

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 3, 2023

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 | Linda Dittoe, Gregg Thomas, Gene Raab, Larry Arnold, Donna Winegardner, Bob Myers, Fred Boring, Lynda, Michael, Bob Little, family of Carolyn Ricketts, family of Beth Axline, family of Ruth Swinehart, Dana Jack, Staci B., Brittany, Caleb, Luska, family of Benson Mott, Journey, Jim, Gene Tolliver, Kevin, Jr. Jones, Nelson family, Raypol family Kaylie Alkire, Jason Snider, Dave Shelly, Ginny Pargeon, Andrew Smith, Sherry & Pat Shay, Lisa Snider, Misty Hoover Connor, family of Roger Satterfield, Jon, David Turner, Larry, family of Tish Hansberger Hallam, family of Jim Crist. Prayer-line: prayer@gracethornville.org, 740.246.6576, or Sharon Roshon 740.467.3198.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of the Advent season and in anticipation of the birth of Our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Happy Anniversary wishes to Mark & Ellen Ricketts who will celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary on Saturday.

Midweek Advent Services will be held on Wednesdays December 6, 13, and 20 at 7:00 PM. We will use a form of evening prayer (vespers), with the texts set to the tunes of familiar Christmas hymns. We will also sing one Advent and one Christmas hymn, with a brief homily (sermon) on a Scripture reading and the hymns.

Christmas Eve/Day Services:

- Sunday, Dec. 24: No 8am service. 10:30am Service we will celebrate as 4 Advent; 5:00pm and 9:00pm will be celebrated as Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.
- Monday, Dec. 25: 10:30am Christmas Day Worship Service

Poinsettias for Christmas altar decoration can be ordered now through Dec. 18. The flowers will be used to adorn the altar area, and may be taken home following either the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day service. Cost is \$20.00 each and can be ordered by placing a Poinsettia Order Envelope in the offering plate, or contacting the office 740-246-6576 or office@gracethornville.org. Envelopes can be found in the gathering space.

Community Christmas Variety Show will be held at Sheridan High School Dec. 8 and 9, 7:30pm. The Show features nearly 50 local vocalists singing Christmas favorites; both sacred and secular. There will also be soloists, a children's choir, and the funny antics of two endmen. Tickets cost \$5 adult; \$3 student and can be purchased in advance from any member of the cast or at the door on both evenings. A very cheap night out! Proceeds go to scholarships for seniors in the performing arts. Feel free to call John Ulmer @ 740-281-7672 for additional information. Hope to see you there!!

The Mitten Tree is in the gathering space awaiting your donations of socks, gloves, mittens, scarves, and hats to be given to needy children in our Collection deadline: December 5. Sponsored by Thornville Community Aid. More info: Terrie 740-403-3956, Beth 614-214-1944, or Virginia 740-877-2962.

Military Mission It's time to send a Christmas gift box from Grace to our overseas military. Please send name and military address to jroshon3@columbus.rr.com. This can be a Grace member, a Sheridan graduate, or someone you believe needs a Christmas gift. Thanks. Jim Roshon.

NALC Internship - This coming year (2024), the Southeast Ohio Mission District of the NALC will be hosting a seminary intern preparing for ordination. This intern will be based at Groveport Zion Lutheran Church, but will have the chance to do things in all the congregations of our district. Funding for the intern is needed. Our church council decided to designate half of the special Christmas offering to help fund this internship, with the other half going to the Lutheran Church-South Sudan. You can give by writing "NALC Internship" on your offering envelope.

NEEDED: New Facilities Coordinator. Due to changes in council next year, at the end of this year, Carl Lahman will no longer be the facilities coordinator. As noted in the facilities annual report, church maintenance is becoming increasingly important and the list of items to address continues to grow. Sometimes, the job of the facilities coordinator can be overwhelming. Efforts are now being made to simplify this job. In general, the job of a facilities coordinator is to be a "contact person" that delegates to specific people that oversee important areas. For example, there are already volunteers willing to oversee some of these areas like HVAC, electrical, and lawn care. The facilities coordinator will serve as a "liaison" between council and their team. The facilities coordinator can select his/her own team to assist them. Council will take recommendations and go through a collaborative decision-making process to make the best decision. If anyone is interested in this job and would like to know more about it, please contact Carl Lahman at 614.329.8639 or carllahman@gmail.com.

Choir Rehearsal will be held on Wednesday this week following the worship service.

"Our Daily Bread," daily devotionals for December - February are available from the table in the Gathering Hall.

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.

Backpack Ministry is in full steam again this school year! A donation bin for food donations, grocery bags and the larger clicklist grocery bags is located in the atrium. Monetary gifts may be given through your offering envelope, just write "Backpack Ministry" on the envelope. If you would like to volunteer to help bag the food contact Barb Ulmer 740-281-7673 or Kate Simmons 740-605-3230.

Ways To Serve - Sign up! Ways to help with the worship service are posted at the "Congregation Corner" in the gathering space. **Greeters**: a very important ministry in our parish, welcoming people coming to Grace for worship, handing out bulletins, collecting the offering, and more. **Lector**: Reading of the lessons. **Acolytes**: Lighting the candles. **LifeWise Safety**: This takes approximately 2 ½ to 3 hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays assisting kids crossing Columbus Street from Thornville Elementary School to Grace and back. Please take a moment to check it out, then choose a date and time that works for you.

"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 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, please let the church office know.

Upcoming Youth Events:

- + Today: Sunday, Dec. 3 -- Thornville's *It's a Wonderful Life* Event/Parade
- + January 2024: Saturday January 20th-- Hocking Hills Winter Hike
- + February 2024: Sunday February 11th-- Superbowl Bake Sale

SCHEDULE FOR DEC 3-10		
<u>Today</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Adventures In Faith
	9:15am	Confirmation Class
	10:30am	Worship
	12:00pm	T. Hupp
<u>Monday</u>	4:00pm	Cookies & Hot Cocoa
	4:00pm	Bible Study
	7:00pm	Handbell Practice
<u>Tuesday</u>	7:00pm	Dartball @ Thornville Methodist
<u>Wednesday</u>	11:00am	LifeWise Academy
	7:00pm	Advent Worship Service
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
<u>Thursday</u>	11:00am	LifeWise Academy
<u>Friday</u>	8:00pm	AA Meeting
<u>Saturday</u>	12:00pm	M. Wollenberg
<u>Next Sunday</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Adventures In Faith
	9:15am	Confirmation Class
	10:30am	Worship

Serving this Sunday:

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson
Assisting Minister: Kelly O'Reilly
Greeters:
Lector: Luann Cooperrider (8am); Lisa Duerson (10:30)
Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons
Acolytes: Henrik Jacobson, Karsen Large (10:30)

Serving Next Sunday:

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson
Assisting Minister: Jim Lewis
Greeters:
Lector: Kaye Smith (8am); Valinda Arnold (10:30)
Acolytes:
Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Attendance: 8am: 35; 10:30: 71

Giving: General: \$30,618.20; NALC: \$345.; Local Food: \$30.; Backpack: \$180.; World Hunger: \$50.; Vogt family: \$5.; LifeWise: \$305.; NALC Internship: \$10.; Homeless Shelter: \$5. Capital Campaign: \$5.; Thanksgiving: \$330.; Scholarship: \$30.; Flower Fund: \$40. Total: \$31,953.20