



# NEWSLETTER

GRACE  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church

January 2023

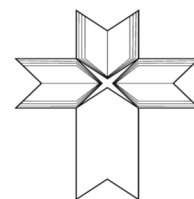
## Inside this issue:

Church News	2-5
Birthdays,	4
Worship Assistants	6
Calendar	7



**Each month we will try to spotlight someone from our congregation for the wonderful work they do in our church;** this month we will highlight Janet and Phil Dixon.

They are extremely active in many phases of church life. Janet has a quilting program on Tuesdays, is the secretary of Dorcas Circle, and assists in other church activities. They were also instrumental in getting the church decorated for the holidays. Phil is on church council and is in charge of the church grounds; he is also the person to go to for anything electrical, or with building problems. Janet and Phil are always involved in transporting the finished quilts from all of the Lutheran churches in the area to the Lutheran World Relief distribution point. Phil is also a member of the dartball team and LMM. We are fortunate to have them in our congregation.



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ and share God's good news with others with an emphasis on youth and families.



A Note from your no so "old" treasurer:

Greetings to the Grace Congregational family, WOW! Another year has gone by in the blink of an eye; at least it seems so. Our children and our grandchildren became another year older. Well, and, come to think of it, with all those years flashing by, we all have become "older." Taxes are coming up, and we are all looking to not be so generous in sharing our money by paying taxes. Your kindness and generosity have allowed Grace Lutheran Church to remain a vital, caring community focused on the Good News of Jesus this year. And, we are very grateful for your generosity to the ministry of Grace in 2022! Thank you. But there is still more to do in 2023!

So here is something to think about if you are 70.5 years old or older. And if you have not quite reached that age, here is something to think about when the grandkids do call you "OLD."

If you are 70.5 years old or older and have a traditional IRA, 401(k) or 403(b), you are eligible to make a contribution directly from your retirement account to a charity (Grace) and have it count as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). This will result in no income tax due to you, as you won't be taking it as a distribution to you. So you avoid income taxes, get to make a gift to charity (Grace), and have it count as your Required Minimum Distribution (this is a thing once you are 72). If you are 70.5 years old and have a traditional IRA, 401(k) or 403(b), this is almost always the best way to give.

Please consider using your generosity to support your church home.

Thank you for all the ways in which you support Grace Ev. Lutheran Church. Thank you for considering a special gift at the end of the year and all year through to keep our Grace ministry thriving!

In Christ, Debbi

**"The Chosen" discussion group** will resume in February. Join us on February 7th, 21st and 28th at 7pm to view a portion of the movie and join in the discussion. See you there!



**THANKS**  
FOR YOUR SPIRIT OF HELPING!

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church for Christmas.

Also, thanks to everyone who helped with the youth Christmas production of "A Noisy Silent Night." The Youth did a great job! The script was written by Debbie Kelley. Thanks to all!

### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

November 15, 2022

Dear People of Grace,

After prayerful consideration and consultation with the council of both churches, I would like to let you know of some upcoming changes.

As of May 2023 I plan on retiring from full time ministry. I will have the privilege of continuing to serve the worshiping community at Grace on a part time basis.

In addition, the councils have decided to dissolve the joint parish agreement at that time.

I would have preferred to announce this in person, but it's been brought to my attention that rumors are already circulating about this. Since I will be on vacation the next two Sundays, an email seemed the best way to clear up the situation sooner.

It's been a wonderful experience serving both parishes and I am honored you gave me the opportunity to do so.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Heinz



Anyone who has addresses for former members, please pass them onto Judi Levernier, or Elaine (in the office). We will be sending special invitations to former members to ensure they know we would love for them to be here! We have a list started but would love to add to it!

**Grace's 150th Anniversary will be celebrated June 11, 2023.** The Bishop will be joining us for worship! You won't want to miss it.

There will be other special activities leading up to the Anniversary service, so keep your eyes on the newsletter and Grace Notes so you don't miss the fun!

Our story is still unfolding. We want all current and past members of Grace to join us in celebrating our history and future!



Council has voted that masks are optional to those who are fully vaccinated. Those who are not vaccinated are asked to continue wearing masks.

**\*IF YOU ARE SICK, PLEASE STAY HOME!**

**\*\*Should you feel safer continuing to worship virtually, we will continue broadcasting the worship service at 11am, on Facebook.**

## PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**NOW:** the annual congregational meeting is January 29th, immediately after worship. We will have a potluck lunch, be approving the new budget, and be voting in new council members as well as approving the budget. Please plan on attending.

**\*\*All council reports should be into Elaine by noon on January 12th.**



Sunday School News

Sunday School (PreK-5th grade) will be on the 8th at 10am!

Join us!



- \* The service on January 1st will be at Grace at 11am; it will be readings and songs.
- \* Red Cross Blood Drive starts at 1pm on Jan. 24th.
- \* The Annual Congregational meeting is Jan. 29th, immediately following worship. We will also have a potluck!
- \* Souper Bowl Sunday is February 12th.
- \* February 21st will be our Fat Tuesday celebration at Grace. Time TBA.
- \* February 22nd is Ash Wednesday; service will be at 11:30am at Grace.



Craig Norman	01/05
Dorothy Wilson	01/07
Landon Bias	01/15
Rev. Siggy Benedict	01/17
Ed Thomas	01/19
Jacob Dunlap	01/23

**Kroger will donate a percentage of all purchases to Grace Church!** All you need to do is call 1-800-576-4377, or go to Kroger.com and click the community rewards link. To register you will need our account number: QS108. Last year, we earned \$1200 through this program and we can earn up to \$4000. Register yourself, friends and family!

If you have not yet linked your Rewards card to Grace, please do so ASAP, our account number is QS108. Let's see how much we can earn in the next three months.

Please review the "Prayer Concerns" list below. If you have placed someone on the list that no longer needs prayers, please contact the office.

If you are interested in joining Church Council for 2023, please talk to Rod, council president.



**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Mackenzie (Biri) Derugen (breast cancer); Jim Esswein; Steve Thomas & Michael Peterson (brother & brother-in-law of Ed Thomas); Janet Dixon; Dick Bricker; Kathy Snyder; Coletta Sneddon; Peggy Holtzberger; Bernie Cantrell; Walt Williams (Uncle of Don & Debbie Kelley); Jennifer Huggins (niece of Don & Debbie Kelley); Mary Jo Daugherty; Cole Kleinline & Matt Kleinline (Dana Bower); Jim & Rosie Bower (Faith Lutheran); Linda & Larry Frazee; Barbara Heinlein; Rev. Siggy Benedict-Shields; Michael Styers, Jr.; Cancer Support Groups at Zangmeister; and members of our military.~~



- \* The January council meeting will be the 17th at 1pm.
- \* Dorcas Circle meets on Jan. 18th at 9:30am.
- \* Newsletter articles are due by noon on Jan. 20th.



We are also collecting the items below for the homeless shelters in downtown Columbus. Please leave them in the bins inside the coat closet and talk to Donna if you have questions.

- Hats/gloves
- Sleeping bags/blankets
- Hand warmers
- Warm socks
- Lotion
- Chapstick
- AAA/C/D batteries
- Other extreme weather supplies

THANK YOU!

### TIME AND TALENT FORMS:

If you have not returned your forms, please do so in a timely manner.

The Time and Talent sheets have been called OUR CHURCH'S DESIGNATED GIVING APPARATUS, as this information is extremely important to help create a budget for the upcoming year. The "Talents" section identifies those members who would be interested in helping in the many different aspects of the Church. Please return your sheet as soon as possible.

Now that people are re-emerging and returning to more normal activities, we need to once again be prepared in case the nursery is needed. Please sign up on the kiosk if you are available to help. You will only have to work the nursery on the your day, if there is someone who needs it. If not, you are free to join in regular worship. THANK YOU!

### Office Hours:

Elaine's hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 9:30am-1:30pm.



LSS is in desperate need of the following items. These items cannot be obtained through Mid-Ohio Food Bank and so LSS depends on donations for them. All these items and other food items can be placed into the metal bin marked "LSS". THANK YOU!






- Bar soap
- Deodorant
- Diapers
- Feminine hygiene products
- Gently used cook books
- Laundry detergent
- Shampoo
- Shaving cream/razors
- Toilet paper
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste

Questions? See Wanda Lynn

## January Worship Assistants

Page 6



Date	 Ministry Team		 USHERS	 Altar Guild	 Greeters
Jan. 1	Rod DuMond	Debbie Kelley		Wanda Lynn	
Jan 8.	Debbie Kelley	Rod DuMond		Wanda Lynn	
Jan. 15	Ed Thomas	Tim Bower		Wanda Lynn	
Jan. 22	Tim Bower	Ed Thomas		Wanda Lynn	
Jan. 29	Tina Siddle	Bonnie DuMond		Wanda Lynn	

Did you know that you can receive your monthly newsletter by e-mail? This way you don't have more clutter on your kitchen counter. Help Grace save the additional costs of paper and stamps by signing up to receive your newsletter online. Just email Elaine ([office@gracecolumbus.com](mailto:office@gracecolumbus.com)) and let her know!

