

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 22, 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 including large print hymns are available. 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.

Children's Worship Bags are located in the back of the sanctuary for children to use during worship services. They have been updated with supplies and toys to help kids successfully be a part of the big worship service. Make sure you check them out.

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 | Kathy Aberegg, Carol Cormican, Rick Rockwell, Vicky Thomas, Irene Forsythe, Ron Pairan, Pastor Tom Phillips, Jessica Dyer, Andrew Smith, Terry, Alicia Finck, Mark Knauff, Holly Culver, Danny Proch, Erin, Ally, Charlie, Brittany, Sharon, Sherry, John, George, Ethan, Matt Pierce, CJ Severance, Sue Robison, Jeff Craft, Connie Trinkle, Daryl, Brittany, Roger Metz, Norma Baker, Clarence, Jim, Kathy & Ed, Michael & Christina, Corrie, Penny Slater, Glenna Jones, Lowell Meredith Jr., Alexa, Dylan, Vicky Pairan, Ralph Phillips, Jim Palmer, Brittany, Charlie, Jean, Regina, Shelly, Tom, Ritt, Kayla, Kevin, Monica, Joe Little, Janet, Family of Fred Gerling, Jim Williams, Kevin & Joe, Family of Billy Golden and his father, James Gardull, Pat Gardull, family of Sgt David Radcliff. Prayer-line: prayer@gracethornville.org, 740.246.6576, or Sharon Roshon 740.467.3198.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Bethany Douglas and family, in loving memory of her father, Gary Gilgjen.

Christmas Eve/Day Services:

- Tuesday, Dec. 24: 5:00pm and 9:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Services.
- Wednesday, Dec. 25: 10:30am Christmas Day Worship Service (wearing of pjs acceptable)

Children's Christmas Program, "*A Prophet Foretold the Messiah*" will be held today at 9:15am in the sanctuary. The children are excited to tell the story of Jesus' birth! Thanks to Pastor Theresa, Linda Keaser, and Amber Feyh for coordinating this event.

Pastor Tom and family will be on vacation the week following Christmas. Please call the church office with pastoral emergencies. Father Shannon Ramey will also be on call.

Jeff Crist would like to thank everyone for their outpouring of sympathy and support on the recent death of his mother, Vivian.

From Victoria Thomas: *I just want to thank everyone for the lovely Christmas presents, home made cookies & all the Christmas cards coming in and thanks to Pastor Tom for bringing it all to me. God bless you all at Christmas and always.*

Pat K'Miller would like to thank the Women of Grace for the lovely Christmas gift.

From John Lutz: *Thank you for the bag of many gifts and the plate of tasty cookies.*

2025 Offering Envelopes have been assigned and are ready to be picked up from the gathering space. If you cannot find your box of personalized envelopes, or if you would like to be assigned a box, please contact the church office 740-246-6576 and a box will be made available for you.

2025 Altar Flower sign-up sheet is located at the Congregation Corner in the Gathering Space. Please sign up if you would like flowers on a particular Sunday. Cost is \$40 per arrangement - billed from The Little Flower Shop (Kelley's Flowers). Please contact the office (740-246-6576 or office@gracethornville.org) for any special wording that you want printed in the bulletin. Your flowers may be taken home following the worship service on your Sunday.

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." We will send a financial offering in May.

Our Adventures in Faith Classes and Leaders:

- Two Adult Classes - Kris Lamphere in St John's Hall, Room 203 (main level), Karen and Jim Lewis in The Franks Fellowship Hall (lower level)
- 6th - 12th grades - Pastor Theresa Jacobson, AIF/SS Coordinator and Amber Feyh (top floor)
- 1st -5th grades - Jessica Rockey (top floor)
- PreK-K - Linda Keaser in Noah's Club (lower level)
- Confirmation Class - Pastor Tom Jacobson Classroom 1, Room 206 (off Gathering space, main level)

Pastor's Holiday Gift - We have been collecting money as our Christmas gift for Pastor Tom. If you wish to contribute today, please write the word "gift" on your check or envelope and drop it in the offering plate. The gift will be presented to him during the Christmas Eve service.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty - Looking for that ideal last-minute gift? How about a gift that will advocate for Religious Liberty and Life? See www.LCRLfreedom.org/donate.

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.

Blessing Box - Our 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. 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!

"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 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.

Ways To Serve - Ways to help with the worship service are posted at the "Congregation Corner" in the gathering space.

+ **Greeters**: Welcoming people coming 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.

SCHEDULE FOR DEC 22-29

<u>Today</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Children's Christmas Program
	10:30am	Worship
	3:00pm	R. Dittoe
<u>Monday</u>	7:00pm	Handbell Practice
	7:00pm	Dartball vs. Zeigler
<u>Tuesday</u>	5:00pm	Christmas Eve Worship
	9:00pm	Christmas Eve Worship
<u>Wednesday</u>	10:30am	Christmas Day Worship
<u>Thursday</u>		
<u>Friday</u>	8:00pm	AA Meeting
<u>Saturday</u>		
<u>Next Sunday</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Adventures in Faith (Adults)
	10:30am	Worship

Attendance: Dec. 15: 8:00: 30; 10:30: 103

Giving: General: \$3,530.; Lancaster Food: \$10; Disaster: \$50.; NALC: \$25.; Local Food: \$165.; Backpack: \$1,050.; Vogt family: \$5.; Capital Campaign: \$15.; Christmas: \$10.; Scholarship: \$20.; Flower Fund: \$340.; Memorial Fund: \$1,040. In/Out: \$205. Total: \$6,465.00

Serving Today:

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson

Assisting Minister: Kelly O'Reilly

Greeters:

Lector: Luann Cooperrider (8am); Bill Luft (10:30)

Acolytes:

Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Serving Christmas Eve:

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson

Assisting Minister: Jeff Stought (5pm); Kelly O'Reilly (9pm)

Greeters: Leslie and Emily O'Hara (5pm); Bob & Becky Reynolds (9pm)

Lector: John Ulmer (5pm); Lisa Duerson (9pm)

Acolytes:

Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Serving Christmas Day:

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson

Assisting Minister: Tom Rodgers

Greeters:

Lector: Theresa Jacobson

Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Serving Next Sunday:

Presiding Minister: Kelly O'Reilly

Assisting Minister: Tom Rodgers

Greeters:

Lector:

Acolytes: Mack Reedy (10:30)

Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons