

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Parking | spots are available in the parking lot and on the Park Drive side of the church. Additional Parking spaces are available across the street, at the school.

Large Print Bulletins | If you would like to use a large print bulletin, please help yourself to one on the back pew or ask an usher for assistance.

OFFERING | Stationary plates are placed at the rear of the pews for your offerings. Online giving through the church's website is also encouraged. <https://www.gracethornville.org/giving>

PRAYER | Sharon Roshon, Kathy Aberegg, Carol Cormican, Vicky Thomas, Ron Pairan, Jessica Dyer, Andrew Smith, Terry, Sharon, Scott Reynard, George, Bonnie, Kelly, Kyle, Rick Phillips, Robbie, Dee, Karen, James & Pat Gardull, Carl, Chad, Monte, Bunny Peak, Christine, Misty, Mike, Brittany, Nadia, Alicia, Family of Monte Stalnaker, Pastor Tom Phillips, family of Pat Dowdy, Mark Knauff, Shawn, Glen Teems, Sophia Rockey, family of Jody Hill. Prayer-line: prayer@gracethornville.org, 740.246.6576, or Sharon Roshon 740.467.3198.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Pam Luft's 57th birthday on Sept. 19, by the Luft family.

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held on **Sunday, November 3, 2024** between the worship services. A **Budget Forum** will be held on **Sunday, October 13, 2024** between the worship services.

Reports for our Annual Report are due in the church office by September 29.

Church Picnic! Join us today at noon in the Thornville Park Shelter House for an enjoyable afternoon. Chicken, drinks, and table service provided. Bring a dish or two to share, Food! Games! Fellowship!

How We Worship and Why!! As Lutherans, we come to church, we praise God, and follow our liturgy, but do you truly understand the service? During the worship there are rituals that we as Lutherans do.... because that's what we were taught. As Karen and I have gone from church to church and pastor to pastor we have found that each has differences. Come join us in the Fellowship Hall during Sunday School for a discussion of these differences. - Jim & Karen Lewis, Leaders

Backwoods Fest Begins Friday! Volunteers still needed!! We will be working the Backwoods Fest again this year, slingin' Sausage Gravy and Biscuits, along with Pumpkin Spice Bread. There are 3 shifts on Friday Sept. 20, Saturday Sept 21, & Sunday Sept 22, so lots of opportunity to help. Parking is free; however, there is a \$12.00 entrance fee for those over age 10. Booth workers are required to pay the fee in order to enter. Gate fees will be reimbursed from the Youth Fund for volunteers upon request. Sign-up sheets are located in the Gathering Space. Questions, please contact Kelly O'Reilly 740-973-3158 or Jason Barrera 740-334-0675. Please volunteer! This is a major fundraiser for our Youth!!

Confirmation Class meets during the Sunday School/Adventures in Faith time in between the services. Any new eighth grade students or others who have not yet begun confirmation are invited to begin. Contact Pastor Tom for details.

Thank You to EVERYONE who helped out and/or participated in Messy Games last Sunday! We had 19 youth, ranging from Kindergarten through High School, who participated in our activities. Our BIG surprise was a foam party to serve as the grand finale of the day's event. We also had 15 adults, who volunteered their time and talents to help us out. We can't thank these folks enough! Everything ran so smoothly. It was a success! Upcoming events to watch out for: September - Backwoods Fest; October - highway cleanup, Thornville Country Fair, Party in the Parking Lot; November - Youth Lock-in. Watch the announcements for more information as well as our Facebook Page: GLC Youth (KFROGS and KFC)

Adventures in Faith Mission Project: We will be taking a weekly offering during each of our various Adventures in Faith classes. This includes both adult classes as well as confirmation. Our mission focus this year is *One Plus God: Tanzania Orphanage and Outreach Ministry*. This ministry is "A Partnership between the Lutheran churches of Tanzania and the States" and "An initiative of Grace Lutheran Church of Jackson Center, Ohio." The purpose of this ministry is: "to partner with Christian Lutheran churches both locally and in the USA to provide holistic care (spiritually, emotionally and physically) to people struggling in remote villages, and orphaned children so that they can be integrated well into society, but also be sufficiently equipped to lead effective change in their communities." We do that through directing "all to Jesus, so that they can find life in Him, experience His love and grace, and then start to share that with the community around them." Please pray for this ministry throughout the school year, and we will plan to send a financial offering in May, at the end of AIF fall/spring classes.

Spiritual Book Discussion Group: The vision statement of Grace Lutheran Church is that "We are a community developing faithful followers of Jesus through friendship, spiritual growth, and service." A part of "spiritual growth" is gaining new insights into our faith. For that reason, Pr. Tom will be leading a spiritual book discussion group for those interested. Participants will be asked to write down comments, observations, and questions as they read the book, and we will then gather to discuss it at the end of the season. The selected book is *"Letters and Papers from Prison"* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was a Lutheran pastor in Germany during the Nazi era. A sign up sheet is available in the gathering space for those interested. Please leave the email you would like to use, and Pr. Tom will email the group with details.

Tuesday's Table - On Aug 27, thirty-one enjoyed fellowship & dining at Canal Mexican Grill in Millersport. The next outing is Sept 24 at Mugshots in Pleasantville at 5pm. Sign up sheet is in the Gathering Space.

LifeWise Academy meets here on Wednesdays and Thursdays. A Security Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet has been placed in the Gathering Space to assist kids crossing Columbus Street from Thornville Elementary School to Grace and back as part of the LifeWise Program. We need at least two people each day: **Wednesdays from 11:00am to 1:45 pm; Thursdays from 11:30am to 1:30 pm.** Keeping the kids safe is an integral part of this program. Please add your name to the list as you are able.

Men's Breakfast Group will meet on Saturday, 8:00am, at Nana & Papa's Restaurant in Thornport. This is a men's monthly breakfast meeting for fellowship, prayer, and lite Bible study. For more information, contact Pr. Tom 605-760-9210.

Thornville Activities Committee (TAC) will hold an open house meeting here, at Grace, on Monday, September 23rd at 6:00pm. A Thornville-Thorn Twp. economic idea will be discussed, news about TAC and the new multi-use trail grant will be shared.

Monticello Circle will meet here for Bible study and fellowship on Wednesday, September 25, 6:00pm.

Adopt-A-Highway clean-up day for Grace is scheduled for Saturday, October 5, 9:00am. This is a servant event for our Youth and families. Time commitment is approximately 2 hours that morning, then we will come back to Grace for some food! A sign-up sheet for volunteers has been placed in the gathering space. Contact Pastor Tom for more info: pastor@gracethornville.org

Blessing Box - Our new Blessing Box is located off the parking lot, in the yard near our church sign. It is a "Little Free Pantry", which provides items to local residents when they need them. These are the items most commonly donated and used to stock the Blessing Box: Canned food with ring-pulls, socks, mittens, crackers, toilet paper, non-perishable foods, bottled water.

Blessing Box Donations can be placed in the bin in the Atrium entrance and will be used to fill the Blessing Box as needed. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Pop Tabs - We will continue this ministry throughout the year. A collection jar for your tabs is in the gathering space. Thank you for your support of Ronald McDonald House with your donation of pop tabs.

"My Fifty-Two Favorite Hymns" - Pr. Tom provides a weekly devotional reflection on his list of fifty-two of his favorite hymns, one for each week of the year. A recent favorite is available to listen to on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@Grace4Thornville/videos> You can access all the weekly reflections at the following link: <https://theelectronicconventicle.weebly.com>

"Phishing" Scams - In our sinful world, there is unfortunately no shortage of people who seek to deceive and take advantage of others. Churches and their leaders are often targets of such scams. Often, such scammers will send emails and/or texts to church members pretending to be the pastor and then asking for money or gift cards. If you receive one of these emails or other communications, ignore them. Pastor Tom or other NALC church leaders will never contact you in such a manner. If you do receive such an email or text, please let the church office know.

SCHEDULE FOR SEPT 15-22		
<u>Today</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Adventures in Faith
	9:15am	Confirmation Class
	10:30am	Worship
	12:00pm	Church Picnic
<u>Monday</u>	4:00pm	Bible Study
	7:00pm	Handbell Practice
<u>Tuesday</u>	12:00am	Senior Citizens
	5:30pm	Sewing
<u>Wednesday</u>	11:00am	LifeWise Academy
<u>Thursday</u>	11:30am	LifeWise Academy
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
<u>Friday</u>	<i>Backwoods Fest Begins</i>	
	8:00pm	AA Meeting
<u>Saturday</u>	8:00am	Men's Breakfast @ Nana & Papa's
<u>Next Sunday</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Adventures in Faith
	9:15am	Confirmation Class
	10:30am	Worship

Giving: *Sept. 1:* General: \$5,929.08; Lancaster Food: \$15.; Disaster: \$40.; NALC: \$25.; Local Food: \$35.; Backpack: \$120.; Pastor Didi: \$100.; Vogt family: \$505.; LifeWise: \$200.; Heartbeats: \$200.; Capital Campaign: \$5.; South Sudan: \$100.; Memorial: \$90. Total: \$7,364.08
Sept. 8: General: \$2,985.50; LWR: \$12.50; NALC: \$20.; TEAF: \$145.; Local Food: \$25.; Backpack: \$320.; Vogt family: \$5.; LifeWise: \$5.; Capital Campaign: \$5.; Memorial: \$25. Total: \$3,548.00

Serving Today:
 Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson
 Assisting Minister: Tom Rodgers
 Greeters: Susan Cheney(10:30am)
 Lector: Luann Cooperrider (8am); Vince Smith (10:30)
 Acolytes:
 Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Serving Next Sunday:
 Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson
 Assisting Minister: Kelly O'Reilly
 Greeters: Susan Cheney, Linda Mai (10:30)
 Lector: Ana Grum (10:30)
 Acolytes: Mack Reedy (10:30)
 Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Attendance: *Sept 8:* 8:00: 27; 10:30: 121