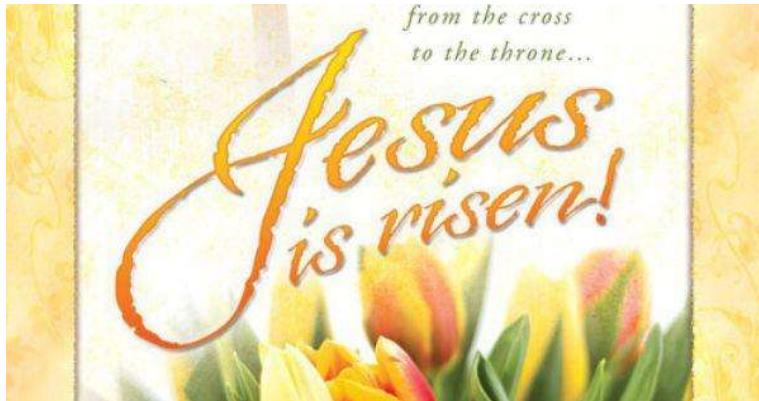


The
Season
of
Lent



March & April 2025

Grace Notes

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"Grace Lutheran Church is a family united by faith in Christ, which seeks to grow in that faith and to share it with others."



Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

*Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.*1

Thessalonians 5:16-24

Dear Friends in Christ,

This winter has been a brutal season. The extreme cold temperatures--which started in early December--to the endless snow. As I write this newsletter, I am wondering if winter will ever end. You are probably feeling the same way. The problem is that when things linger on--the way this weather is--we start to become hopeless and begin to doubt.

The real problem comes when we are dealing with serious issues in our lives. Whether it be chronic pain, on-going illnesses, financial issues, or struggling with a family member's infirmity, that feeling of hopelessness soon becomes real. Yes, we lift it up in prayer, but it seems as if God is not listening.

We can rest assured that, through the scriptures, we can and do know that God hears our prayers. It is because He has promised to hear them! Even if He doesn't always answer the way we think He should, He still hears us. The Psalmist declared, "As for me, I call to God ... and he hears my voice" (Psalm 55:16-17).

Why then, does God sometimes seem deaf to our prayers? One reason may be because we've allowed sin to take over and get in the way. We allow the noise of the world to wreak havoc in our hearts. Sin always cuts us off from God. Sometimes we just need to be still and know that He is God.

Often, however, God doesn't answer our prayers the way we think He should because He loves us, and He knows what is best for us. It's often been said that God answers prayer in one of three ways: "Yes", "No", and "Wait"—and it's true. We see only part of the picture—but God sees the whole picture. This is why we must seek God's will when we pray, and not just our own. The Bible says, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will ... we have what we asked of Him" (1 John 5:14-15). We see the type of prayer we need to pray just as Jesus did in the Garden on the night of His betrayal, "Not my will but thine."

Don't be discouraged. Instead, thank God for His love for you, and learn to commit everything to Him in prayer. The Bible says, "Rejoice always, pray continually" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17). We are to remember that we are children of God and His promise is to never let us go. There is hope! Hope in Christ Jesus. The winter will end and summer is just around the corner.

In Christ,

Pastor Weldon



Should you wish to contact Pastor Weldon, you may reach him on his cell phone at (270) 792-0570 or at his office at (440) 322-5497.

Grace Lutheran Church's first Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner was a great success!

With approximately 50 people in attendance, lots of Pre-Lent yummy food to eat and spending time with friends and family...even making some new friends, what could be better?

Thank you to all the individuals who helped to make this event happen. We also send out a thank you to Thrivent, whose donation funded this outreach opportunity.



Ladies Aid had a good turnout at their February 27th meeting. We discussed fund raising ideas, donation ideas and activities we could do together. **Our next function is Easter Breakfast to be held at 9am on April 20th.** **Everyone is welcome to our next meeting on Monday, April 28th.** Please come all who can. If you are a member or attend Church and not a member, you are still welcome. You don't have to join anything, just come. We can always use the ideas. ~ Lee Anne Christner

Lenten & Holy Week Services at GLC

March 4	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	6:00 pm
5	Ash Wednesday	6:00 pm
12	Mid-week Lent Service	6:00 pm
19	2 nd mid-week Lent	6:00 pm
26	3 rd mid-week Lent Service	6:00 pm
April 2	4 th mid-week Lent Service	6:00 pm
9	5 th mid-week Lent Service	6:00 pm
13	Palm Sunday	10:00 am
17	Maundy Thursday	6:00 pm
18	Good Friday	6:00 pm
20	Easter Sunday	10:00 am

EASTER SUNDAY!

Lent may have just started and Easter may be a little late this year; however, do not blink twice, because Easter will be here before you know it! Once again, GLC will be having Easter Breakfast Potluck at 9:00 am Easter morning (4-20) before Church Service. You are invited and encouraged to bring family & friends. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway. For further information, please contact Lee Anne Christner at (440-864-9456).

Celebrating March & April Birthdays and Anniversaries!

March Birthdays

25 David & Reilly Jones

April Birthdays

9 Vicar Glenn Mertz
25 Jan Koepf
27 John Knipper
28 Robin Turnbull

March Anniversaries

29 Dave & Jen Fehlan-Jones

April Anniversaries

15 Jackie & Vicar Glenn Mertz
16 Ray & Beverly Hines
26 Ron & Dianne Senyak

If we missed your birthday or anniversary (or have the wrong date), please let the Church Secretary (Tina Harrell) know so she can update the list. Thank you.

Grace Service Schedule for March & April 2025

DATE	USHER	Counters	Altar Guild	Lay Reader	Comm. Assist.
Mar 2 nd 10am	Andy Karp	Fred C. & Lisa	Colleen Karp	Fred C. Feddeck	Greg Christner
Mar 9 th 10am	Lee Anne Christner	Jan & Dale	Karen Huston	Harriett Thomas	Bob Izold
Mar 16 th 10am	Lee Anne Christner	Fred C. & Dale	Karen Huston	Harriett Thomas	Bob Izold
Mar 23 rd 10am	Dale Rider	Fred C. & Greg	Kathy Knipper	Jon Storr	Andy Karp
Mar 30 th 10am	Dale Rider	Fred C. & Greg	Kathy Knipper	Jon Storr	Andy Karp
Apr 6 th 10am	Tom Monroe	Fred C. & Lisa	Robin Turnbull	Dave Jones	Dave Jones
Apr 13 th 10am	Tom Monroe	Fred C. & Lisa	Robin Turnbull	Dave Jones	Dave Jones
Apr 20 th 10am	Andy Karp	Dale & Greg	Colleen Karp	Fred C. Feddeck	Greg Christner
Apr 27 th 10am	Andy Karp	Dale & Greg	Colleen Karp	Fred C. Feddeck	Greg Christner

PLEASE VOLUNTEER THIS YEAR

Grace Lutheran Church needs you! Please talk with Vicar Mertz or a church council member about serving our Savior as a **Communion Assistant**, a **member of the Altar Guild**, a **Reader** or a **Counter**. The time commitment is minimal. The opportunities to show your gratitude to God by taking care of His Church and Flock are endless, necessary and rewarding. **Hebrews 6:10** – God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

Let's talk Coffee Hour!

As expressed in every Newsletter: coffee hour has been scaled down in size and scope. This means less pressure and time needed to host. Non-perishable treats have been purchased for the use of coffee hour. Talk to Lee Anne for more details. The sign-up sheet has been posted in the church hallway. We need your help, please find some dates that work for you to host a simple coffee hour periodically.

Adult Bible Study

Sundays at 11:15 am with VICAR MERTZ

We are reviewing Luther's Small Catechism..

Wednesdays at 1:30pm with PASTOR WELDON

We are studying the Book of Ezekiel.

Wednesdays at 7:00pm with HARRIETT THOMAS

Please join us as we study the Book of John.

This is available through Zoom. Please contact Harriett for details.

Evening Bible Study Schedule 7:00 PM

Please Note: This Schedule May Be Updated

March 2025

Wednesday March 5th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday March 12th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday March 19th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday March 26th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

April 2025

Wednesday April 2nd Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday April 9th ZOOM ONLY

Wednesday April 16th ZOOM ONLY

Wednesday April 23rd Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday April 30th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

May 2025

Wednesday May 7th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday May 14th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday May 21st Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday May 28th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

June 2025

Wednesday June 4th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday June 11th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday June 18th Grace Lutheran Church or Zoom

Wednesday June 25th ZOOM ONLY

Please join us as we complete our study of the Book of John and begin our study in the Book of Ephesians.

Worship Information

- Sunday morning worship continues to meet at **10:00 am** every week.
- **Private Communion** is offered at church or by pastoral home visit whenever requested. Please contact Pastor to schedule.
- If you or a friend cannot be at church with us, you can see videos of our Worship Services online. Go to our website or to our Facebook page at www.grace-churchoberlin.org or <https://www.facebook.com/GraceLutheranChurchOberlinOhio>. Our weekly bulletin and the readings are also posted on our website.

