



NEWSLETTER

GRACE
Evangelical Lutheran
Church

January 2025



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Ash Wednesday
March 5



Palm Sunday
April 13



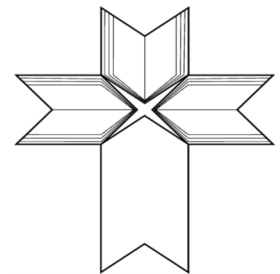
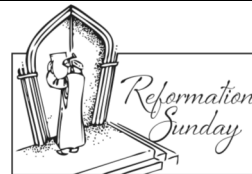
Good Friday
April 18



Easter
April 20



Reformation Sunday
October 26



Advent
30 November 7,14,21 December



OUR MISSION
STATEMENT:

Christmas Eve
24 December



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.



Lessons and Carols
28 December



Any singing or special music you'd like to do for the service, please contact Rod or Debbi!

Important Announcement

Everything in our church belongs to the church, either purchased or donated the item(s) are the church property. If something is sold, it need council approval. The same thing applies to throwing items away (or worth) that can be donated to the yard sale. Selling or throwing items away, is/are not the decision(s) of one individual . Going forward this is the policy set forth by council.

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.**

The Meals on Wheels is of Fairfield County's primary source for senior services, providing health, connection and independence for those 60years+ in Fairfield County. With the number of seniors steadily increasing in the foreseeable future, they are in desperate need of volunteers. If you are interested in delivering meals and a smile to older residents in our community, please contact the Summer Camp Volunteer Coordinator for Fairfield County, 740-681-5050.

Anna's Office Hours:

My office hours are 8:30-12:30 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

E-mail me at of-
fice@gracecolumbus.com with any suggestions or questions as well.



- 1/9/25 Grace at Grace of God 2
- 1/16/25 Grace at Westerville Grace
- 1/23/25 BYE
- 1/30/25 Grace at Rome
- 2/6/25 Grace at Epiphany
- 2/13/25 Grace at Grace of God
- 2/20/25 Bethel at Grace
- 2/27/25 Grace at FBGC2



- * January 15th—Women's Bible Study 9:30am
- * January 18st—LMM Breakfast 8:00am @Scramblers
- * January 21st—Council Meeting 1:00pm
- * January 20th—Newsletter Deadline
- * Quilting Wednesday mornings at 9:30am except the 18th.

Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust Update and Input

The 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly authorized two specific reconsiderations of the 2009 social statement, Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust. The first reconsideration is editorial and focused on potential language changes that do not change the overall meaning of the social statement.

A task force seated by the ELCA Church Council has been hard at work since Spring 2024 on this first reconsideration. The draft edits from the task force are now available online for public feedback at Southern Ohio Synod website. The public comment period runs until January 31, 2025.

At the website, you will also be able to find several resources:

A copy of the entire Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust social statement with draft edits underlined and highlighted (also available in Spanish);

A document with Explanations of the Draft Edits, which helps connect each draft edit to the authorization from the 2022 Churchwide Assembly (also available in Spanish and large-print)

A conversation guide for groups (also available in Spanish and large-print); and

A survey for people to submit their feedback on the draft edits.

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.

Next Red Cross Blood Drive

Date: Tuesday January 21th

Time: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Sign up:

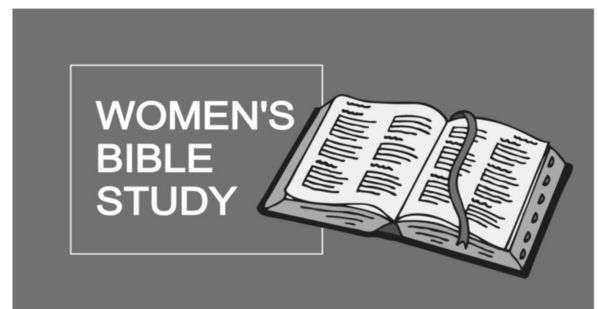
Online - RedCrossBlood.org

Call - 1-800-RED CROSS

Or use the Blood Donor App on your smart phone

Help us reach our goal of 27 donors!

Donors will be entered for a chance to win tickets to the upcoming Super Bowl—travel and hotel included.



Women's Bible Study will be on January 15th this month at 9:30am.

- ◆ Janet Dixon will be the Bible Study Leader
- ◆ Lindy Styers will be the Hostess

JANUARY Birthdays

Craig Norman	01/05
Landon Bias	01/15
Edward Thomas	01/19



"See? The church is full now, but after you shake it and make it snow, the church is empty."



What the most effective way to get new members in the church? Invite a friend. 86% of people who join congregations found them by being invited!

The 2025 National Day of Racial Healing (NDORH) will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 from 10 AM - 2 PM.

This is an annual observance that follows Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This year, the ELCA, in partnership with Augsburg Fortress, will join the movement of racial healing for our church and the nation.

This event will feature a free online educational event that centers the voices of ELCA leaders of color. We invite you to join us in this collective effort for a more just and equitable world.

This event is open to all ELCA rostered ministers, lay leaders and members.

Go to <https://www.elca.org/> for more information & to register!

2025 Bishop's Convocation

Bridging Faith & Technology:

AI in Ministry

March 17, 2025

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Upper Arlington)

This event is open to Rostered Ministers (including Retired and On Leave from Call), Interns, Synod Authorized Ministers (SAMs), Seminarians, Church Staff, and Lay Congregation Members.



Remember to check out <https://southernohiosynod.org/news/> for the latest goings on around the Southern Ohio Synod.



Anna will be out of the office 10-16 January



Monday, January 27, 2025
6:30-8:30 PM
Zoom

This event is open to both new and returning Council Presidents and Vice Presidents.

Go to
<https://southernohiosynod.org/events/council-president-vp-bootcamp/> to register!
The Zoom meeting link will be emailed closer to the event.

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

PRAYER CONCERNS: Tiffany Bylow (Heinz Raidel); Peggy Shields; Barbara Gardener (grandma of Eveie and Faith Kelley); Stephen Kimberly; Linda Styers; Eric Darr; Aaron McComas (nephew of Debbie Kelley); Grace Bower, Jan & Beth Rice; Kathy Snyder; Peggy Holtzberger; Bernie Daugherty; Robert Warren; Cole Kleinline (Dana Bower); Linda & Larry Frazee; Barbara Heinlein; Rev. Siggie Benedict-Shields; Michael Styers, Jr.; Cancer Support Groups at Mt. Carmel and The James Cancer Center; and members of our military.~~



Bible Quiz

The short Old Testament book of Lamentations is a set of communal laments (sorrowful songs) about the destruction in 587 B.C. of which city, by which people?

- A. Babylon; the Assyrians
- B. Jerusalem; the Babylonians
- C. Rome; the Greeks
- D. Caesarea Philippi; the Romans



Answer: B (See Bible commentaries.)



THANKS
FOR YOUR SPIRIT OF HELPING!

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


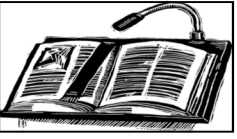


LSS is in desperate need of the items listed below. These items cannot be obtained through Mid-Ohio Food Bank and so LSS depends on donations for them. All these items and other food items can be placed into the metal bin marked "LSS". THANK YOU!

- 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

Date	 Assistant Minister		 USHERS	 Altar Guild
January 5	Anna Fiehler	Ed Thomas	Joe Biri	Debbie Kelley, Eveie Kelley
January 12	Rod DuMond	Debbie Kelley	Joe Biri	Debbie Kelley, Eveie Kelley
January 19	Ed Thomas	Bonnie DuMond	Joe Biri	Debbie Kelley, Eveie Kelley
January 26	Debbie Kelley	Anna Fiehler	Joe Biri	Debbie Kelley, Eveie Kelley



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 on line. Just email Anna (office@gracecolumbus.com) and let her know!