

December 2024

GraceNotes

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE

From the Pastor



Pastor's Page

“Jesus was Born for This...”

On Christ the King Sunday, Bishop Phyllis Milton preached at Christ

Tabernacle Church of God on Christ. In her preaching, she set the stage for the Season of Advent.

We prepare for the birth of Jesus, by being reminded of who Jesus is: Christ the King, the Savior of the world, whose power is God's love for the world, where Jesus was raised up on the cross to take away the sins of the world, and to offer Jesus' followers a different, new way of life. Jesus was Born for this!

We had a blessed, worshipful time at Christ Tabernacle and a great time of fellowship. We're thankful for Bishop Milton's presence, and her sharing of her experiences as the first black and female bishop of the Virginia Synod.

Giving Tree – This decades-long tradition of helping to provide a traditional gifted Christmas to those who are not otherwise able to continues at Grace! Pick up an “gift tag”, sign your name and the gift tag taken in the book, purchase gift and return unwrapped gift with the original tag by Sunday, December 8.

Advent Worship Services – Once again we worship with our friends at Zion, St. James and Bethlehem (Bethlehem is not hosting this year). Take a look at the schedule found elsewhere, as well as our theme, focusing on Commemoration dates of some familiar saints often associate with the Holidays.

Columbarium Re-Dedication – We will rededicate and inter the urns we removed during the Columbarium repairs – as well as commit Ernestine Moomaw to her resting place – on Sunday, December 8th, after worship.

Continued

WARM Shelter Hosting at Grace

– This Advent Season we also have opportunity to host our unhoused sisters and brothers for a week, December 9-16. We have many volunteers signed up, but there are a few more people to complete our hospitality and care! See the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter.

Congregation Meeting on

December 15th – There is a called Congregation Meeting for the purpose of voting on the proposed 2025 Spending Plan recommended by the Finance Committee and Grace Council after worship, 12/15. Plan on staying for this important meeting.

Christmas Eve Worship

– We meet for one worship service on December 24th, at 5pm, our traditional Family Service, with the “building” of the Creche, and participation of our children in reading the Christmas story. We’ll also celebrate Holy Communion at the service.

Conversation About Community Needs and Grace Property

– Over the last few months, Grace Council has had discussions about our property – the grassy area behind the YMCA playground bordering Market Street, as well as the playground area itself – and have responded to some

preliminary inquiries about the land, especially in light of great needs in our community for affordable housing, as well as affordable childcare. Beginning in 2025, Grace Council hopes to provide some forums for the congregation to respond to some of this preliminary information, and what direction Grace might take. Look for more announcements at the start of the New Year, and pray for God to guide our Mission where God has placed us here in Waynesboro.



We finished October with a surplus of \$638, which puts the year-to-date surplus at \$285 compared to a deficit of \$5,523 at the end of October in 2023. Expenses and receipts are below budget, resulting in a surplus for the year to date. The Finance Committee and Council continue to monitor the financial status.



In 2023, November and December resulted in over \$17,000 deficit in spending. Part of this was because of some year-end accruals, but a drop in income had far more impact on the deficit. We are still cautiously optimistic that we will finish the year with a surplus, but it is critical that we continue to monitor income and expenses closely for the remainder of the year.

Financial Status

2024	Difference
January	-\$2,699.72
February	-\$3,630.70
March	\$2,531.28
April	\$1,387.76
May	-\$4,838.63
June	\$8,929.18
July	-\$4,895.46
August	\$318.49
September	\$2,095.08
October	\$637.52
November	\$0.00
December	\$0.00
YTD	\$284.80
2023 (thru June)	-\$5,522.75

Red – Deficit Black – Surplus



The Finance Committee

Ron Almarode
Jerry Kite

Allison Fink
Susan Myers
Vivian Proctor

Chuck Goodrich
Pastor Pingel



Advent Worship begins the New Church Year - The weeks before

Christmas are a time to remember and to prepare for "God With Us" - Immanuel! God IS With Us! The announcement of Jesus' birth is not merely backward looking; it fills us with hope for what is ahead, even though what is ahead is uncertain. This year during Advent we focus on the Commemoration of those who have given witness to the coming of Jesus by their lives: St. Nicholas, St. Lucia, and Katherine Von Bora. Come and worship Wednesday evenings with our fellow Brothers and Sisters in the area:

- December 4th - Zion Lutheran Church - 7:00 p.m. - St. Nicholas of Myra
- December 11th - St. James Lutheran Church - 7:00 p.m. - St. Lucia
- December 18th - Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church - 7:00 p.m. - Katherine von Bora (spouse of Martin Luther)



Columbarium Re-Dedication on Sunday December 8th -

As a part of worship next Sunday, we will process to the Columbarium to re-dedicate the Columbarium, re-inter the 26 urns of those who were interred before the fallen Tower Cross damaged the unit, as well as conduct the service of committal for Ernestine Moomaw, whose Memorial Service was this past month. Families will be invited to have a part in the re-dedication service.



Poinsettia's Must Be Ordered by December 8th! - \$9.50 Each! - *Make checks payable to Grace with "Poinsettia's" in the memo line.* Order forms will be in the bulletins Sundays, December 1st and 8th. Please be sure to specify white or red, and who you are buying in memory or honor of. Many thanks!



There will be a CALLED CONGREGATION MEETING Sunday, December 15th, immediately following Worship for the purpose of voting on the 2025 Spending Plan recommended by Council and Grace's Finance Committee. You will be receiving a e-copy or paper copy 10 days before the meeting.



God in Odd Places—In this six-session class, participants will examine and discuss religious, spiritual, and theological issues suggested by movies, short stories, contemporary music, poems, cartoons and comic strips, and other expressions of popular culture. Led by Pastor Mark Radecke and open to adults and high school youth, the class will meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning on January 16. A sign-up sheet for those interested is available in the narthex.



Renewing Homes Greater Augusta Work Project—On Saturday November 16, Grace and Zion Lutheran Church teamed up to do a Renewing Homes Project for a home on Howardsville Road in Augusta Co. Our project included deck and step repairs.



Rise Against Hunger Food Shipment—The food that we packed for the September 14 Rise Against Hunger event was part of food shipment that was sent to help people in the Philippines.



Food Pantry Collections: A huge thanks to everyone as you continue to bring food for the food bank box near the office. **New Notice!!!** There is a need for diapers, especially sizes 3-6. Your donation is much appreciated. To date, we have collected over **5,000** pounds of food (we have made **forty-eight deliveries**, twenty-one to Main Street United Methodist, and twenty-seven to Calvary United Methodist, Stuarts Draft).



New way to respond to God's Grace with our Offerings! Many people are turning to technology to offer their offerings to God in thanksgiving for all that God has done! You can use the QR code in this announcement to make your gift through your cell phone, through Tithely, a secure giving method that's been used by many at Grace for years.

Offering Envelopes



2025 Offering Envelopes are in the Nave—please pick yours up. If you give by bill pay, electronically, Tithely, etc., there may not be any for you. However, if you did not get envelopes and would like to have them, please let the Church Office know. Also, please let the Church Office know if there are envelopes for you and you do not need them so we can better plan for how many to order next year. Thank you!



**Grace - WARM Cold Weather Shelter
December 9 - 16, 2024**

Thank you so much to all who have already contributed/volunteered/prayed!
We still have room for more!!! December 9th will soon be here!

- **Collecting Toiletries:** Travel/hotel-size - shampoo/conditioner, soap, toothpaste, lotion; toothbrushes, brushes/combs
- **Collecting Breakfast/Snack Food Items:** cereal, fruit cups, soft nutri-grain bars, fruit juice boxes, nabs, individual portion bags of chips/cookies
Please place items in box outside Church Office, in back of the Nave, or on table in back of Choir Room downstairs
- **December 7 - 9** we will collect fresh fruits and milk - please place in Kitchen refrigerators! (soft fruit please - bananas, grapes, oranges)

Volunteer Opportunities for December 9 - 16, 2024; Sign-up Sheets in back of Nave before/after services. (As we are a low barrier shelter, please note that volunteers at the shelter must be 18 years of age and older.)

- **Set-up Team December 8** after Service to organize, set-up for check-in, Fellowship Hall tables/chairs
 - ◇ We will break down tables/chairs as needed, and set-up long tables/chairs; sweep floors if needed
- **Set-up Team December 9** at 7:15 a.m. with WARM/guests to set-up cots
 - ◇ WARM brings cots; we need a few volunteers to help assemble cots, work with volunteer-guests
 - ◇ We will also move tables/chairs as needed
- **Check-In each evening December 9 - 15** 3-4 volunteers/evening (must be at least 18 years old)
 - ◇ assist WARM Staff Host to welcome guests, assist with sign-in and with shower sign-up

Continued

- ◇ make guests feel welcome, let them know we care, participate in time of fellowship, make coffee
- ◇ Join us for dinner! Let our guests know that God's love is present in their lives!
- **Shower Host each evening December 9 - 15** 1 volunteer/evening (must be at least 18 years old)
 - ◇ Call guests per sign-up sheet at shower time; offer toiletries and towel
 - ◇ Monitor shower schedule and collect towels
 - ◇ Join us for dinner!
- **Overnight Hosts** are needed, 1 volunteer/night. (must be at least 18 years old)
 - ◇ If you prefer to pair up, that's fine too - we'll take one (1) or two (2) each night.
 - ◇ Join us for dinner or arrive after (by 8:00 p.m.), your choice!
 - ◇ Assist WARM Staff Host overnight; **you** get to sleep overnight, we'll have the "Beethoven Suite" prepared
 - ◇ Prepare sack lunches
 - ◇ In the morning, make coffee, put out breakfast items and sack lunches, clean up
- **Clean-Up Team** - after guests leave each morning, we complete some basic cleaning
 - ◇ Light cleaning duties - check floors (sweep/mop if needed), dispose of any open food/drink. Lysol bathrooms/showers
 - ◇ Check dining tables - need new tablecloths
 - ◇ **Laundry Volunteers** - please sign up if you can wash/dry/fold towels (at church or at your home)
 - ◇

Any questions or prefer to text/call to volunteer? Contact Susan Myers 434-760-1660 or sparkelmyers@gmail.com



DECEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>First Sunday of Advent</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion</p> <p>11:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>Confirmation Class</p> 	<p>7:00 p.m. All God's Children (Conference Room)</p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Prayer Group</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Yoga</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Choir Practice</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Advent Worship at Zion Lutheran</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Finance Committee (Conference Room)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. CCE&J Meeting Grace Lutheran</p>		<p>11:00 a.m. Racial Equity & Justice Vigil Grace Lutheran</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Yoga (Seminar Room)</p>



DECEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p>Second Sunday of Advent</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion</p> <p>Columbarium Re-Dedication</p> <p>11:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>Confirmation Class</p> 	<p>WARM Cold Weather Shelter</p>	<p>WARM Cold Weather Shelter</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Worship & Music Committee (Conference Room)</p>	<p>WARM Cold Weather Shelter</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Prayer Group</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Yoga (Seminar Room)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Advent Worship at St. James Lutheran</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Choir Practice</p>	<p>WARM Cold Weather Shelter</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Virginia Organizing (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p>WARM Cold Weather Shelter</p> 	<p>11:00 a.m. Yoga (Seminar Room)</p>



DECEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p><i>Third Sunday of Advent</i></p> <p>8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion</p> <p><i>Congregational Budget Meeting</i></p> <p>11:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>Confirmation Class</p> 	<p>7:00 p.m. All God's Children (Conference Room)</p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Quilting Group (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Council (Conference Room)</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Prayer Group</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Encircle Managers' Meeting (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Grace Women's Book Group (Stella, Bella & Lucy's)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Yoga (Seminar Room)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Choir Practice</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Advent Worship at Grace Lutheran</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Newcomers (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. CCE&J Meeting Grace Lutheran</p>	 	<p>11:00 a.m. Yoga (Seminar Room)</p>



DECEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion</p> <p>11:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>Confirmation Class</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grace Holiday</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grace Holiday</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:00 a.m. Yoga (Seminar Room)</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>First Sunday of Christmas</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion</p> <p>11:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>Confirmation Class</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grace Holiday</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Grace Walkers</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Bridge Club (Fellowship Hall)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> 	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11:00 a.m. Yoga (Seminar Room)</p> 



DECEMBER

Birthdays

12/02 *Charlie Wilson*

12/06 *Holly Carper*

12/08 *Gloria Nelson*

12/09 *Alexandra Spellman*

12/13 *Deloris Wertman*

12/17 *Richard Quickel*

12/17 *LizAnn Binns*

12/21 *Chuck Goodrich*

12/31 *Jenna Smith*

12/05 *Jane Blosser*

12/08 *Sandy Johnson*

12/09 *Pat Giesen*

12/12 *Judi Goodrich*

12/16 *Donna Dodge*

12/17 *Kathy Meicke*

12/20 *Dwight Moomaw*

12/23 *Pat Brady*



DECEMBER



Baptisms

12/6 *Kara Beth Glover*

12/10 *Jessica Smith*

12/20 *Margaret Quickel*

12/26 *Sam Moyer*

12/10 *Zachary Rankin*

12/11 *Reva Franklin*

12/20 *Ron Almarode*



<i>December 1</i>	<i>December 8</i>	<i>December 15</i>
<i>Pastor Paul Pingel</i>	<i>Pastor Paul Pingel</i>	<i>Pastor Paul Pingel</i>
<i>Altar Flowers</i>	<i>Altar Flowers</i>	<i>Altar Flowers</i>
<i>Open</i>	<i>Nelsons</i>	<i>Schwiesows</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>
<i>Kathy Meicke</i>	<i>Susan Myers</i>	<i>Jim & Gloria Nelson</i>
<i>Acolyte/Crucifer</i>	<i>Acolyte/Crucifer</i>	<i>Acolyte/Crucifer</i>
<i>Libby Caister</i>		<i>Isabelle Bokelman</i>
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>
<i>Cathy Crowder</i>	<i>Tami Radecke</i>	<i>Kathy Bump</i>
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	<i>Communion Assistants</i>	<i>Communion Assistants</i>
<i>Linda Meyer</i>	<i>Kathy Bump</i>	<i>Karen Walck</i>
<i>Council Person of Week</i>	<i>Council Person of Week</i>	<i>Council Person of Week</i>
<i>Jacob Dolan</i>	<i>Jack Eckstrom</i>	<i>Jerry Kite</i>
<i>Offering Stewards</i>	<i>Offering Stewards</i>	<i>Offering Stewards</i>
<i>Pat Brady</i>	<i>Pat Brady</i>	<i>Pat Brady</i>
<i>Robin Crowder</i>	<i>Jean Morgan</i>	<i>Robin Crowder</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Ushers</i>
<i>Ron Almarode</i>	<i>Fred Biggers</i>	<i>Jack Eckstrom</i>
<i>Lee Lynch</i>	<i>Andrew Sell</i>	<i>Jim Nelson</i>



<i>December 22</i>	<i>December 24</i>	<i>December 29</i>
<i>Pastor Paul Pingel</i>	<i>Pastor Paul Pingel</i>	<i>Pastor Paul Pingel</i>
<i>Altar Flowers</i>	<i>Altar Flowers</i>	<i>Altar Flowers</i>
<i>Gail Johnson</i>	<i>Gail Johnson</i>	<i>Open</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>
	<i>Susan Myers</i>	
<i>Acolyte/Crucifer</i>	<i>Acolyte/Crucifer</i>	<i>Acolyte/Crucifer</i>
	<i>Reva Franklin</i>	
<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>
<i>Donna Gum</i>	<i>Tripp Franklin</i>	<i>Linda Meyer</i>
<i>Communion Assistants</i>	<i>Communion Assistants</i>	<i>Communion Assistants</i>
<i>Andrew Sell</i>	<i>Isabelle Bokelman</i>	<i>Donna Gum</i>
<i>Council Person of Week</i>	<i>Council Person of Week</i>	<i>Council Person of Week</i>
<i>Karen Walck</i>	<i>Karen Walck</i>	<i>Allison Fink</i>
<i>Offering Stewards</i>	<i>Offering Stewards</i>	<i>Offering Stewards</i>
<i>Pat Brady</i>	<i>Vivian Proctor</i>	<i>Pat Brady</i>
		<i>David Proctor</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Ushers</i>
<i>Esme Hilker</i>		
<i>Gail Johnson</i>		<i>Gail Johnson</i>

GraceNotes

STAMP

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

500 South Wayne Avenue
Waynesboro, VA 22980

LABEL



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

"A Community of Servants Sharing in the Word and Work of Jesus."

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[GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro](https://GraceEvangelicalLutheranChurchWaynesboro.org)

gelcwaynesboro.org

Email: Grace.lc@comcast.net

Telephone: 540.949.6171

Church Office Hours

Monday–Thursday: 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
(Lunch 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.)

Church Staff

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Pastor

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