



The Gracevine

NEWSLETTER OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

Our Mission: "Sharing God's Love Through Grace"

September 2024



Grace Lutheran Church



Office: 740/246-6576 Web: www.gracethornville.org

Email: office@gracethornville.org

Fax: 740/246-6284

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Grace.Thornville

Worship: Sundays 8:00 and 10:30a.m.

Our Staff

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Pastor: | Tom Jacobson |
| Office Manager: | Beth Gilgien |
| Accompanist: | Sue Ellen Simmons |
| Choir Director: | Diane Christensen |
| Handbell Choir: | Becky Winegardner |
| Men of Grace: | John Ulmer |
| Church Council President: | Carl Lahman |
| Council Vice President: | Matt Sheridan |
| Council Secretary | Diane Christensen |
| Director of Inreach: | Linda Keaser |
| Director of Outreach: | Vicki Jones |
| Director of Upreach: | Casey Sigler |
| Financial Secretary: | Jackie Combs |
| Treasurer: | Rick Rockwell |
| Bd of Women President: | Cherl Haggenjos |
| Safety/Security Team: | Jim Lewis |
| Sacristan: | Meg O'Reilly |
| Facilities: | David Rodenbaugh |

*Please call the church office with regard to any of the following:
Hospitalizations; Baptisms; Confirmation; Weddings;
First Communion; Spiritual Counseling; Prayer Concerns*

The Ten Commandments:

The Seventh Commandment

You shall not steal.

If it is not already clear from these monthly newsletter articles about the Ten Commandments, our relationship with God is something that goes beyond Sunday morning worship. That time in worship is important, as we have seen. However, our whole being is meant to express the love, mercy, and grace that we have received through Jesus Christ.



And so these Ten Commandments touch on issues of everyday life and conduct. How we conduct ourselves on a day-to-day basis is not a matter of indifference in the eyes of God. This month, we get to the Seventh Commandment, which has to do with the topic of stealing. In the *Small Catechism*, Martin Luther explained it in this way:

We should fear and love God so that we do not rob our neighbors of their money or property, nor take from them by unfair dealing or fraud, but help them to improve and protect their property and means of making a living.

I suppose that most of us are not guilty of blatant robbery. But the temptation to steal is with us from a young age, when we see candy in the checkout line that we want but can't have, when we see our classmates' fancy crayons and pens in school, and when we see our friends' toys when visiting their homes. This commandment speaks to the attitude that God desires to find in us. We are called upon to respect the property of others, even when we would like to have it ourselves.

But just like the other commandments thus far, Martin Luther took the Seventh Commandment and understood it more broadly than a specific command against robbery by gunpoint. In his own day, he was aware that many people used their roles to take advantage of those near them. He called upon employees to be honest with their employers, for employers not to take advantage of those in their charge, to pay them fairly. He called upon business owners not to overcharge customers to line their own pocketbooks.

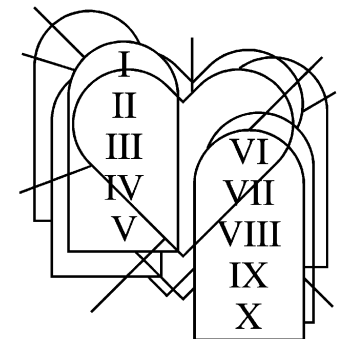
God calls us as His people to live with integrity, even in the little things of life. We have been entrusted with much, and we are ultimately accountable to God. With this commandment, God seeks to protect those in our world who are most harmed by "unfair dealing."

Luther wrote in his *Large Catechism*:

Let all people know, then, that it is their duty, on pain of God's displeasure, not to harm their neighbors, to take advantage of them, or to defraud them by any faithless or underhanded business transaction. Much more than that, they are also obligated faithfully to protect their neighbors' property and to promote and further their interests, especially when they get money, wages, and provisions for doing so.

Thomas E. Jacobson

Pr. Tom Jacobson



I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.

Worship In September

Sundays 8:00 and 10:30am

Holy Communion Celebrated Every Sunday

Sunday, Sept. 1 - 15 Pentecost

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 Psalm 15

James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sunday, Sept. 8 - 16 Pentecost

Isaiah 35:4-7a Psalm 146

James 2:1-10, 14-17 Mark 7:24-37

Sunday, Sept. 15 - 17 Pentecost

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 116:1-9

James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38

Sunday, Sept. 22 - 18 Pentecost

Jeremiah 11:18-20 Psalm 54

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37

Sunday, Sept. 29 - Michael and All Angels

Daniel 10:10-14, 12:1-3 Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22

Revelation 12:7-12 Luke 10:17-20



July's Vital Signs

Average Worship Attendance - 110

8:00am - 31 10:30am - 79

Grace Lutheran Church Council Minutes August 15, 2024

Present: Pastor Tom Jacobson, Carl Lahman (President), Matt Sheridan (Vice President), Diane Christensen (Secretary), Rick Rockwell (Treasurer), Linda Keaser (Inreach Coordinator), Casey Sigler (Upreach Coordinator)

Absent: Vicki Jones (Outreach Coordinator)

1. Call to Order: President Carl Lahman.

Opening Devotion/Prayer: Pastor Tom Jacobson

2. Pastor's Report - Pastor Tom Jacobson

- Worship:
 - Children's messages on most Sundays
 - Now using LBW Setting 1. Switch back to Setting 2 on Aug. 25
- Pastoral acts:
 - Baptism of Emmalyn Constance Reynard on July 14
 - Graveside service for Firl Junior Crist, August 9 at Millersport Cemetery
 - Upcoming graveside and memorial services on Aug. 16 and 17
- "My Fifty-Two Favorite Hymns" devotional articles have begun and are available on my blog, usually one per week: <https://theelectronicconventicle.weebly.com/>
 - Thirty-two have been completed
- Continuing shut in and hospital visitation with Tom Rodgers
- Summer youth trip
 - Went with three youth to Charleston, SC July 21-26
 - Went well and will look toward another trip this coming summer, though the surplus deposit with the Group Mission Trips organization has now been used
- Will start a new Spiritual Book Discussion this fall
- NALC seminary intern Dale Stanley came to Grace on Wednesday July 17 to spend the day with me as a part of his education
 - Talked about "STaR" ministry (small town and rural)
- Attended the annual NALC "Theologians for the Church" gathering in Ambridge, PA from August 12-14 along with Pr. Orrey and others

- The NALC will be offering and two events in October, and Grace Lutheran has agreed to host them:
 - October 18 (Friday): Interim pastor training from 12:00 to 5:00. Simply need to provide space and some snacks
 - October 19 (Saturday): RESET event, focused on church finances and stewardship, giving. All day, would we want to offer lunch ourselves, or should they have it catered? Linda will check with the WNALC
- New confirmation class will start on September 8
 - Letters have gone out, will review requirements with youth on first day and then have parents sign agreement as well
 - Working on getting current confirmation class finished
- Christmas hymn sing and dessert mid to late December, possibly inviting the community
- Coming up with Youth schedule for the fall in collaboration with Pr. Theresa and Casey

3. Inreach Ministry Report - Linda Keaser (Inreach Coordinator)

- Adventures in Faith/Sunday School:
 - Adults - St. John's Chapel (main level off "Gathering Space")
 - 3 year old – K in the Noah's Club classroom (lower level)
 - 1st – 12th grade classes (third floor)
 - On August 11 "Rally Day" was celebrated! There were 12 youth present. Pastor Theresa led the group as they learned about Jesus calming the storm with games & crafts. Two birthdays were celebrated! Backpacks & youth were blessed during services as another school year begins.
- WNALC
 - September 15th: Church Picnic for the entire congregation at the Thornville Park. (note previous date changed due to Backwoods Fest on the 22)
 - November 10th: "Thankoffering Service Sunday".
 - March 16th, 2025 "Irish Potato Bake"

Youth Groups (KFC and KFrogs) as reported by Casey Sigler

- Messy Games will be held Sunday Sept 8th from 12pm-4pm following the 10:30 service. Lunch provided followed by games and other activities. Volunteers needed to help with station set up/clean up. Contact Casey Sigler or Theresa Jacobson.

- Our biggest fundraiser of the year is coming up from Friday Sept 20th – Sunday Sept 22nd at the Backwoods Fest!! We will be working our same booth selling biscuits/gravy and pumpkin spice cake. Many volunteers are needed for this event! Please consider signing up! You can find the sign-up sheet in the gathering space.
- 2nd Annual Pie Bake Sale will be held Sunday Oct 20th at the Country Fair. Donations of pies appreciated! Sign-up sheets will be available in the gathering space in a few weeks.
- Party in the Parking Lot will be Thursday Oct 31st! More information to be available at a later date!
- Possible November Lock-In in the works.

4. Outreach Ministry Report – Vicki Jones (Outreach Coordinator)

- Our advertisement in the Perry County Tribune's Church Directory needs updated. I will have them remove the Manna Monday information.
 - Council discussed and decided to add Grace's website and phone number.
- The quilting group is in need of a new leader. After 16 years of being in charge of quilting, Jeni Lahman is ready to pass the torch to someone else. Next month will be the last time for the group to work on quilts. Right now, they have 13 complete and 4 others ready to finish. On October 11, Jeni and Carl will deliver the quilts to Waldo, Ohio where volunteers will deliver them to those in need. Thank you Jeni, for your dedication to the quilting group!
- A new Blessing Box has recently been installed. Many thanks to those that built and installed it! Make sure to check it out!
- Thornville Food Pantry served 26 families in July.

5. Upreach Ministry Report - Casey Sigler (Upreach Coordinator)

- Volunteers needed for Greeters, Lectors, Communion Assistants and Acolytes

6. Treasurer's Report - Rick Rockwell, Treasurer

- Reports submitted.
 - Discussion of use of memorial money from the Winnie and Raymond King estate.

7. Facilities Report - Dave Rodenbaugh, Facilities Coordinator

- Prayer room and parsonage bedroom renovations
 - Removed old ceiling in prayer room (next to choir room) and old drop ceiling in the parsonage basement bedroom.
 - Completed electrical wiring and boxed in a gas line prior to installing new drywall at the parsonage.
 - Completed framing trim around egress window at parsonage.
 - New drywall ceilings are now in the process of being installed.
 - Both prayer room and bedroom will be repainted after the drywall work is done.
 - The building of a new Blessing Box is now completed and mounted on 3 support poles.
 - Working on getting rid of a bees nest at the parsonage. Rick will check with some bee people.
 - A new sign has been ordered for the southwest church entrance with arrow indicators for stairway to sanctuary and elevator.
 - Sprayed weeds with Roundup around church and parsonage.

Many thanks to all the volunteers that helped with these projects.

8. Old Business

- Nominating Committee Update
 - Committee has started contacting potential candidates for each council position that is up for election.
- NALC 2024 Online Mission Convocation (Aug. 9)
 - Pastor Tom, Carl Lahman, and Bob Reynolds attended.
- Safety & Security Position
 - As requested by Jim Lewis, a job description has been created with key responsibilities.

9. New Business

- Reschedule dates for Budget Forum and Annual Congregational Meeting
 - Budget Forum: October 13, 2024
 - Annual Congregational Meeting: November 3, 2024

10. Closing Prayer - The Lord's Prayer

11. Adjournment

Next Council Meeting: September 10, 2024 - 7 pm

Respectfully submitted, Diane Christensen (Council Secretary)

CONGREGATIONS COME IN ALL SIZES AND CHALLENGES

[Carl Lahman, council president]

The other day I went through an old box of church stuff and found an interesting article that I saved on congregation sizes. It made me think of the size of our church and whether we are expecting too much or too little in terms of such things as decision making authority, pastor's responsibilities, and ministry.

There are many ways to categorize church congregation sizes, especially if we were to give size in numbers. To keep it simple, let's categorize churches in terms of characteristics into small, medium, and large.

- Small:
 - Members know everyone. It is like an extended family.
 - Many small churches combine resources with other churches.
 - Less funding available for staff and ministry.
 - Pastors do most of the work. Many pastors are part-time and serve more than one congregation. One service on Sunday morning.
- Medium:
 - Moving from small to medium size, you start losing the sense of connectedness. For example, going to multiple services.
 - More funds available for ministry. However, cash flow can be a problem in cases of remodeling building and paying high mortgages.
 - More volunteers available for ministry. However, members must be involved so things get done.
 - Staff can be added. Pastor does not have to do all the work.
- Large:
 - Lots of opportunities/ministries that wouldn't be available at a smaller church. Perhaps the greatest challenge is making sure everyone feels connected.
 - Multiple pastors and large staff.
 - Large churches are dependent upon pastors, program staff, and top lay leaders for daily decision making.

I believe most of us would agree that Grace Lutheran is a medium size church. Pastor Tom and Pastor Theresa both have experience with small congregations and I'm sure they both have felt like the Lone Ranger (one of my favorite TV westerns growing up) and could have used a faithful sidekick like Tonto.

We at Grace are blessed to be in a position not enjoyed by many congregations, especially smaller ones. Yes, we do have challenges. Sometimes ministries have to end, leadership positions are not always filled, more volunteers are needed and funds are not always available. But despite our challenges, we can still do a variety of ministries, hire some staff to help our congregation, and we have many small groups to foster close relationships and still have everyone know each other fairly well.

On November 3, we will have our annual congregation meeting. This will be a time to celebrate the ministries of Grace, as well as report on some goals for the next year, elect new members to council and approve a budget for 2025. Please plan to come and participate in this important meeting.

From Martin Luther's Small Catechism

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism



What gifts or benefits does baptism bring?

It brings about forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe, as the Word and promise of God declare.

What is the Word and promise of God?

It is the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ, as recorded in the last chapter of Mark, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16 ESV).

The **Annual Congregational Meeting** of Grace Lutheran Church will be held between services on **Sunday, November 3, 2024.**



A **Budget Forum** will be held between services on **October 13, 2024.** This is your chance to review the 2025 budget before it is voted on at the Annual Meeting.

Report of the Nominating Committee

The 2024 Nominating Committee presents the candidates named below for positions to be elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting on November 3rd. We believe that all the individuals named are qualified and would do well in their service if elected.

Church Council

- Vice President: Bob Reynolds
- Secretary: Susan Cheney
- Financial Recording Secretary (Elected but not a voting member): Jim Roshon
- Inreach Ministry Team Coordinator: Linda Keaser (second term)
- Outreach Ministry Team Coordinator: Daria Carr
- Upreach Ministry Team Coordinator: Casey Sigler (second term)

Respectively submitted,
Matt Sheridan, chair
Wanda Hupp
Dennis DeRolph



Sunday, September 8th, from Noon to 4pm we will be holding once again our **Messy Games** and are inviting all kids ages (not grades) ages 5-18 to attend.

All kids attending are asked to bring old clothes and an old towel that can get stained. And to bring an outfit to change into to go home. We will be finishing up the meeting with Pizza!

We are looking for adult volunteers to help with game stations and food. Contact Casey Sigler 740-279-5405.



Ring Praise!



GraceNotes Handbell Choir is welcoming new ringers! You are invited to join this fun, friendly group of musicians who enjoy coming together to make music for the glory of our Lord.

Rehearsals are on Mondays at 7:00pm beginning on September 9. Anyone can learn to play handbells; musical experience is not required (but it is helpful). We can teach you everything you need to know to play with our group! If this sounds like fun to you, please reach out to our ringleader, Becky Winegardner 740-243-0394, for more information.

Fun Fact: Did you know that there are over 25 ways to play a handbell? Handbells are versatile percussion instruments that can sound different depending on the techniques used!

- Q: What do you call handbell ringing without accompaniment?
A: *Accabella*
- Q: What do you call a solo Handbell ringer in a little boat?
A: *One ring-a-dinghy.*
- Q: Where do bell ringers like to eat?
A: *Taco Bell*

In rehearsal a few weeks ago, while holding my C3 up, I suddenly realized, "We play heavy metal!"

Become a "Ring Bearer"! Join the Bell Choir!!

Confirmation class

As with last year, confirmation class will meet 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 eligible to begin. New and current students will meet together for the first time on Sunday September 8, 9:15am, in the central classroom in the gathering space. For any new students, please contact Pr. Tom prior to the first class, and he will provide you with a packet of information about the class and a confirmation agreement that the student is asked to sign.



Back to School

On August 11th, we blessed backpacks and prayed for all students during worship. We want all students to start the new school year out right: worship, pray, and be blessed by the power and joy of God!

General Store

Through the school year we partner with Sheridan Middle and High School to provide clothing and personal care items for students in need. Donation bins are located by the coat rack off the Gathering Space. Financial donations are appreciated and can be marked "Backpack Ministry." Contact Kate Simmons 740-605-3230. Items needed: Socks, belts, underwear, sweatshirts and shirts, pants (especially girls size 10 and above), tennis shoes (especially boys size 5-11), toiletries, deodorant, soap, blankets, pillows. All items should be new.

© Why was the arithmetic book so sad?
It had too many problems.

Women of the NALC

Grace Lutheran Church – Thornville, Ohio

August 19, 2024



Members Present: Marian DeRolph, Cheryl Haggenjos, Theresa Jacobson, Linda Keaser, Kaye Smith; **Absent:** Valinda Arnold, Anna Oberhauser.

Linda K. called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Women read together the Purpose Statement. Linda led devotions based on Jeremiah 29:23, which reminds us to rid ourselves of outward distractions that take our attention and focus off of God.

Secretary's Report: Theresa read the minutes from the July 8th meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Marian updated the board on our account.

- The Spud Dinner from March 17, 2024 brought in \$271.00.
- Current balance is \$3,842.58.

Old Business:

- Church picnic is to be held on Sunday, September 15th. Marian will contact TC Market regarding the chicken. Kaye is in contact with the village regarding the use of park shelter and facilities. Theresa will touch base with Casey and the youth regarding games. Suggested games and activities include the following: Bean Bag Toss, Bingo, Hula Hoops, Bubbles, and Playground. If there is interest, there *may be* a softball game, too.
- Mission ideas for the women's circles have been tabled until the October meeting

New Business:

- Thank Offering Sunday will be held on Sunday, November 10th. As time gets closer, there will be a table set up in the Gathering Space, where donations can be left. Pastor Theresa will be preaching on November 10th at both services.
- On **Friday, October 18th**, the Ohio Mission Region will be hosting an Interim Pastor Training at Grace Lutheran in

Thornville from **12 noon – 5 p.m.** The Grace Lutheran WNALC will be providing snacks for the afternoon's event. *Please note that no lunch will be served. Ohio Mission Region is handling the registrations for this event.*

- On **Saturday, October 19th**, the Ohio Mission Region will be hosting a second (and separate) event called **RESET**. This is an all-day event that will also be held at Grace Lutheran in Thornville. This event focuses on church finances, stewardship, and giving. The Grace Lutheran WNALC will be providing lunch for the attendees. Lunch will include soup, sandwiches, a relish tray, bread, desserts, and beverages. *Ohio Mission Region is handling the registrations for this event, but all who are interested in participating are invited to register.*

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP...

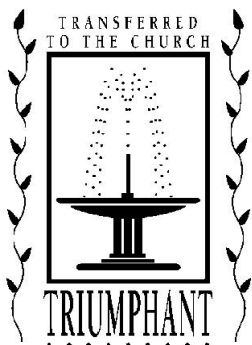
- !! **November 10, 2024** Thank Offering Sunday
- !! **March 16, 2025** Spud Dinner following worship
- !! **July 31st – Aug. 1, 2026** Yard Sale (Note the date. This will be in **2026!**)

We prayed together The Lord's Prayer before adjourning.
 Next meeting will be October 7th at 10:00 a.m.
 Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:
 Theresa Jacobson, Secretary



Recent Deaths in our Church Family:



James P Harrison II
April 20, 1968 - July 5, 2024

Firl Junior Crist
September 24, 1934 - August 4, 2024



Church Picnic!
Sunday, Sept. 15
Noon

Faith • Fellowship • Fun

Join us at the Thornville Park Shelter House for an enjoyable afternoon! Chicken, drinks, and table service will be provided. Bring a dish or two to share, your family and friends!

To determine how much food is needed, please RSVP to Kaye Smith 740-403-1482, Pastor Theresa Jacobson 740-242-2192, or use the RSVP form and return it to the office.

Food • Activities • Games

Church Picnic - Sept. 15, 12:00pm

Name _____

of People Attending _____ Return to Kaye Smith, Pastor Theresa, office

**BACKWOODS FEST
SEPTEMBER 20, 21, 22
YOUTH & ADULTS NEEDED!!!!!!**



This is a major fundraiser for the KFC & KFROGS Youth Groups at Grace. It runs three days: Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, so lots of opportunity to help. Knowing our volunteers have busy schedules, flexibility can be worked into the schedule, just let us know. We sell Sausage Gravy & Biscuits and Pumpkin Spice Bread.

Parking is free, however, there is an entrance fee at the gate for those over age 10. Both workers are required to pay the fee in order to enter. Gate fees will be reimbursed from the Youth Fund for volunteers upon request. Workers are required to wear a hat or a hairnet.

Lots of help is needed, sign-up sheets are located in the "Gathering Space" at Grace.

Thank you in advance for your service!

Questions, please contact

Kelly O'Reilly 740-973-3158 blarney87@gmail.com

Jason Barrera 740-334-0675 barrera.jwb@gmail.com

**2024 NALC Online Mission Convocation
Report, August 9.**

[Compiled from notes from attendees: Carl Lahman, Bob Reynolds, and Pastor Tom]

On Friday, August 9th from 6-9 p.m., we heard from Bishop Dan Selbo and participated in elections and voting. We also heard updates from across the NALC.

At the beginning was a very interesting devotion, given by Rev. Dr. Eric Riesen, President of the North American Lutheran Seminary. He talked about the challenges of our secular/unchurched culture and the battle between flesh vs. spirit.

The Nominating Committee presented candidates for positions to be elected on the Executive Council, Court of Adjudication and Board of Regents. Biographical information was given prior to the meeting.

- The Executive Council implements the work and policies of the NALC. This year one clergyperson and one layperson were elected.
- The Court of Adjudication has jurisdiction to decide appeals from disciplinary decisions, questions regarding interpretation of the NALC's governing documents and claims of any violations of governing documents of the NALC. This year one clergy was elected.
- The Board of Regents act as governing body of the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS). This year two clergy were elected, one being Rev. Alliyah (Greaver) Blakeley, St. John Lutheran Church, from Greenville, Ohio.

There was a report given by Rev. Amy Little on Youth & Family Safeguarding, who emphasized the importance for congregations to have a child protection policy (like the one we now have at Grace Lutheran)!

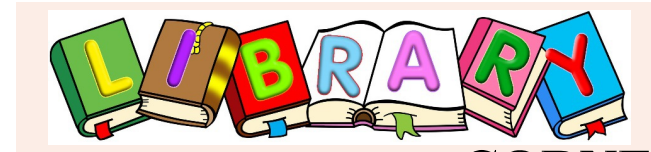
A treasurer's report and 2025 budget were presented and voted upon. Budget of \$4,415,460 passed.

It was emphasized that as we look to the future, we need to emphasize our:

1. **NALC Core Values:** Christ centered, mission driven, traditionally grounded and congregationally focused
2. **Mission Purpose:** The Great Commandment, The Great Commission and The Call to Be and to Make Disciples
3. **Vision:** Renew its congregations, Equip the people, and Become a disciple making body

Some miscellaneous interesting updates and challenges:

- The NALC is in its 15th year.
- There are 512 NALC congregations
- This is the 10th year of our Lutheran Seminary
- 300 youth participated in this year's Youth Gathering in Texas.
- 43 full-time pastor vacancies and 27 part-time pastor vacancies.
- Benevolence: 30% of congregations do not give to the NALC. The NALC is asking congregations to consider giving 5-7% of their budget to the NALC.



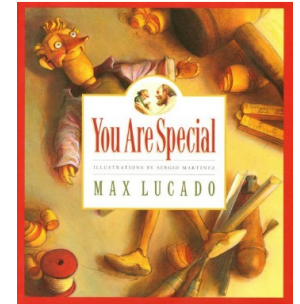
CORNER

By Karen Lewis

There comes a time when our lives become a whirlwind. We forget to be still and listen. As I sit in the church library, I find the quiet comforts me and clears my mind. Each month I will write about one of my favorite Christian authors. Max Lucado is one of Christianity's best-selling authors for all ages. He writes thought-provoking inspirational words that are easy to understand.



One of my favorite children's books is titled **You Are Special**. This is a story about small wooden people who distinguish each person with gold stars or gray dots. Two of



the main characters are Eli, the woodcarver, and Punchinello. Eli helps Punchinello understand how special he is. It's a vital message for children everywhere that regardless of how the world evaluates them, God cherishes each of them, just as they are. This message is not just for children but for all ages to be reminded that God loves all of us.

Max Lucado's books will be on display on the bookcase located in the Gathering Place and in our Church Library.

Other Max Lucado books available to check out from our library:

Just in Case You Ever Wonder (Children's book)

Facing Your Giants (Teen Edition Book)

God Thinks You're Wonderful (Teen/Adult)

Next month's author: Walter Wangerin Jr.

How we worship and why!!

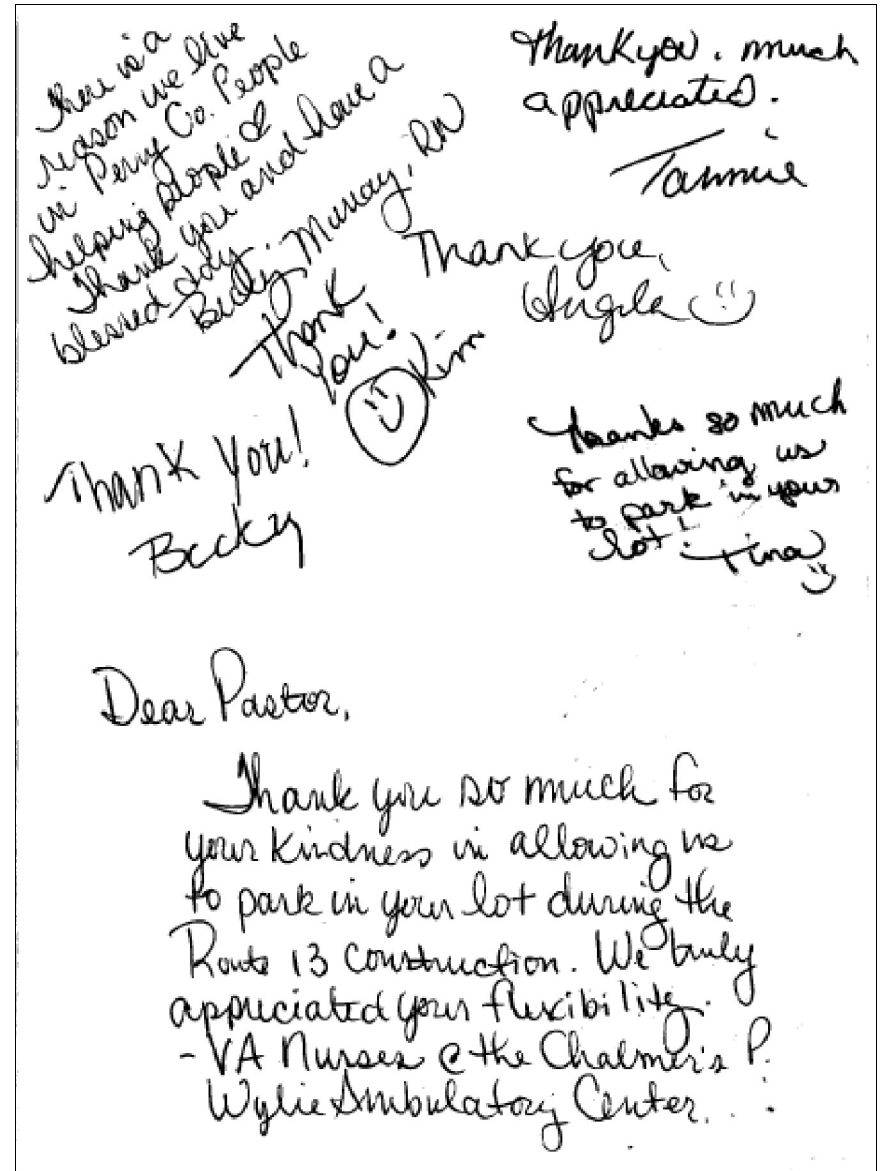


As Lutherans, we come to church, we praise God, and follow our liturgy, but do you truly understand the service? During the worship there are rituals that we, as Lutherans, do.... because that's what we were taught. As Karen and I have gone from church to church and pastor to pastor, we have found that each has differences. Come join us on September 8th in the Fellowship Hall during Sunday school (9:15) for a discussion of these differences.

We will discuss the parts of the worship service during the first 6 weeks leading into Luther's Small Catechism, using the book "by heart" from Augsburg Fortress.

- Jim & Karen Lewis, Leaders

During the construction on State Route 13, these nurses couldn't get to the Park & Ride at the freeway, so they asked if they could park in our lot and carpool to work from here. We received this card of thanks. It's always good to help others!



WHAT IS DARTBALL??

Dartball is a game played by throwing darts at the "Target Diamond". Where your dart lands determines what you have done while "at bat". What you are doing is playing baseball with darts.

A team is composed of at least 6 to 15 players. We play on Monday nights at 7:00p.m. There are seven teams in our South East Ohio Dartball Association. We have "home" games and "away" games.

We play nine inning games (more innings if a tie game). Following the games, the "Home Team" provides refreshments.

It is a great opportunity for friendly competition and for making friends with other congregations in surrounding areas.

Join our team - even if you've never played before!

Contact one of our team coaches:

➔ Patty Jenny 740-684-2090

➔ Jim Lewis jklewis323@gmail.com



OPEN HOUSE MEETING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

@ 6:00pm

Grace Lutheran Church
65 E Columbus Street
Thornville, OH 43076

**COME BE A PART OF WHAT WE ARE
DOING !!**

A

**THORNVILLE -THORN TWP ECONOMIC
IDEA WILL BE DISCUSSED!!**

**HEAR ALL ABOUT THE
THORNVILLE ACTIVITY COMMITTEE
AND**

THE NEW MULTI-USE TRAIL GRANT

SEE YOU THERE!

♪ My Fifty-Two Favorite Hymns ♪

Pr. Tom is providing a weekly devotional reflection on his list of fifty-two of his favorite hymns, one for each week of the year, which is posted on his blog. You can access these weekly reflections at the following link: <https://theelectronicconventicle.weebly.com>

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1: Prepare the Royal Highway | 19 To God the Holy Spirit Let Us |
| 2: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending | Pray (Now We Implore God the Holy Ghost) |
| 3: My Heart Is Filled with Wonder | 20 Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord |
| 4. I've Found Now the Fairest of Roses | 21 Sunshine and Rain |
| 5. Of the Father's Love Begotten | 22 Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go |
| 6. The Only Son from Heaven | 23 This Is My Father's World |
| 7. I Walk in Danger | 24 The Numberless Gifts of God's Mercies |
| 8. Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain | 25 Evening and Morning |
| 9. Glory Be to Jesus | 26 Now All the Woods are Sleeping |
| 10 Near the Cross | 27 Rise Up, All Things That God Has Made |
| 11 Ah, Holy Jesus | 28 Baptized into Your Name Most Holy |
| 12 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded | 29 Go Forth, My Heart, This Summer Day |
| 13 Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands | 30 Day by Day |
| 14 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness | 31 Is It True? |
| 15 Beautiful Savior | 32 Jesus, Lover of My Soul |
| 16 My God, How Wonderful Thou Art | 33 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing |
| 17 The Lord's My Shepherd | |
| 18 Jesus, Priceless Treasure | |



Help us Help the Less Fortunate

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Saturday Oct. 19 | St Rose Community Center 5:00pm - 10:00pm | Live and Silent Auction Beer & Wine Available for purchase |
|-----------------------------|--|---|

___ Table sponsor - \$150, includes prime, reserved seating, shout-outs throughout the event, social media and advertising recognition

___ Live Auction Item - Value to exceed \$100

___ Silent Auction items - Value below \$100

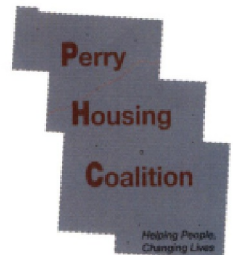
___ I can't make it but I will sponsor a hotel stay and meals for \$125

___ I can't make it, but here is a donation of \$_____

Auction items can be dropped off during business hours at:

- The New Lexington Police Department
- Somerset Police Department
- Perry County Tribune
- Perry County Chamber of Commerce
- Any branch of the Perry County District Library

For questions, more information or credit card processing, please contact 740.974.5536 or 740.974.0680



Monetary contributions can be mailed to
Perry Housing Coalition,
P.O. Box 917,
New Lexington, OH 43764

PHC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and all contributions are tax deductible

Grace Lutheran Church - Thornville OH
 Consolidated Fund Activity Report for July 2024
 Saturday, August 10, 2024

| Account Name | Beg Balance | Receipts | Disbursements | Transfers/IE's | End Balance |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 3.100. General Fund | 69,055.80 | 14,969 | 19,293 | 0 | 64,732.36 |
| 3.220. Improvement Fund | 10,264.51 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,264.51 |
| 3.300. Mission Fund | 17,862.61 | 240 | 200 | 0 | 17,902.61 |
| 3.320. Local Good Samaritan Fund | 3,749.46 | 0 | 158 | 0 | 3,590.90 |
| 3.400. Endowment Osma Lawyer | 10,000.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000.00 |
| 3.400. Endowment Fund | 28,531.90 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 28,531.90 |
| 3.420. Capital Campaign Fund | 32,161.64 | 95 | 0 | 0 | 32,256.64 |
| 3.500. Adventures in Faith Fund | 325.08 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 325.08 |
| 3.510. Varner Scholarship Fund | 3,993.00 | 0 | 700 | 0 | 3,293.00 |
| 3.520. Library Fund | 107.57 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 107.57 |
| 3.600. Parament Fund | 1,017.41 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,017.41 |
| 3.610. Handbell Fund | 513.69 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 498.69 |
| 3.620. Flower Fund | 765.43 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 765.43 |
| 3.630. Choir Fund | 2,577.58 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,577.58 |
| 3.740. Backpack Ministry Fund | 17,580.37 | 225 | 0 | 0 | 17,805.37 |
| 3.900. Memorial Fund | 21,688.94 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 21,763.94 |
| 3.910. GLCW Fund | 445.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 445.00 |
| 3.920. KFC Youth Fund | 11,155.55 | 0 | 1,446 | 0 | 9,709.34 |
| 3.925. KFROGs Fund | 8,812.33 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8,812.33 |
| Total | \$240,607 | \$15,604 | \$21,813 | \$0 | \$234,399 |

| General Fund Budget va Actuals | Net |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 21,866 | 0 |
| (6,897) | (4,324) |



AMAZING ILLUMINATION

God grants us knowledge and understanding through his holy Word, which is like a flashlight.

Directions: Arrange the words from Psalm 119:105 (NIV) in order. Then unscramble the circled letters to complete James 1:5 (NIV).

PATH IS LIGHT WORD
 YOUR A FEET
 MY FOR LAMP A ON MY

Psalm 119:105, NIV

If any of you lacks _____, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. *James 1:5, NIV*

Answer: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path; wisdom

Thornville, Ohio

Purpose

To invite All to discover, live and share God's gift of new life through Jesus Christ.

Mission Statement

Sharing God's Love through Grace.

Vision

We Are A Community Developing Faithful Followers Of Jesus By Experiencing God's Grace Through Friendship, Spiritual Growth and Service.



Core Values

1. That the Gospel calls us to unconditional regard for all people.
2. That Prayer is necessary for our relationship with God, one another, and the world.
3. That Scripture provides the foundation for our lives of faith.
4. That the authority for our ministry is founded in Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, which is the Body of Christ on earth. An elected Parish Council provides administrative authority; our called pastor(s) provides the spiritual authority of the Office of Word and Sacrament Ministry.
5. That each member is uniquely gifted by God for ministry and is expected to mature in discipleship of Jesus Christ.
6. That any ministry based on our Purpose, Mission, Vision and Core Values is valid for our congregation, and may, at any time, evolve or end.

"Phishing" Scams - In our sinful world, there is unfortunately no shortage of people who seek to deceive and take advantage of others. Often, such scammers will send emails 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 inform the church office.

**Grace Lutheran Church
65 E. Columbus St.; PO Box 284
Thornville OH 43076**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Phone: 740-246-6576
www.gracethornville.org
office@gracethornville.org

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