

---

December 2018

# Grace Notes

## Grace Lutheran Church

310 West Lorain Street,

Oberlin, OH. 44074

440-775-3271

Pastor Josh Moldenhauer

Graceoberlinpastor@gmail.com

[www.gracechurchoberlin.wordpress.com](http://www.gracechurchoberlin.wordpress.com)

---

### From the Pastor's Desk . . .

You've heard the saying before: "Well, that's a matter of perspective..." It points to the reality that oftentimes people with different perspectives on the same situation will see, understand, and experience it differently. There's always two sides (*or more!*) to every story – and many ways a common event can impact people differently. And that's only multiplied when you start talking about several events and how they impact the same people. It's all a matter of perspective.

And that's what this year's **Advent series** is all about. On the Sundays and midweek services in December we'll be taking a look at the birth of John the Baptist and Jesus from different perspectives. Looking through the eyes of different people in the story helps to make the reality and experiences of those events come alive. All this is helped by Luke, who does a wonderful job in his Gospel of bringing in a variety of characters and describing the effect those events had on them. It's a beautiful and dramatic story that overlaps at times – while pointing us ahead to even greater chapter in the story to come.

So join us this Advent for a different perspective on preparing for and then celebrating the gift of a Son. We will have Wednesday Advent services at 7 pm on Dec. 5, 12, and 19 with a Soup & Sandwich Supper at 6 pm. On **Christmas Eve** we will have a candlelight service with Holy Communion to celebrate the birth of our newborn King. The service is at 7 pm. Following the service there will be refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. (Those staying for this little Christmas party are encouraged to bring a plate of cookies or dessert to share.)

This month of December is such an exciting time full of Advent anticipation and Christmas celebrations. Be sure not to forget the Reason for the Season.

In Christ,

Pastor Josh

### November Official Pastoral Acts:

- 7 sick/shut-in visits
- 6 private communions
- 1 pastoral care visit
- 4 leadership meetings
- 4 family visitations
- 5 circuit visitor activities

At our annual **Thanksgiving Eve service** 24 canned food items were donated to the local Oberlin Community Services Center for those in need.

The Sunday morning Adult Bible Class will be wrapping up the study of **Forgiveness, Reconciliation, and Conflict Resolution** this month. The class will take the last two Sundays of December off.

An updated **Prayer Chain** has been completed. It includes both a phone and email list. If you'd like to be added to either – or if you have ever a prayer request - please contact Jan Koepp at 440-935-4287.

A **volunteer** is still needed to assemble the monthly newsletters and email them out. If you might be interested please contact Pastor or Jen Moldenhauer.

Pastor Josh will be starting a new **Foundations of Faith** class on Tuesday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>. This 8 week class serves as review of the basic teachings of Lutheranism and a new member class. Contact Pastor if you might be interested in participating.

A new **CD recorder** has been purchased in memory of Dean & Jean Palmer. This month it will be installed in the sanctuary to use to record our worship services. If you know of anyone who might be interested in receiving (or borrowing) copies of our worship service please contact Pastor Josh. And if you might be willing to deliver the CD's to people and then pick up later please contact Pastor Josh as well.

A **BIG thank you** to all those **volunteers** who did so much to help around Grace this past year. A special thanks to all those who served in various roles on Sunday morning (like usher, greeter, acolyte, Children's Church teacher, lay reader, etc.). Later this month a new **2019 Grace Service Schedule** will be going out for all those positions. If you'd be willing to serve in a new position – or would prefer not to be serving in the same position as this year – please let Pastor know by **Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>**.

## December Birthdays

Melanie Huston	12/01
Robin Jones	12/02
Megan Swanzer	12/10
Glen Fridenstine	12/11
Kim Thomas	12/13
Erin (Gerstacker) Laux	12/18
John Kristoff	12/20
Rachael Koch	12/26
Ray Hines	12/30

\* If we accidentally forgot your birthday or anniversary, please tell Pastor and we'll add it to our list.

## Altar Guild News

Altar Guild will be offering poinsettias to purchase to decorate the chancel area for Christmas. The cost will be \$9.00 each. The deadline for ordering will be **December 10.** A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Please place your money in an envelope marked "poinsettia" in the offering plate.

The 2019 schedule has been emailed. I will post the schedule in the sacristy. Thank you to all our devoted ladies that serve on Altar Guild.

We are still looking to add a few new members to our team. If you are interested in serving on Altar Guild please contact Robin Turnbull.

Serving in December: Robin Turnbull

Thank you to all who helped to decorate the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season!

~ Robin



## Evangelism Report

This month and for the months to come we will continue the **1-1-1 Dollar for Mission** program here at Grace. There is a plastic container located in the church narthex. All the members of Grace are encouraged to donate \$1 each Sunday to directly to 2 mission start projects in North America. Grab the handout next to the container for further information.

The Mission of the Month for December is **missionary Rev. Joel Fritsche** and the **Dominican Republic Mission** – which happens to be one of the two mission projects being supported by the 1-1-1 Dollar for Missions. You can read all about it and see some nice pictures by looking at the bulletin board in the hallway. For those of you who get this by email, you can simply click on <https://blogs.lcms.org/2017/missionaries-plan-visits/> or <https://blogs.lcms.org/2008/expressing-gods-love-in-the-caribbean-1-2008/> to learn more.

# Lutheran Women's Mission League News

Hosting coffee hour in December will be:

- 2 Marcia Metzger
- 9 Carolyn Husted
- 16 Rachel Koch
- 23 CHRISTMAS GLC Council
- 30 Kathy Knipper

Susan Walker graciously volunteered to host the November Free Hot Meal. Assisting were Bob, Norma, Jen, and Carolyn. A home cooked turkey with all the trimmings was served to 16 persons. **Still Needed:** someone to host December. The 2019 schedule will be in place by mid-December. Please check the bulletin board and add your name at one of the open months.

In October, the LWML met and voted to support the following organizations with the profits from the August rummage sale: \$100 was given to: Lorain County Free Clinic, Oberlin Community center, Missionary Chuck Ferry, Family Promise/Naomi House of Lorain County, Love, INC., Valor Home for Women Veterans, Valor Home for Men Veterans, and The Road to Hope House.

## **40-month term note at 4.00%**

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund is offering for a limited time a 40-month term note at 4.00% interest. Your investments with LCEF help make ministry happen throughout the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The benefits and features of this offering are:

- 4% fixed rate
- \$500 minimum to open an account
- 40-month term note
- \$40,000 maximum per note
- Limit one per tax ID
- New money only
- Open to congregation and all members of the congregation
- Once \$100 million has been invested the offering will end

Call 800-843-5233 to learn more or visit [lcef.org/40month](http://lcef.org/40month)

# December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worship 10 am</li> <li>Adult Bible Class 11:40 am</li> </ul>	3	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundations of Faith Class 10 am</li> </ul>	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soup &amp; Sandwich Meal 6 pm</li> <li>Advent Service 7pm</li> </ul>	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental Illness Support Group 7 pm</li> </ul>	7	8
9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worship 10 am</li> <li>Adult Bible Class 11:40 am</li> </ul>	10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elder's Meeting 4 pm</li> </ul>	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundations of Faith Class 10 am</li> </ul>	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soup &amp; Sandwich Meal 6 pm</li> <li>Advent Service 7pm</li> </ul>	13	14	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free Hot Meal 5 pm</li> </ul>
16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worship 10 am</li> <li>Adult Bible Class 11:40 am</li> </ul>	17	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foundations of Faith Class 10 am</li> </ul>	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soup &amp; Sandwich Meal 6 pm</li> <li>Advent Service 7pm</li> </ul>	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mental Illness Support Group 7 pm</li> </ul>	21	22
23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worship 10 am</li> </ul>	24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christmas Eve Service 7 pm</li> </ul>	25 Christmas Day 	26	27	28	29
30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worship 10 am</li> </ul>	31					