

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 10, 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, Larry Arnold, Donna Winegardner, Casey Sigler, Diane White, Bob Druchel, Bob Myers, Fred Boring, Lynda, Michael, Bob Little, Dave Shelly, Ginny Pargeon, Andrew Smith, Sherry & Pat Shay, Lisa Snider, Misty Hoover Connor, Jon, David Turner, Larry, Mike Forsythe, Phyllis Beavers, Theresa Ralston, Reggie Johnson. Answered Prayer: Gene Raab, successful surgery. Prayer-line: [prayer@gracethornville.org](mailto:prayer@gracethornville.org), 740.246.6576, or Sharon Roshon 740.467.3198.

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God in celebration of John & Barb Ulmer's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 15.

**Happy Birthday** wishes to Bonnie Goldsberry who will celebrate her birthday on Tuesday and to Janet Boyer whose birthday is on Saturday.

**Midweek Advent Services** are 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](mailto:office@gracethornville.org). Envelopes can be found in the gathering space.

**Thank You** - The Thornville Activities Committee (TAC) would like to thank Grace Church for the use of the fellowship hall, and thanks to all who donated cookies and hot cocoa for the Christmas events last Sunday.

**Special Thanks** to those who helped decorate the church for Advent/Christmas: Lynda Chalfant, Diane Christensen, Pastor Tom Jacobson, Carl Lahman, Paul Moentmann, Kelly O'Reilly, Tom & Twila Rodgers, Jim Roshon, Brenda Shearer, Casey Sigler, and Cindy Wilson.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:carllahman@gmail.com).

**Pastor's Holiday Gift** - For the next few Sundays we will be collecting money as our Christmas gift for Pastor Tom. If you wish to contribute, 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.

**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:**

- + January 2024: Saturday January 20th-- Hocking Hills Winter Hike
- + February 2024: Sunday February 11th-- Superbowl Bake Sale

SCHEDULE FOR DEC 10-17		
<u>Today</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Adventures In Faith
	9:15am	Confirmation Class
	10:30am	Worship
<u>Monday</u>	4:00pm	B. Davy
	4:00pm	Bible Study
	7:00pm	Handbell Practice
	7:00pm	Dartball vs. Lancaster
<u>Tuesday</u>	11:30am	Friendship Circle
	5:15pm	TAC Meeting
<u>Wednesday</u>	11:00am	LifeWise Academy
	5:00pm	Sewing
	7:00pm	Advent Worship Service
<u>Thursday</u>	11:00am	LifeWise Academy
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
<u>Friday</u>	9:00am	Quilting
	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
	2:00pm	O'Reilly

**Serving this Sunday:**

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

**Serving Next Sunday:**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson  
 Assisting Minister: Jeff Stought (8am); Tom Rodgers (10:30)  
 Greeters:  
 Lector: Luann Cooperrider (8am); Bob Reynolds (10:30)  
 Acolytes: Brayden Large, Karsen Large (10:30)  
 Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

**Attendance:** 8am: 28; 10:30: ??

**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