become self-sufficient.
 We strive to be exemplary stewards of resources
 with a vision for the future.

If you have questions about
 Grace's First Fruits Ministry, contact
 (financial) Debbie Yoho,
 d.yoho@grace43081.org 614-882-3026
 (food/hygiene) Karen Bale,
 bale.karen@gmail.com 614-506-3331
 (Grace Social Concerns) Joanne Figge,
 jcfigge@gmail.com 614-207-1061

RECEIPTS FOR WARM

Blessings to all who are making WARM a part of your regular tithes and offerings.

Here are donations received since last reported
 from Debbie Yoho, Financial Manager

WARM receipts since last reported total **\$2,170.00**, for a 2026 year-to-date
 total of **\$11,231.60**

Also, as of October 28, \$80 has been received for WARM's Thanksgiving Blessing

Below is what Grace members have contributed to these charities since last report:

Faith Mission - \$100, for a year-to-date total of \$445
 Habitat for Humanity - \$285, for a year-to-date total of \$2,690
 Lutheran World Relief - year-to-date total remains at \$290
 NALC Disaster Response - \$440, for a year-to-date total of \$3,290

Grace's Mission Fund's recent matching donations challenge of up to \$1,000 to WARM
 for September Hunger Action Awareness Month was successful!

All \$1000 was given to WARM! Thank you to all of you who donated!

FOOD/HYGIENE MONTHLY TOTAL=**124 lb.** YEAR TO DATE TOTAL= **2834.5 lbs**

*Thanks to all of our congregation members that have proven again and
 again that Grace is a loving and giving community of believers.*

Thank you!

**Place ONLY
 non-perishable items
 into grocery carts.**

W.A.R.M. cannot accept
 food past its expiration
 date.

*Fresh produce, baked
 goods & dairy products
 take directly to WARM.
 150 Heatherdown Dr.
 Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

**Thank you for helping
 us fulfill our mission of
 feeding the hungry in
 our community**

CHOICE MARKET NOV Selections



Canned Beans
 Canned Meat
 Chicken, Tuna, etc.
 Canned Veggies
 Cereal
 Sugar
 White, Brown
 Condiments
 Ketchup, mustard, mayo,
 salad dressing, etc.
 Paper Products
 Toilet paper, paper towels
 Detergent
 Laundry, dishwasher
 Canned Yams
 Disinfectant Wipes



Grace to Adopt-a-Family for Christmas

We will be assigned a family or two
 who are guests of WARM to make this
 Christmas brighter. They will sign up in
 mid November, and we will receive our
 assigned people in late November along
 with their wish list. Families usually
 ask for clothing for adults and children
 (including shoes or boots), they ask for
 toys or games for children, and they will
 ask for gift cards for additional food for
 the holiday.

We will ask the congregation to donate
 gift cards from Kohls, Walmart, Meijer or
 Visa so that our "elves" -- Tami Stone and
 Janice Will - will go shopping the wish list
 once received!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Now through Nov. 8** - WARM
 Thanksgiving Blessing Bag food
 collection
- **Nov. 15 through Dec. 8** – WARM
 Adopt-A-Family gift card collection
- **December 5** - WARM neighbor-
 hood food drive: 9am-Noon
- **December 11** - Westerville Habitat
 Partnership Progressive Christmas
 Concert: 7- 9:15pm
- **January 17** (MLK weekend Sun-
 day) - Soup 4 Shelter at Westerville
 Rec Center: 1-4pm

THANKSGIVING Blessing



On Saturday, November 21, WARM will come together for our annual Thanksgiving Blessing—a chance to ensure our neighbors in need can gather around a table filled with a bountiful holiday meal. This year, the need is greater than ever. In Ohio, 1 in 5 people, including children, struggle with hunger. Together, we can change that story.

You can participate in two powerful ways:

FILL A BAG

Pick up a brown paper bag and fill it with the items on our list below. Each bag costs about \$30–\$40 to fill and provides everything a family needs for a Thanksgiving meal.

- Canned Corn (2-15 oz cans)
- Green Beans (2-15 oz cans)
- Brown Sugar (1-2 lb bag)
- Cranberry Sauce (2 cans)
- Turkey Gravy Mix (2 packets)
- Chicken Broth (1-32 oz box)
- Baked Beans (2-28 oz cans)
- Mini Marshmallows (1 bag)
- Canned Yams (1-40 oz can)
- Stove Top Stuffing (1 box)
- Coffee (10-12 oz bag/can)

GIVE FINANCIALLY

Prefer a simpler option? Make a donation, and we'll shop on your behalf. Every dollar matters:

- \$40 - Provides bag contents *plus* pie, rolls & butter, turkey, and fresh produce
- \$30 - Covers all bag contents
- \$10 - Buys pie, rolls & butter
- \$5 - Buys a pie

**Or give any amount you wish and Grace will match up to \$1,000 donation from the Mission Reserve.*

Make a Donation Today!



Grace will be collecting bags and monetary donations through Sunday, November 8. After November 9, please deliver Thanksgiving Blessing bags directly to:

WARM, 150 Heatherdown Dr., Westerville,

Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, through November 13.

Questions for Grace? Please contact Karen Bale. Questions for WARM? Please contact: 614.899.0196.



WARM's Annual HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

You are needed to ensure our neighbors receive the hope of nutritious meals!



Captains Needed!

Grab your family, friends, or group and cover a neighborhood for our 2026 Holiday Food Drive!

Responsibilities Include:

- Drop off donation bags at the houses in your assigned neighborhood between November 27th and 29th.
- Pick up bags with donations between 9am and noon on December 5th and drop them off at one of our drop off locations.

Ready to Volunteer?

Contact Abby Schiering for more information: abby@warmwesterville.org



"BIBLICAL QUOTES"

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." – 1 Peter 4:10

Grace matches WARM's Challenge

Exciting news! In August, Council approved the use of \$1,000 from the Mission Reserve fund to challenge the community to match the donation for Hunger Action month in September. WARM has confirmed that the \$1,000 has been met and our check has been received.

This challenge contribution supports the mission of the church as it "supports our community partners who provide for basic needs of our neighbors, food for those at risk of hunger, shelter, and also gets Grace's name out as an active member of the Westerville community, increasing name recognition."

WARM has expressed their gratitude for Grace Lutheran's Congregation Council and Social Concerns Team's support through this matching contribution in honor of Hunger Action Month.



Secret SISTERS

The Secret Sisters are inviting **you** (*that's everyone*) to join us for A Christmas Cookie Exchange on **December 6, 2026**, beginning at 2:00 p.m. here at Grace.

Please sign up at the Welcome Center so



that we know how many will be attending, and what cookies you are bringing so we have no repeats. **Sign-up deadline is November 15, 2026** after the 11:00 service. After that date the final decisions on the number of cookies we need to bring, and other information will be sent out, so please watch your emails for more information. Remember - everyone is welcome to participate in this Cookie Exchange.

DECORATE the Church

Please consider helping, thank you!

**"Calling all
Elves!"**

**December 5
at 9:00 am. Be
a part of our
team for a day.**

Just like Santa needs help from all his elves to prepare for Christmas, the Art and Environment Team needs extra help to decorate our church for Christmas. They are asking anyone who can spare an hour or more to come on **December 5 at 9:00** to be part of the team for a day. No special skills are needed, just willing hands and hearts. We are all busy during the holiday season, but you can help us all get in the spirit as we prepare our church and our hearts to receive our Saviour.

If you have any questions, contact Karen Grant or Sue Mahrt



Each Sunday we enjoy seeing flowers on the bema. It reminds us of the beauty of God's creation. The arrangement can honor an event, a loved one or give thanks and glory to God. To help cover the cost, we are asking for a minimum donation of \$40.00. The flowers are not the property of the donor, but will be enjoyed by all. With care they can last a week or more in the gathering space. We encourage you to continue this tradition. You may sign up at the welcome center, on-line through our giving page, or call the office.



Care Team Ministry

From Donna Dettmann

The Care Team are members of Grace Lutheran Church and are trained to make Eucharistic visits to the sick and recovering, homebound, those in rehab, and those who cannot regularly attend Sunday services. We are thankful for the dedication of our members and the leadership of Pr. David Wendel.

The Team has quarterly meetings to review and coordinate visits. Most visits take place in the first and/or the third week of each month. (once or twice a month).

If you would like to have communion brought to you or know of someone that would like to receive the Eucharist, and they are members of Grace Church: the Care Team is ready.

Call: Sarah Odum at the Grace office – 614-882-3026 ext. 1
Peggy Jones at – 614-354-6884 or r.jones.iverse@att.net
Donna Dettmann at – 703-447-7760 or donnadett@aol.com

If you would like more information about joining the Care Team, call or email one of the numbers above.

Let us Pray FOR YOU

Let us Pray for You
from Donna Dettmann

The Prayer Table – **"Let Us Pray For You"** – has been moved to the front of the sanctuary – in the "transept" area to the right of the Altar. This location change will be for about a month, while the back of the sanctuary is being prepared for the new Trumpets Array

***** Look for the red lit candle *****

The Intercessory Prayer Team will continue to pray for your need as usual.



- Make your prayer request at the table in the Front of the church - **"Let Us Pray For You"**. You will find prayer request forms and pens.
- Put your prayer request in the locked chest (Your name is optional).
- Prayer requests can also be sent through the Grace website: <https://subsplash.com/u/-KJ4PQ7/forms/d/05aee550-f949-48db-a87c-d651dc398e69> or scanning the QR code.

CROP Hunger Walk Team Steps up to End Hunger and Poverty

from Linda Hoch

Grace walkers (L to R): Ron Singell, Miguel Arreguin, Benny, Chris and Linda Hoch. Not pictured: Sarah and Emily Odum.



Those who represented Grace in the 2026 CROP Hunger Walk want to extend a huge THANK YOU to all who sponsored them directly, online or through the bake sale. During the Impact Fair prior to the walk, our team learned about the struggles many around the world face: hauling 40 lbs. of water over 3 miles every day (typically the job of the girls and women) and the need for latrines to prevent sickness and disease due to defecation in fields and streams where food is sourced. These were just a few examples of the projects Church World Service has a hand in: bringing clean water closer to villages, building latrines, and providing food assistance and livelihood training.

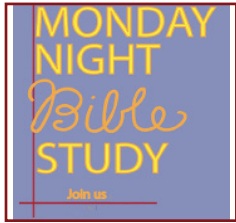
More than \$2,234 was raised for the CROP Hunger Walk through Team Grace's fundraising efforts—including a \$1,000 matching gift from Grace's Mission Reserve Fund! Thank you to everyone who walked, donated, baked, bought raffle tickets, and helped make this effort a success.





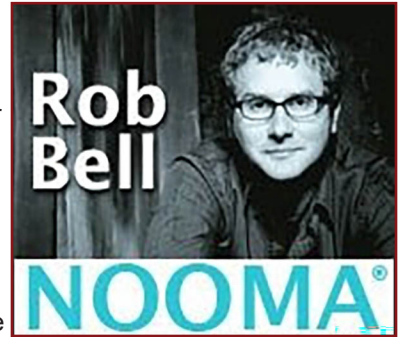
Monday Evening Bible Study

Adult study of the Corinthians correspondence began Monday, Sept. 14th, 6:30 and will continue for eight weeks. If you haven't been able to attend, but would like to participate, studies are posted on Pastor David Wendel's YouTube and Facebook pages, usually on Tuesday mornings.



SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS

The adult class is each Sunday at 9:45 in the fellowship hall and is facilitated by Bill Kulju. Our study is titled "NOOMA" - The word NOOMA is a phonetic spelling of the Greek word



pneuma, which means wind or spirit. This study is a series of short Christian films featuring author and speaker Rob Bell. Each short video blends everyday life events with teachings about God, Jesus, and our faith. This series is designed to start discussions rather than provide all the answers.

Band of Brothers to meet Thursday, November 12, 6:30

Band of Brothers, Thursday, November 12, 6:30 PM Old Bag O' Nails, Uptown Westerville All younger men/working men are invited to our monthly Band of Brothers, which is returning to meeting at Old Bag O' Nails, in Westerville. They are allowing us to meet in the separate area of the restaurant up the stairs.- Pr.DW

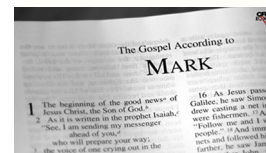


Grace Sisterhood

Grace Sisterhood's next meeting is **December 14 at 7pm** at Las Margaritas. We will not meet in November. We will continue meeting the 2nd Monday of each month (so mark your calendars so you can join in the fellowship). We are studying, "Women and Identity" by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun & Tracey D Bianchi. All younger/working women of the congregation (and friends!) are invited and welcome! Contact: Melissa Hodek



MEN OF GRACE BIBLE STUDY (Loaves and Fishes Cafe)



Men of Grace, Our monthly Men of Grace Bible Study will meet Saturday, Nov. 21, 8

AM, as we continue our study of the Gospel of Mark. Beginning Advent I, we will be in a new liturgical year, with Sunday Gospel readings primarily from Mark. Our study on Saturdays will intersect and deepen our focus on the Sunday Gospels! -Pr.DW

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study is currently reading and discussing Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book, Life Together, about the Christian community, the day together and the day alone. Books are available from Pastor Wendel. All women are invited! If you are interested see Pr. David Wendel or email at d.wendel@grace43081.org.



KATHARINECIRCLE (Rose Garden 2&3)

Katharine Circle will meet **Monday, November 2 at 1 pm**. We continue our study of Ephesians and Linda Seamon will be our leader. All women are invited to join us. Contact Dorothy Crain, 614-264-5304, with questions.



RUTH CIRCLE (Rose Garden 1)

Ruth Circle will next meet at **1pm Monday, November 9**. Please contact Joanne Figge with any questions.

NOVEMBER 2026

CALLED TO THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT SINCE ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 2025

Jim Newton	December 3, 2025
Loren Sadler.....	January 24, 2026
John Kleberg	February 5, 2026
Pete Otteson	February 5, 2026
Millie Becker.....	February 7, 2026
Don Rumph	March 9, 2026
Bill Muller	March 15, 2026
Amy Lynn Seifert Unkefer.....	April 19, 2026
Don Bachman	July 6, 2026
Jim Bartholomew	August 22, 2026
Jim Schlea.....	September 13, 2026



Jan Perry, Cynthia Bertelsen,
Terry Riesen, Eddie Hardick,
Jan Boughton, David Doll,
Don Melick, Tom Zawodny, Betty Milner, Rod Rice,
Sue Ross, Mary Ross,

FLOWERS GIVEN BY

- OCTOBER 4** • Jodie Arreguin in celebration of Miguel's birthday on October 4th.
OCTOBER 11 • Lisa and Steve Kuhar in celebration of our 45th wedding anniversary
OCTOBER 18 • **Ted Ray** in celebration of grandson **Max's 7th birthday on October 16.**
OCTOBER 25 • Kathy Bobb in memory of Jerry Bobb.
 • Marge Cepek and family in memory of Larry Cepek.

BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

2-ZIVA FRENCH
 3-DAVID ODUM
 6-MARIAN RETHERFORD
 7-KAREN BALE
 7-KAITLIN BERRY
 7-MIKE GRUBB
 7-CAROLYN REARICK
 7-JACKIE WASHBURN
 9-LARRY SCHALLER
 10-ABIGAIL KOTIK
 11-VAUGHN PLACE
 11-CONNOR SWANSON
 12-JEFF WASHBURN
 13-TONYA SHINABARGAR
 17-TED RAY
 19-JACKIE NUSSBAUM
 19-MADDY ROBEY

19-KATHERINE STOLL
 20-AARON SINGLETON
 22-JEREMY CLARK
 23-ALICIA CRAIN
 23-MIKE FORD
 24-MEGAN BANKS
 25-SUE MILLER
 26-JOHN DOBROKA
 26-PAULA WASHBURN
 28-MARY ROSS
 29-KATHY REEDY
 30-ADDIE GURGIOLO

DECEMBER

1-FRED PFANZ
 2-KATHY GREER
 2-LEE REYNOLDS JR.
 3-SARAH ODUM
 3-LIAM REYNOLDS
 4-STEPHEN KILE

THANK YOU

Thank you Pastor Wendel and the Grace Church Family for your prayers and support, cards and food, during my hospital stays and surgery. Your kindness brought me comfort and strength. -Martha Crist

BAPTISM



At the 11am service on October 4th,
 we celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Baptism for
Violet Marie Gayetsky,
 child of Ian and Fon Gayetsky.

*This Child of God is sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked
 with the cross of Christ forever.*

ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER

1-JEREMY & MIKI CLARK
 23-JIM & JEAN CLAFLIN 58
 27-CHRIS & JODIE COONFARE 32
 27-ELLEN & GEORGE PAULUS 41
 29-AMY & (MICHAEL) QUINN 18

DECEMBER

2-MIKE & BEVERLY GRUBB





**Winner of the
Church Picnic Bake
off last month -
Lemon
Cheesecake
Mouse
by
Ellen Paulus**

Lemon Cheesecake Mouse

Ingredients

- 1 cup whipping cream
- 8 ounces cream cheese softened
- 1 cup lemon curd or prepared lemon pie filling
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- Fresh berries for garnish optional

Directions

- In the bowl of a stand mixer, beat the 8 ounces of cream cheese and 1 cup of lemon curd or lemon pie filling until smooth.
- Stir in the 1 teaspoon vanilla and 1/2 cup powdered sugar and mix until combined.
- Fold in the whipped cream until fully incorporated.
- Pipe or spoon the mousse into serving dishes.
- Refrigerate until serving.
- Garnish with fresh berries, if desired.

Woolworth Cheesecake (Lemon Cheesecake) 2nd place by Linda Hoch

- Crust** • 2 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 3 tablespoons sugar
 - 1/2 cup melted butter

Crust Instructions

- Mix crumbs, sugar and butter until combined
- Press firmly into bottom of a 9X13 dish
- Chill while preparing filling

Filling

- 1 package (3oz.) lemon Jell-o
- 1 cup boiling water
- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 12 oz cold evaporated milk (very cold)
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Filling Instructions

- Dissolve jell-o completely in boiling water.
Set aside to cool (do not let it set)
- In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth and fluffy
- Slowly beat in the cooled jell-o
- In a separate bowl, whip the cold evaporated milk until thick and fluffy, then beat in the lemon juice and vanilla
- Gently fold whipped milk mixture into the cream cheese mixture until fully combined
- Pour over prepared crust and smooth the top.

Lemon Raspberry Trifle 3rd place by Denise Reynard

Ingredients for the lemon pound cake:

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 Tbsp lemon zest
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice, about 1/2 lemon
- 1/2 cup buttermilk

Directions

- Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a 9x5-inch (or 8x4-inch) loaf pan.
- In a medium bowl combine the flour, baking powder, lemon zest, and salt. Set aside.
- In a bowl cream the butter and sugar together at medium-high speed until pale and fluffy, about 4-6 minutes. Scrape the sides of the bowl as needed.
- Add the eggs one at a time on low mix until combined, then beat in the vanilla extract and lemon juice. Beat on medium-high speed until combined.
- Add about one-third of the flour mixture and mix until almost combined, then add half the buttermilk and mix until just combined. Repeat, ending with the last third of the flour. Beat until well mixed.
- Scrape the batter into the prepared loaf pan and bake for 45-55 minutes until the cake is golden brown and a toothpick comes out mostly clean with only a couple moist crumbs. When cool cut into cubes

Ingredients for Simple Custard

- 4 cups whole milk
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon butter
- 4 large eggs
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch

Directions

- Place milk, vanilla, and butter in a medium saucepan.
- Cook and stir over medium heat until simmering; remove from heat before it comes to a boil.
- Whisk eggs, sugar, and cornstarch together in a large bowl until sugar dissolves.
- Set the saucepan back over low heat. Pour in egg mixture slowly, whisking constantly, until custard thickens enough to coat the back of a spoon, 5 to 10 minutes.
- Allow to cool at room temperature before chilling in the refrigerator.

Fresh Raspberries To Build Trifle

Layer about a third of the pound cake cubes, then about a third of the custard then sprinkle about a third of the raspberries on top of the custard and repeat for each layer. Make sure you end with fresh berries on top.



Winners of the
Church Picnic
Bake off.
LtoR: Denise
Reynard; 3rd
place, Linda
Hoch; 2nd place,
Ellen Paulus; 1st
place.

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Worship

8:15 & 11 a.m.



We invite our guests to accept a "Guest Bag" that contains information about Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The guest bags are located at the Welcome Center, just outside the entrance to the sanctuary.

Ask an usher or any member for assistance.

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

100 E. Schrock Road, Westerville, OH 43081

Office Hours:

Mon. thru Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Fri. 9 a.m. to Noon

PH: 614-882-3026 • e-mail: office@grace43081.org • Website: www.grace43081.org

www.grace43081.org

Facebook: facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville

Grace Lutheran has been serving the Westerville community since 1909, supporting local ministries such as the Westerville Area Resource Ministry (W.A.R.M.), Westerville Partnership Habitat for Humanity and the Westerville CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and provides weekly space for five AA groups (*Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday*). The Red Cross Bloodmobile, Vacation Bible School, the Autism Buddy Camp and Joyful Noise Concerts also are a benefit to the Westerville community.

Grace Staff

David Wendel, Pastor d.wendel@grace43081.org
719-650-8171

Helen Kang, Choir Director
h.kang@grace43081.org

Linda Hoch, Organist lkgraf102078@earthlink.net

Sarah Odum, Business Manager
Debbie Yoho, Financial Manager
d.yoho@grace43081.org

Jon Sweet, Facilities Manager
facility@grace43081.org

Maria Laderman, Director, Bell Choir
laderman522@yahoo.com

Fred Pfanz, Sacristan Pfanz1@aol.com

2026 Church Council

President

Lisa Kuhar

Vice President

Ted Ray

Treasurer

Jim Caldwell

Secretary

Tracy Nave

Members-at-Large

Kyle Lamb

Ellen Paulus

Gregg Rearick

Jackie Washburn

Pastor

Rev. Dr. David Wendel

Vision Statement

We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

Mission Statement

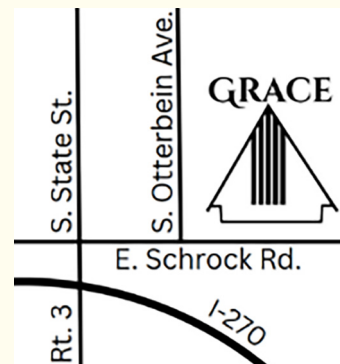
Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.

Treasurer's Report - from Jim Caldwell, Treasurer

Year to date receipts and disbursements recap.

	September 2026			YTD 2026		
	Budget	Actuals	Variance	Budget	Actuals	Variance
Receipts	\$52,667	\$39,689	(12,978)	\$ 474,000	\$ 442,946	\$(31,054)
Disbursements:	55,958	40,527	15,431	503,625	492,589	11,036
Excess(Deficit)	\$(3,292)	\$ (838)	\$2,454	\$ (29,625))	\$(49,643)	\$(20,018)

Treasurer's Reports can be requested from Jim Caldwell (jtcfms@aol.com) or from the Church Office.
If you have questions please contact any member of Council.



Worship and Study

Holy Communion

EVERY Sunday Morning

Two Worship Services: 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

Youth Sunday School classes K-5

9:45 to 10:30 upstairs in the Preschool Room.

Confirmation and High School

9:45 to 10:30. Basement Youth Room

Adult Learning

9:45 a.m. Fellowship Hall

The Nursery

Open Sunday mornings during both services and the Sunday School hour.

Service Recording:

The recorded 8:15 am service
will be available at noon
www.grace43081.org



North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

embraces four core values:

Christ Centered, Mission Driven,
Traditionally Grounded and
Congregationally Focused.

The NALC is focused on living out
Christ's Great Commission to go and
make disciples in North America
and around the globe.

Learn more about Grace and the NALC.

Phone: +1 888 551 7254 •

E-mail: info@thenalc.org



**GRACE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
100 E. Schrock Rd.
Westerville, OH 43081



2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Sunday/First Fruits/Care Team (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services 9:40am Sunday School, Confirmation- Christmas Program Rehearsal 9:45am Adult Learning 3-5pm Grace Youth Group (GYG)	2 1:00pm Katharine Circle 6-9pm Poll Set-up 6:30pm Monday Evening Bible Study	3 5:30am-11pm Polling Location 8:00pm AA Mtg	4 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6:15pm Ringers 7:00pm Singers 7:30pm Scioto Brass	5 1:00pm Art and Environment 6:30pm Dartball @ Bye/New Team 7:30pm AA Mtg	6 8:00pm AA Mtg	7 9:30am AA Mtg 8:00pm AA Mtg
8 Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost (Pr. David Wendel; <i>substitute organist: Ron Kenreich</i>) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services 9:40am Sunday School, Confirmation- Christmas Program Rehearsal 9:45am Adult Learning WARM Thanksgiving Blessing Bags and Donations Due 3-5pm GYG	9 8:00am Frankenmuth Trip 1:00pm Ruth Circle	10 Items due for Nov. 17 Council Mtg Frankenmuth Trip Returns 8:00pm AA Mtg	11 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6:15pm Ringers 7:00pm Singers 7:30pm Scioto Brass	12 6:30pm Band of Brother @ Old Bag of Nails 6:30pm Dartball vs Grace of God 7:30pm AA Mtg	13 8:00pm AA Mtg	14 9:30am AA Mtg 8:00pm AA Mtg
15 Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost/Annual Mtg (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services 9:40am Sunday School, Confirmation- Christmas Program Rehearsal 9:45am Adult Learning 12:30pm Annual Mtg Sign-up Deadline for Cookie Exchange Tags Available for WARM Adopt-A-Family 3-5pm GYG	16 6:00pm English Garden HOA Mtg	17 Noon-6pm Blood Drive 3:00pm Care Team Mtg 6:30pm Council Mtg. 8:00pm AA Mtg	18 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6:15pm Ringers 7:00pm Singers 7:30pm Scioto Brass	19 8am Grand Piano tuning 10:00am Staff Mtg. 6:15pm Supper Club @ Bru Burger Bar 6:30pm Dartball @ Grace 6:30pm GST Training 7:30pm AA Mtg	20 8:00pm AA Mtg	21 8:00am Men of Grace 9:30am AA Mtg 8:00pm AA Mtg
22 Christ the King (Pr. David Wendel) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services 9:40am Sunday School, Confirmation- Christmas Program Rehearsal 9:45am Adult Learning	23 1:00pm Euchre Group	24 8:00pm AA Mtg	25 Thanksgiving Eve 10:30am Women's Bible Study 12:15 service 6:30pm service After Service Scioto Brass Rehearsal	26 —Office Closed— 7:30pm AA Mtg	27 —Office Closed— 8:00pm AA Mtg	28 9:30am AA Mtg WARM Holiday Bag Drop Off in Westerville Neighborhoods 8:00pm AA Mtg
29 1st Sunday of Advent (Pr. David Wendel; <i>substitute organist: Ron Kenreich</i>) 8:15 & 11:00am Worship Services 9:45am Adult Learning	30 9am-3pm LifeLine Screening	We envision Grace to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries. Worship materials and sermon available online at www.grace43081.org				

Grace

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

100 East Schrock Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081

Phone: (614) 882-3026

Pr. David Wendel: (719) 650-8171

E-mail: office@grace43081.org

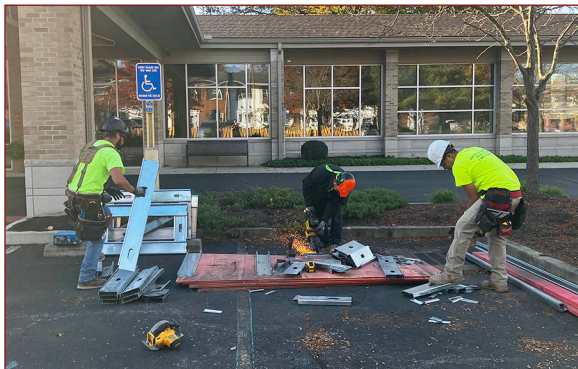
Website: www.grace43081.org

<http://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville>



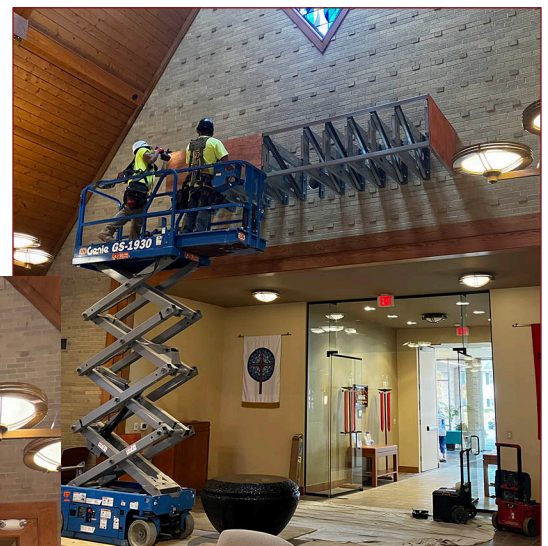
Place address label here

We are a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church



**Installation
has
begun!**

After patient waiting, installation of the new trompette en chamade has begun! This will make our new Rogers instrument a hybrid digital and pipe organ! For decades, the plan had been to purchase a pipe organ, with no movement forward toward an actual purchase. The hybrid is a great and cost effective solution for an instrument worthy of our worship!



There are a number of steps still to happen: wrapping the mounting box in wood, mounting the pipes, finishing electrical hookups, then having the pipes individually voiced! All done by different craftsmen, as they are available! We continue to hope the organ will be completed by Christmas! Again—thanks to all who made this decades long dream a reality! -Pr.DW