





Grace Notes

October – November 2026

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
310 West Lorain Street
Oberlin, Ohio 44074
(440)775-3271

Interim Pastor: Robert Weldon, Sr.
Temporary Pastor: Rev. Christian Just

www.gracechurchoberlin.wordpress.com

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



MESSAGE FROM PASTOR WELDON

All Saints' Day: Claimed by Christ

"Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints." — Psalm 116:15

On November 1, the Church celebrates All Saints' Day, a time to give thanks to God for those faithful Christians who have gone before us and to rejoice in the promises that are ours through Jesus Christ.

But who are the saints?

We often think of saints as especially holy people from the past. Yet Scripture and our Lutheran faith remind us that saints are sinners who have been made holy through Christ. Through Holy Baptism, Christ claims us as His own children and gives us His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

The Small Catechism teaches us what Baptism gives: "It works the forgiveness of sins, rescues us from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this." What a wonderful promise! Our status as God's children does not depend upon how well we have lived. It rests upon Christ and His promises.

This is especially meaningful as we remember those who have died in the faith. Through their Baptism, they belonged to Christ. They were sinners who received God's forgiveness, saints who lived by faith in Jesus, and children of God who trusted His promise of eternal life.

The Apostles' Creed gives voice to the hope we share with them. We confess:

“I believe in the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.”
Those words are not simply something we say at church. They are a confession of the hope that sustains us when we stand beside a grave or remember someone we love. Because Jesus died and rose again, death does not have the final word. We look forward to the day when Christ will raise His people from death and give them everlasting life.
All Saints’ Day also reminds us that we are not alone in our faith. Every time we gather around God’s Word and Sacraments, we join with the whole Church—those on earth and those who have gone before us—in receiving God’s gifts and praising our Lord.
At the Lord’s Supper, we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. In the Communion liturgy, we are reminded that we gather not by ourselves, but with the whole company of heaven. We join our voices with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, praising our Lord and proclaiming His holiness:
“Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full of Your glory.”

What a beautiful picture of the Church! As we gather at the altar, we are part of something much greater than our individual congregation. We are united with Christ and with His Church throughout all time and in every place—with the saints who have gone before us, with our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world, and with angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven.
As we remember the saints who have gone before us, we give thanks for the ways God worked through their lives. We remember their love, their service, their prayers, their words of encouragement, and their faithfulness. Yet our ultimate thanksgiving is not directed toward them, but toward Jesus Christ, their Savior and ours.
We grieve those who have died because we love them. But as Christians, we do not grieve as those who have no hope. We have been baptized into Christ. We have heard His Word. We receive His forgiveness. We gather at His Table. And we confess the promise of the resurrection. Through Baptism, Christ has claimed us as His children and made us His saints. Through His Word and Sacraments, He continues to sustain us in the faith. And through His death and resurrection, He has opened the way to everlasting life.
So on All Saints’ Day, we remember with gratitude those who have gone before us, we give thanks for the gift of faith, and we look forward with confidence to the day when Christ will gather all His people together in the glory of His eternal kingdom.
Until that day, we gather around Christ’s Word and Table, joining our voices with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, proclaiming the victory of our risen Lord.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
And on that day, by God’s grace, we will join all the saints in proclaiming:
“Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”- Revelation 7:10
Thanks be to God for His saints—and, above all, for Jesus Christ, who makes us saints.

In Christ Jesus,
Pastor Weldon

Do you need to speak with a Pastor?

Contact Pastor Weldon on his cell phone at (270) 792-0570 or at his office at (440) 322-5497



God Hears Our Prayers



Please pray for Rev. Christian Just; Karen Fridenstine; Marcia Metzger; Marian (cancer has returned) friend of Lee Anne Christner; Norma Stechow; Keith Stechow (having surgery) Norma Stechow's stepson; Jan Koepp; Bob Scherry; Debbie Froboto (friend of Lee Anne Christner); and Bev & Ray Hines.

Please remember to keep shut-ins, widows and widowers in your prayers. A phone call or greeting card can go a long way in lifting one's spirits. It is also a way to share our Savior's love.

Message from the Council President

October/November 2026

All,

This message concerns the church's heating temperatures and natural gas usage.

From October 2024 through September 2025, the church used more than 3,000 CCFs of natural gas for the first time. One CCF equals 100 cubic feet, so 3,000 CCFs equals 300,000 cubic feet of natural gas.

I was unaware that exceeding 3,000 CCFs of natural gas usage over a 12-month period would result in Columbia Gas adding a $150 monthly surcharge to our bill for the following 12 months. This amounted to an additional $1,800 in annual expenses for the church, which we had to pay from October 2025 through September 2026.

This past year, we reduced our natural gas usage to approximately 2,700 CCFs, well below the 3,000-CCF threshold. Our October gas bill did not include the $150 surcharge. We accomplished this by maintaining lower temperatures than ever before: **55 degrees during the week and 67 degrees for Sunday services.**

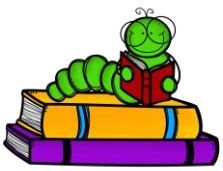
The church has Wi-Fi-connected thermostats that allow me to monitor temperatures and track usage through an app on my cell phone. As we enter the upcoming year, please contact me if you are planning any church events during the week so I can adjust the thermostats remotely to accommodate your event.

The thermostats are locked to maintain control over the church's heating temperatures and help us manage our natural gas expenses.

If you have any questions, please contact me at church or call me at 440-935-5099.

All is well,

Tom Monroe
Council President



Grace's Reading Nook…please take a moment or more to browse through the books on the bookshelves recently moved to the corner of the Narthex near the Church Office. (There are two additional bookshelves with books in the Nursery off the hallway.) Feel free to take a book and keep it or pass it on to someone you know who would be interested in reading it. Sit and visit if you are early for Service, or want to chat after Service. If anyone is interested in forming a Book Club, just contact Tina at the Church Office.

Adult Bible Study

Sundays at 10:45 am with Paul Castle
(Every other Sunday Nov. 8 and 22, 2026)
Studying Romans.

Wednesdays at 1:30 pm with PASTOR WELDON
(Studying Joshua/Judges)

Wednesdays at 7:00pm with HARRIETT THOMAS
(Studying Psalm 119) Zoom only

All study will be on Zoom. Anyone that is interested in joining our Study can contact Harriett Thomas at hthomas@oberlin.net or 440-935-2349, with their email address. She will forward the Zoom link, which will be active for all three months. All are welcome to join us. Please join us. Please see below schedule…

Wednesday Evening Bible Study Schedule with Harriett Thomas
7:00 PM

Please Note: This Schedule May Be Updated

October 2026
Wednesday October 7th ZOOM ONLY
Wednesday October 14th ZOOM ONLY
Wednesday October 21st ZOOM ONLY
Wednesday October 28th ZOOM ONLY

November 2026
Wednesday November 4th ZOOM ONLY
Wednesday November 11th ZOOM ONLY
Wednesday November 18th ZOOM ONLY
Wednesday November 25th NO CLASS

December 2026
Wednesday December 2nd ZOOM ONLY
Wednesday December 9th ZOOM ONLY
Wednesday December 16th CHRISTMAS PARTY
Wednesday December 23rd NO CLASS
Wednesday December 30th NO CLASS

Please join us as we continue our study of Psalm 119



No Trick! **This Halloween Grace will be handing out treats. Please feel free to bring your Children and/or Grandchildren by for a treat!!!**



November 1, 2026

We honor our fellow Christians that were called home to be with the Lord the latter part of 2025 and 2026:

Rev. Glen Mertz (GLC Pastor and Husband of Jackie)
David Metzger (Husband of Marcia, Father of Lisa LaLonde)
Ken Deidrick (Brother-in-Law of Bonnie Abicht)
Glenn Fridenstine (Husband of Karen)
Mark Huston (Husband of Karen Huston)
Ron Senyak (Husband of Diane)
Teresa Fehlan (Mother of Jennifer Jones)
Coralie Swanzer (long-time member of Grace)
Joann Martin (Sydney Wright's Aunt)
Rita Waltz (long-time member of Grace)

serve
Being God's hands and feet

GRACE SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2026

DATE	USHER	COUNTERS	ALTAR GUILD	LAY READER	COMM. ASSIST.
November 1 10 am Sun	Lee Anne Christner	Fred C. & Greg	Kathy Knipper	Paul Castle	Greg Christner
November 8 10 am Sun	Lee Anne Christner	Fred C. & Dale	Kathy Knipper	Dave Jones	Dave Jones
November 15 10 am Sun	Dale Rider	Fred C. & Dale	Colleen Karp	Dave Jones	Dave Jones
November 22 10 am Sun	Dale Rider	Fred C. & Lisa	Colleen Karp	Jon Storr	Andy Karp
November 29 10 am Sun	Paul Castle	Jan & Lisa	Robin Turnbull	Jon Storr	Andy Karp

SAVE THE DATE!!! ***NOVEMBER 8, 2026*** ***FOLLOWING SERVICE***

SOUP & DESSERT COOKOFF

Also, you are welcome to bring any dish to share, but if you want to win a great prize, we will vote anonymously on the best soup and dessert.

1st Place Prizes for Best Soup & Dessert



November Birthdays!!!

James Feddeck	11-10
Daniel Bremke	11-20
Harriett Thomas	11/21
Fred Feddeck	11/22



November Anniversaries!!!

None

Please notify the Church Office (ph 440-775-3271 OR email: secretary4grace@gmail.com) if the above info is incorrect OR we are missing anyone's Birthday or Anniversary.

THANKSGIVING Church Service on Wed., November 25, 2026 will be held at Grace Lutheran Church in Elyria, OH.

Mid-week Advent & Christmas Day Schedule

ADVENT and CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Advent Service on Dec. 2nd at 7pm @ Grace Lutheran Church in **Elyria, OH**

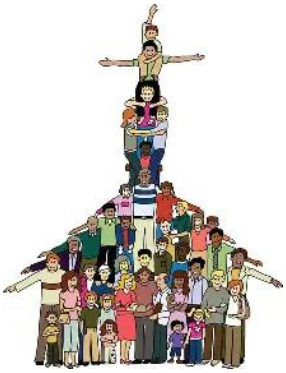
Advent Service on Dec. 9th at 7pm @ Grace Lutheran Church in **Elyria, OH**

Christmas Eve Service on Dec. 24th at 7pm @ Grace Lutheran Church in **OBERLIN, OH**

God's Church and Grace Lutheran Church needs volunteers! Please talk to a church council member about becoming a Communion Assistant, a member of the Altar Guild, a Reader or a Counter.

- **In order to return to weekly communion, our Altar Guild needs help. Please pray about this. Contact Robin Turnbull or the Church Office.**

A sincere Thank You to all current volunteers.





Let's talk Coffee Hour!

☕ Join Us for Coffee Hour & Fellowship! 🍪

Friends, our Coffee Hour after Sunday service is more than just coffee and cookies — it's a time to connect, laugh, and share life together. But we can't do it without you!

We're looking for helping hands to set up the coffee and light snacks (provided by Ladies' Aid) or simply greet folks you know and those you don't with a smile. Whether you're a master baker, a coffee enthusiast, or just love making people feel welcome, your presence makes a difference.

Sign up today (Sheet in Hallway on Bulletin Board) to host or help — even once can bless our whole community. Let's keep the warmth brewing and the conversations flowing!

Worship Information

- 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.

Communion Statement of
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
A congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS)

At Grace we come to the altar to receive the gift of the Lord's Supper. In the Lord's Supper those who are baptized receive through faith the true body and true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ "in, with and under" the bread and wine for their personal forgiveness and strengthening of faith (Matt. 26:26-28; John 6:51-55). We examine ourselves beforehand, mindful of our need for repentance (1 Cor. 11:27-79). In the Lord's Supper we are united with Christ and His body the Church, and also reflect the unity we have as a congregation with a common Christian, biblically-based confession (1 Cor.10:16-17); see also John 6:56; Acts 2:42; and Romans 16:17. Therefore, those who come forward to receive the Lord's Supper should be united with us in our understanding of the Lord's Supper, the real presence of Jesus therein, and the Lutheran Faith. We ask that any visitors who wish to be our guests at the Lord's Table please talk to the Pastor before the worship service.

Please note that all wine is alcoholic. *Should you plan on attending on a regular basis and require a non-alcoholic beverage, please let the usher or Pastor Just know, and we will provide it at the following services.*

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ON THE LIGHTER SIDE…

- How do we know Peter was a rich fisherman? *By his net income.*
- Who was the funniest person in the Bible? *Samson—he brought the house down.*
- Why do people read the Bible more when they're older? *They're cramming for their final exam.*

(Borrowed from the internet under Free Christian Christmas Humor and jokes)