

The Gracevine

NEWSLETTER OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC
Our Mission: "Sharing God's Love Through Grace"

February 2022



By this
everyone will know

*that you are my disciples, if
you have love for one another.*

John 13:35, NRSV

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 740-242-2192 |
| Office Manager: | Beth Gilgien 740-398-4502 |
| Organist: | Sue Ellen Simmons 740-605-1530 |
| Choir Director: | Diane Christensen 740-215-2396 |
| Handbell Choir: | Becky Winegardner 740-467-3164 |
| Men of Grace: | John Ulmer 740-246-6626 |
| Church Council President: | Paul Moentmann 440-728-7067 |
| Council Vice President: | Matt Sheridan 740-405-6873 |
| Council Secretary | Jeni Lahman 614-371-4851 |
| Director of Inreach: | Amber Feyh 740-415-5955 |
| Director of Outreach: | Jeff Stought 740-407-0617 |
| Director of Upreach: | Kelly O'Reilly 740-928-7626 |
| Financial Secretary: | Jackie Combs 740-246-4751 |
| Treasurer: | Rick Rockwell 740-624-2241 |
| Bd of Women President: | Cherl Haggengjos 740-342-2276 |
| Safety/Security Team: | Bob Reynolds 630-698-0457 |
| Sacristan: | Meg O'Reilly 740-644-3504 |
| Custodian: | Beth Gilgien 740-398-4502 |

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



North, South, and Now East!

*A man's mind plans his way, but
the Lord directs his steps. –
Proverbs 16:9 RSV*



How did you end up in Ohio? This is a question I've been asked in various forms over the last few months. Only a few short days ago I was serving as a pastor on the high plains. Now I am in what is for me an unfamiliar part of the country. I have driven through Ohio many times, but until this last summer, I never expected to call it home.

Life is filled with unexpected things, at least in my experience. That's why this verse from Proverbs 16:9 has been meaningful for me over the years: *A man's mind plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.*

I can't say that I anticipated being called to serve in small-town Ohio. But at the same time, I am not surprised that my life has taken an unexpected turn. For me, most significant things have been unexpected. You just never know what is around the corner, the new adventures to which God calls us.

The title of this, my first newsletter article for Grace Lutheran Church in Thornville, is the same as my last newsletter article for my now former call at Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lindy, Nebraska. In that article, I reflected on the different places I have been led, the different people God has placed in my path, and the blessings I have both given and received in the process. As I sit here among unpacked boxes

in the parsonage, I would like to do the same here as a way of introducing myself and my family to you.

I was born and raised in rural Canby, Minnesota, a small town near the South Dakota border, named for a Union Army general in the Civil War (for reasons that remain obscure to me). My dad farmed until I was six and then took a job at the technical college in town. Therefore, I wasn't technically a "farm kid," but I did grow up with corn and soybean fields on three sides of my house.

As odd as it sounds, I have come to expect the unexpected. After high school graduation in 1998, I studied at Augustana College (now University) in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, one of the historic Lutheran colleges in the United States, out of the Norwegian Lutheran tradition. When I was in middle school and early high school, I was probably the last person anyone would have thought would become a pastor. I was fairly cynical about church and didn't think much about faith. But God had other plans, and he drew me back to the promise he had given me when I was baptized as an infant. In ninth grade, I first felt a calling to serve as a pastor and possibly a professor in the future, so I tailored my course of study in preparation for that.

The summers between my college years found me serving as a summer camp counselor for youth at Lutheran church camps in Minnesota, Montana, and North Dakota. I never expected to be a camp counselor, but this experience stretched me in a good way, and I came to love it.

I entered Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota in 2002, which is the historic Norwegian Lutheran seminary. For my required internship in my third year, there were a select number of international internships available. I applied for that, hoping that it would be an opportunity to use the German language I had spent so much time learning in college. I expected to be posted

to the international, English-speaking congregation in Berlin. They sent me instead to a joint site between the St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, the home of the Lutheran church musician Johann Sebastian Bach, and what was called the “Wittenberg Center,” an English-speaking continuing educational center for people desiring to learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation. Working in a foreign language and unfamiliar culture was challenging, but it was one of the more rewarding experiences of my life.

For a time, I expected to remain single my whole life, thinking this was God’s will for me. That all changed upon my return from Germany when I met Theresa at Luther Seminary, who was in her first year during my last year. After graduation from seminary, I expected to be assigned as a pastor to Montana or North Dakota, my top two choices. I was unexpectedly assigned to northwestern Minnesota. I received a call to serve two small congregations in a quintessential Norwegian town called Gonvick. Serving among the good folks at Samhold and United Lutheran Churches for four years made me more familiar with traditional Norwegian foods like lefse and potato klub (I will leave it to you to research what those are). I also picked up a really thick Norwegian accent, which was also unexpected.

I thought I might be in Gonvick for some time longer, but the opportunity presented itself to pursue further education. Still without children, Theresa and I moved back to St. Paul, Minnesota for me to begin my Ph.D. degree program. After a year and a half on campus for my coursework, Theresa unexpectedly received a call to serve Grace and Our Savior’s Lutheran Churches in Menno, South Dakota.

While still working on finishing my degree from a distance, I unexpectedly received a phone call at the church parsonage from the council president of Good Shepherd Ev. Lutheran Church of Lindy, Nebraska, an hour south of Menno. They were

in a time of transition, and though I wasn’t looking for it, they called me to serve as their pastor, which I did for seven years. I never expected to become a family man with three children. But over the years, Henrik (10), Helena (7), and Antonia (3) have been added to our household and enriched us with their presence.

This brings me to today. In addition to God’s steadfast love in Christ, unexpectedness has been the recurring theme of my life. Therefore, when I encountered Jeff Morlock in the hall at the NALC convocation in Texas this last summer, I remained open when he suggested the possibility of serving at Grace Lutheran in Thornville. Home for us is wherever we make it, and we are glad to be among you, even if we find ourselves on the opposite side of the Midwest from our most recent location. This has been the oddest Christmas I have ever experienced, tying up loose ends in South Dakota and Nebraska while packing boxes. But we are glad finally to get settled and ease into the process of becoming buckeyes!

Over the next few weeks, in conversation with the church council and others, I will begin identifying aspects of congregational life that need attention, such as confirmation instruction, youth events, and the like. It will take some time for us to get acquainted. Therefore, I also hope to hold a series of “cottage gatherings,” simply times of informal gathering held in the homes of various members. More information on this is forthcoming.

You should know that in addition to history, theology, music, Star Trek, Star Wars, and the Lord of the Rings, I love writing newsletter articles for congregations. When I do, I try my best to end with something profound. But as of this point, having been here for only a few days and not even yet officially installed as pastor, the most profound thing I can say is “thank you.”

Thank you for your welcome of me and my family. Thank you for all the work so many have done in preparation for our arrival. Thank you for your patience with me as I struggle to place names with faces and learn the ins and outs of this congregation and community. Most of all, thank you for the many ways that all of you serve the Lord in this congregation and in your daily lives.

As a pastor, I began my ministry far “up north” in Minnesota. I moved further south among Nebraska cattle farmers. Now I have moved east. I am looking forward to beginning this new chapter in the life of Grace Lutheran together with you!

Thomas E. Jacobson

Pr. Tom Jacobson

**From Martin Luther's Small Catechism
The Ten Commandments**

The Introduction

I am the Lord your God.

The First Commandment

You shall have no other gods before me.

What does this mean?

We should fear, love, and trust God
above all things.



♡ Worship In February ♡

Sundays 8:00 and 10:30am
Holy Communion Celebrated Every Sunday

Sunday, Feb. 6 - 5th Sunday After Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-13; Psalm 138;
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, Feb. 13 - 6th Sunday After Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1;
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26

Sunday, Feb. 20 - 7th Sunday After Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40;
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38

Sunday, Feb. 27 - Transfiguration

Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99;
2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2; Luke 9:28-36

☆ **Wednesday, March 2 - Ash Wednesday**

Soup Supper at 6:00pm; Worship at 7:00pm
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b–6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

December's Vital Signs

Average Worship Attendance - 111
8:00am - 32 10:30am - 79



Church Council Meeting Minutes December 21, 2021 7:00 PM

Present: Paul Moentmann, Matt Sheridan, Amber Feyh, Jeni Lahman, Kelly O'Reilly, Peggy White

1. Opening Prayer/Call to Order: Prayer was offered and meeting called to order by Council President Paul Moentmann.

2. Upreach/Worship Renewal

- Been in contact with Pastor Jacobson regarding January worship.
- Pastor Phillips' last Sunday is December 26th.
- Looking to engage more greeters and acolytes.
- Engaged a member of the congregation to construct a chalice veil that matches the Holy Week paraments.
- Worship Renewal Task Force
 - The team, along with Rogers/Krajnak Architects (RKA), reviewed qualifications of prospective contractors for pre-construction services and four were selected to move forward in the process.
 - Three contractors toured the church and provided construction estimates based on the schematic design phase.
 - These three contractors were interviewed by the team, along with RKA. One contractor was selected to participate in pre-construction services during the Design Development Phase that begins on 01/04/2022 with RKA, consultants and the contractor for value added engineering.
 - There is no obligation on the part of Grace Lutheran Church to retain this contractor in any actual construction bid process.
 - Pastor Tom Jacobson has been kept informed of the process of the team.

3. Inreach

- There are plans for a pictorial directory.
- There is work started for a Christmas Shadow program for next year.
- Sunday School is working on trying to have classes for various age groups.

4. Treasurer Report

- Financials are in good shape and books are balanced.

5. Old Business

- Worship services will remain the same due to covid-19.
- Pastor Tom Jacobson's first Sunday will be January 2, 2022.
- Installation of council officers will be January 9, 2022.
- Pastor Tom's Installation will be January 23, 2022 at the 10:30 service with a potluck to follow. Depending on any changes in the county concerning covid-19, the potluck could be canceled.

6. New Business

- Seminary in Ethiopia: There are over 60,000 people each month needing help. Offering can be given with a marked envelope.
- Backpack Ministry has received \$10,400 from The Shelly Company.

7. Adjourn: Meeting was concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: TBD

Respectfully submitted, Jeni Lahman, secretary



Church Council Meeting Minutes January 17, 2022 7:00 PM

Present: Paul Moentmann, Matt Sheridan, Amber Feyh, Jeni Lahman, Kelly O'Reilly, Rick Rockwell, Jeff Stought, Pastor Tom Jacobson

1. **Opening** Devotion and Prayer: Devotion and prayer was offered by Pastor Tom Jacobson
2. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Paul Moentmann
3. **Pastor's Report**
 - Pastor Tom thanked everyone at Grace for all the preparations made prior to their arrival.
 - Visits have started to be made to shut-in members.
 - 1st Communion classes will begin soon.
 - Confirmation classes will be starting in February for 8th and 9th grades. Confirmation will take place on Reformation Sunday.
 - Lenten Soup Dinners, with a service, will hopefully take place this year.
 - Cottage gatherings: To help Pastor Tom connect and get to know people, he wants to start small group gatherings of people, to meet at the church or in someone's home who volunteers to host, throughout the first year.
4. **Upreach/Worship Renewal**
 - Installation service will happen on January 23, 2022. Pastor Jeff Morlock, Dean of the Southern Ohio Mission District, will be preaching. Only one service at 10:30 am, followed by a potluck.
 - Worship Renewal Task Force: Setterlin Building Company has investigated some areas of the church building that are concealed by wall or ceiling treatments to determine

additional existing conditions (structural supports within walls, plaster ceiling conditions, floor joists in balcony, sanctuary attic space availability, etc.) to more accurately determine the needs of any construction as part of the Design Development Phase. The Design Development Phase is expected to be completed by the end of April.

5. **Inreach**
 - Adventures in Faith (AIF) has been encouraging kids to invite a friend to help grow our youth. AIF Visitor bags, that consist of pop it bracelets, bubbles and pop rocks, will say "We are so glad you "POPPED" by Grace Lutheran Church's Adventures in Faith class. We hope to see you again soon!"
 - Pastor Tom, Kate Simmons and Amber Feyh met on Saturday, 1/15/22, to make plans for Confirmation to start on February 6th for our catch-up group. We're doing this because there have been some kids who missed being in confirmation due to the pastoral vacancy. For those kids, pastor will go through the curriculum a little faster, and they can have their confirmation service this coming October. Then next fall, pastor will start with a regular two-year program for eighth and ninth graders.
 - First Communion for 3rd and 4th graders will be starting March 27th and will finish May 8th (5-week course).
 - Cake will be arranged after Confirmation and 1st Communion.
 - Sunday Teachers needed, especially for ages 5 and under.
 - Will be reaching out again to some Photo Directory Companies.
6. **Treasurer Report**
 - Financials for the month of December and a summary of the 2021 income and expenses were reviewed.

7. Old Business

- Covid-19 Response: The front pews will continue to be roped off. Face masks and gloves will continue to be worn for communion.
- Picture Directory: Pastor Tom suggested reaching out to Lifetouch, a photography company, to provide Grace with a Photo Directory. Jeni Lahman will also provide an example Photo Directory at her previous church. In the short-term, members of Grace are encouraged to be part of Facebook onto the members page Grace Lutheran Church's website.
- The Backpack Ministry received offerings from both Thanksgiving and Christmas.

8. New Business

- Pastor Jacobson will be going to a Pastor's Conference from 2/15 – 2/17 in Orlando. During his absence, Pastor Theresa Jacobson will be on call.
- Notice of Liquor Permit Application for Firehouse Pizza: Because Firehouse Pizza is under new ownership, Paul Moentmann will be signing off on their liquor permit.
- Property Committee: Council President Paul Moentmann asked Carl Lahman if he would be willing to head up a Property Committee. Carl agreed and council approved.
- Mutual Ministry Committee: Council President Paul Moentmann and Pastor Tom decided it was good idea to create a Mutual Ministry Committee, to serve as a support to Pastor Tom during this transition period at Grace. This committee of 3-4 members will be created soon.
- Introductory Video: Council discussed the possibility of creating a video (with maybe a drone video) to be linked to Grace's website page, as an introduction to Grace, our pastor and our ministries. (Rick Rockwell noted that he knows of a company that can do a drone video.)
- Monthly Calendar events: It was suggested to council that, with the help of Beth Gilgien (Office Manager), other events be added to the Gracevine/Website calendar.

- Activities/Ministries Directory: It was also suggested to council that an updated/new Activities/Ministry Directory be developed.

9. Adjourn: Meeting was concluded with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting: 2/21/2022

Respectfully submitted, Jeni Lahman, secretary

+ A new Facilities Team has been established to oversee the care and maintenance of both the church and parsonage, including general maintenance, upkeep of the church and parsonage grounds, maintenance of the heating and cooling systems, landscaping, mowing and snow removal. The focus will be more of a comprehensive approach of our entire facility. Periodic walkthroughs will be scheduled and a log will be kept of items to be fixed or replaced. Members of this team are: Carl Lahman (coordinator), Beth Gilgien, Paul Moentmann, Pete Oberhauser, Kelly O'Reilly and Bob Reynolds. If anyone else has an interest in joining this team, please contact Carl Lahman at carllahman@gmail.com or (614) 329-8639.





Starting on February 22 (a Tuesday) at 6:00 PM, Pr. Tom will begin holding a series of "cottage gatherings" throughout the year, roughly once a month. These are simply informal times of fellowship to get acquainted with the new pastor and for him to get to know members of the congregation.

These are intended to be small groups of around 10-15 people. Someone can volunteer to host the meeting at their home, perhaps with coffee and some dessert.

There will be many more of these meetings held as the year goes on and on different days of the week, so if this time does not work, feel free to wait and sign up for a later meeting.

A sign up sheet is on the table in the elevator hallway by the mailboxes.



+ **A new Mutual Ministry Committee** has been established to serve as support to Pastor Tom during this transition period at Grace. The members of this committee are: Diane Christensen, Dennis DeRolph and Carl Lahman. This committee will begin meeting in February.



Confirmation Classes for 9th graders and older unconfirmed youth will begin on February 6, 2022. Class will be taught by Pastor Tom during Adventures in Faith time (Sundays, 9:15am) in Classroom 1. Confirmation will be held on Reformation Sunday. Please contact Kate Simmons 740-605-3230 if you plan to attend, so class materials can be ordered.

First Communion Classes will start on March 27, 2022 for 3rd and 4th graders, or older youth that missed the class. Their First Communion will be Sunday, May 8. Please contact Kate Simmons 740-605-3230 if you plan to attend, so class materials can be ordered.

Kids - Please come join us! We have many ideas for fun activities, but we can't do them without you. We would also like to start up our Youth Groups - KFC and KFROGs. KFC (Kids Following Christ) is grades 7-12; KFROGs (Kids Fully Relying On God) is grades 2-6. Please contact Kate Simmons 740-605-3230 if you want to join a group.

Adults - We need teachers! This is NOT a weekly time commitment. You can teach as little as 6 Sundays a year. The lesson plans are already created for you, too. All you need to do is show up and spend some time with the amazing kids at Grace. Contact Amber or Kate.

Pr. Tom and Pr. Theresa Jacobson invite the older youth (7-12th graders) of Grace to the parsonage (20 Park Dr., across the street from the church) for the **Super Bowl** on **February 13**. Plan on arriving around 6:00 PM. No need to bring anything this time, and food, snacks, and drinks will be provided. We will watch the game, but more importantly the commercials! Though not a "heavy" Bible study, we will reflect a bit on the Bible and the kinds of values promoted by the advertisements we see. Contact Pr. Theresa Jacobson and let her know if you plan on attending so we have enough food for everyone: tjacobson002@luthersem.edu.

AIF in action:

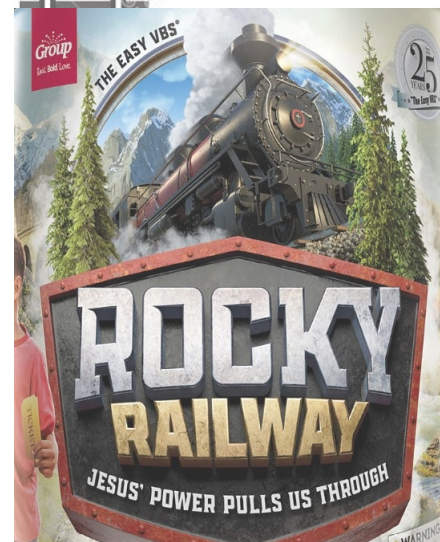


SUMMER VBS

Vacation Bible School
June 13-17, mornings

We would love for our family of faith to help with this amazing outreach! Most of the children who attend do not have a home church.

*There are many ways to help behind the scenes and in person during the week. More information to come next month! Contact Beth Raab: graab@columbus.rr.com, text: 740-755-6410 or Beth Gilgien at Grace's office: office@gracethornville.org, call: 740-246-6576



*kids' snacks, decorating help, registration help, small group helper, kitchen, teacher assistant, etc.



Disaster Response

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE TRAINING

NALC Disaster Response Task Force is providing disaster preparedness training at Level One Basic and Level Two Specialized.

The next classes will be held at

**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 E. Schrock Rd.
Westerville, Ohio**

**❖Friday, Feb. 25th 6:30-8:30pm - Church Safety Training
Saturday, Feb. 26th at 9am-4pm.**

These educational workshops will provide training to volunteers in each participating congregation, preparing each to form disaster volunteer teams. Each Mission District assists in the formation of teams and the preparedness training. Recognized credentials will be provided. Does your church have a safety plan?

- + Level One (unskilled disaster response for debris removal and basic information on FEMA regulations)
 - Church Safety Training
- + Level Two (specialized trainings) including:
 - Case Management — how to identify and track client needs and the assistance they receive — BECOME A VOLUNTEER CASE MANAGER!

| 2021 Budget | | 2021 Activity | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------|-----------|---------|--|
| | Income | Expenses | Transfers | Ending | |
| 3.100.000 General Fund | 266,147 | 266,147 | | | |
| | 39,723 | 242,809 | 6,641 | 90,697 | |
| 3.200.000 Improvement Fund | 2,057 | 0 | 0 | 2,057 | |
| 3.300.000 Mission Fund | 2,422 | 21,896 | 0 | 2,593 | |
| 3.320.000 Local Good Samaritan Fund | 4,353 | 0 | 0 | 4,203 | |
| 3.400.000 Endowment Osma CD | 10,001 | 0 | -1 | 10,000 | |
| 3.410.000 Anniversary Fund | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 3.420.000 Capital Campaign Fund | 55,141 | 68,533 | -1,864 | 30,908 | |
| 3.500.000 Adventures in Faith Fund | 607 | 0 | 0 | 607 | |
| 3.510.000 Varner Scholarship Fund | 1,434 | 2,100 | 0 | 2,128 | |
| 3.520.000 Library Fund | 33 | 0 | 0 | 33 | |
| 3.600.000 Parament Fund | 1,017 | 0 | 0 | 1,017 | |
| 3.610.000 Handbell Fund | 320 | 0 | 0 | 320 | |
| 3.620.000 Flower Fund | 433 | 835 | 471 | 897 | |
| 3.630.000 Choir Fund | 1,648 | 110 | 0 | 1,758 | |
| 3.740.000 Backpack Ministry Fund | 8,872 | 10,218 | 1,188 | 25,976 | |
| 3.900.000 Memorial Fund | 55,862 | 207 | -38,360 | 19,130 | |
| 3.910.000 GLCW Fund Balance | 1,779 | 0 | 1,779 | 0 | |
| 3.920.000 KFC Youth Fund Balance | 3,228 | 3,018 | 64 | 6,182 | |
| 3.925.000 KROGS Fund Balance | 10,156 | 0 | 0 | 10,156 | |
| 3.950.000 Investment Fund Balance | 81,740 | 0 | 57,143 | 138,883 | |

- Donations Management — how to coordinate and organize donated materials
- Volunteer Coordination — how to identify the skills of each volunteer and address risk management issues — FORM A DISASTER VOLUNTEER TEAM & HELP REBUILD HOMES!
- Spiritual Christian Care — how to identify and document qualified volunteers to provide spiritual care — PROVIDE SPIRITUAL CARE TO THOSE HURTING AND IN NEED!
- Congregational Facility Preparedness — prepare congregations before disaster strikes — WRITE A DISASTER PLAN FOR CHURCH FACILITIES!
- Family Preparedness — prepare families before disaster strikes, construct family preparedness kits — GREAT SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT!

Registration forms are available on the table in the elevator hallway at church. For more information, please contact any member of the NALC Disaster Task Force or Mary Bates, Disaster Coordinator/Trainer at 740-509-1132 or disasterresponse@thenalc.org Check out www.thenalc.org/disaster for more information on active disasters.

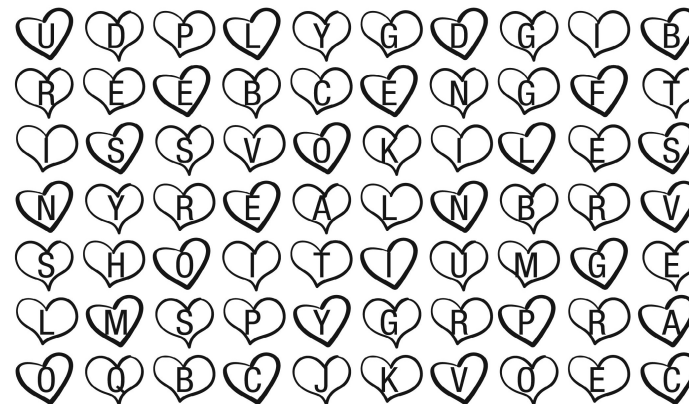
Thornville / Thorn Township Development Committee will meet here, at Grace, on February 15th at 4:00pm. They will be continuing talks about a walking/biking trail on Township Road 358, and other development ideas for the area. Then, at 6:00pm, the Thornville Activities Committee (TAC) will meet to work on the 4th of July event for the village and other events. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



The heart of a friend

Big-hearted friendliness comes from generously serving others.

Directions: Start with the first D and move according to the arrows beneath the blanks. Then fill in the letters to complete 1 Peter 4:8-10.



Above all, love each other D \downarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow , because love
 \downarrow \downarrow \leftarrow \downarrow \leftarrow \uparrow over a multitude of \leftarrow \leftarrow \downarrow \downarrow . Offer
 \rightarrow \rightarrow \downarrow \rightarrow \uparrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow \downarrow to one another without
 \rightarrow \rightarrow \uparrow \rightarrow \uparrow \uparrow \leftarrow \uparrow . Each of you should use whatever
 \uparrow \rightarrow \downarrow \rightarrow you have received to \downarrow \leftarrow \downarrow \rightarrow \downarrow others, as faithful
 stewards of God's \leftarrow \downarrow \rightarrow \downarrow \downarrow in its various forms.

1 PETER 4:8-10, NIV

Answer: deeply, covers, sins, hospitality, grumbling, gift, serve, grace

*Grace Lutheran Church
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.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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