

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 31, 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, family of Bob Myers, Larry Arnold, Donna Winegardner, Diane White, Bob Druchel, Fred Boring, Lynda, Mike Forsythe, Bob Little, Dave Shelly, Debbie, Andrew Smith, Sherry & Pat Shay, Lisa Snider, Jon & Patti Ridenour, David Turner, Larry, Phyllis Beavers, Theresa Ralston, 4 month old Journey, Sidney, Patty, Jay Carson family, Barb, family of Stuart Yeagley, family of Carrie Kay Meadows. Prayer-line: prayer@gracethornville.org, 740.246.6576, or Sharon Roshon 740.467.3198.

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of family, by the Luft family.

Happy Birthday wishes to Becky Reynolds who will celebrate her birthday tomorrow; to Pastor Tom whose birthday is on Tuesday; to Janice Barrett whose birthday is on Wednesday; and to Sharon Haffner who will celebrate her birthday next Sunday.

The Church Office will be closed tomorrow, New Year's Day. May the year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

2024 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.

"My Fifty-Two Favorite Hymns" - For this coming year, Pr. Tom will be providing a weekly devotional reflection on his list of fifty-two of his favorite hymns, one for each week of the year, which will be posted on his blog. The hymns chosen correspond roughly to the unfolding church calendar. Hymns provide us with a window into the time and circumstances in which they were written, but they also help us in our own life of prayer as they express the faith of the Church with grace and beauty. The first four posts are live on his blog. You can access these weekly reflections at the following link, which will also be provided in the weekly email reminder about worship for the coming Sunday: <https://theelectronicconventicle.weebly.com>

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.

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.

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.

"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.

SCHEDULE FOR DEC 31-JAN 7

<u>Today</u>	8:00am	Worship
	9:15am	Adventures In Faith
	9:15am	Confirmation Class
	10:30am	Worship
<u>Monday</u>		Happy New Year!
<u>Tuesday</u>		
<u>Wednesday</u>	11:00am	LifeWise
<u>Thursday</u>	11:00am	LifeWise
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
<u>Friday</u>	8:00pm	AA Meeting
<u>Saturday</u>		
<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: Beth Raab (8am); Peggy Shafer (10:30)
 Acolytes:
 Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Serving Next Sunday:

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Jacobson
 Assisting Minister: Tom Rodgers
 Greeters:
 Lector: Beth Raab (8am); Becky Winegardner (10:30)
 Acolytes:
 Accompanist: Sue Ellen Simmons

Attendance: 10:30: 111; Christmas Eve 5pm: 98; 9pm: 127;
 Christmas Morning: 46

Giving: General: \$9,520.; Lancaster Food: \$10.; Disaster: \$500.; NALC: \$620.; Local Food: \$540.; Backpack: \$210.; Vogt family: \$15.; LifeWise: \$105.; NALC Intern: \$10.; Capital Campaign: \$5.; Christmas Offering: \$200.; Flower Fund: \$360.; Pass Thru: \$1,445. Total: \$13,540.00