

November 2024



GRACE MESSENGER

WORSHIP:

Sunday— 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Monday —7:00 p.m.

Sunday School & Bible Study—9:15 a.m.

PASTOR WITTES' MESSAGE

Advent Series: “His Gospel is Peace”

We live in a world where fear drives much of our emotions. Its innate within us from our time as an infant where a simple loud noise brings us fear, to our time as an adult where it seems every other news story is a source of fear. We let this fear drive our lives and the choices we make. We miss out on opportunities, sometimes we struggle to even leave our home as fear grips us.

The Scriptures speak to us God’s answer. His Gospel is peace. In this Advent season we look ahead to our Lord Jesus’ return and His return will bring with Him a kingdom that no longer contains fear. It is Christ’s kingdom, one ruled by peace and love. This is why the angels could sing “peace on earth” at the birth of Jesus. This is why Jesus regularly greets others with the words “fear not”. This is why the Psalmist in Psalm 46 is able to write “therefore we will not fear though the earth gives away...”



The very Prince of Peace has already come and died for us, opening the gates of heaven to all who believe. The invite to His kingdom of peace is for all and we are made ready to join

Thanksgiving

Join us for Worship

Wednesday, November 27

@ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 28

@ 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve Worship

Tuesday, Dec. 24, at 4:00 p.m.& 7:00 p.m. Communion Services

Christmas Day Worship

Wednesday, Dec. 25, at 10:00 a.m.

New Year’s Eve Worship

Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 6:00 p.m..
w/Communion



that wondrous celebration by grace through faith.

Come as hear more about the answers to life's fears and the good news of our Lord's Gospel of peace this month of December:

Wed. Dec. 4 — No Fear of the Future — Psalm 112:6-8 *“For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever. He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the Lord. His heart is steady; he will not be afraid, until he looks in triumph on his adversaries”* This week we will recognize our inability to control tomorrow and the fears we harbor about the future. The Word will remind us that the incarnation, life, and ministry of Jesus means our future is secure and we have peace with God.

Wed. Dec. 11 — No Fear of Failure — Matthew 17:6-8 *“When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, ‘Rise, and have no fear.’ And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.”* This week we will address our problem of being consumed with worry about not being or doing enough. The Word will remind us that Christ meets us in our weakness and offers us mercy.

Wed. Dec. 18 — No Fear of Lack — Luke 12:32 *“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”* This week we will address the problem of our living in constant fear of not having or giving enough. The Word will remind us that in his advent, Christ brings with Him the promise of total provision. The Lord provides!

WINTER WEATHER

If Monroe Public Schools is cancelled due to weather, Weekday School, Ladies Society and Thursday Bible Study will not meet. Other groups and Church Boards should check with their leaders, during any weather event, to see if their meetings are still on. If the office is closed due to weather, a notice will be posted on the Grace Facebook page or the church website. The office will be working remotely on those days.



News about Our Members

August 24-November20, 2024

Baptisms:

Blake Scarlett Castiglione	Aug. 26
Rory Lee Carek	Nov. 17

Profession of Faith

Marcus & Amanda Sharp	Sept. 15
David Voggenreiter	Oct. 20

Transfer Ins

Jeth, Heather, Olivia, Abigail Ott from Trinity, Monroe	Oct. 10
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Marriage:

Jacob & Lauren Leidel	Sept. 28
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Funeral

Marie M. Hines	Aug. 30
Kayla Friederichs	Aug. 31
Mark C. Libstorff	Sept. 6
Prince K. Libstorff	Sept. 14
James Runyon, Jr.	Oct. 17
Audralee (Lee) Yoas	Oct. 21
Barbara J. Hehl	Oct. 24
Judith A. Miller	Nov. 1

Release from Membership

Jack & Sharon Price	Sept. 12
Melissa, Zachary, Maxton Clark	Sept 12

CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

We invite you to come and celebrate Christmas with your church family. On **Sunday, December 8th**, after the late service, we will fellowship together during a potluck lunch in the gym. The Board of Parish Life will be your host for this event. They ask that you please bring a dish to pass with A-L bringing a side dish and M-Z bringing a dessert. If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.



*After the fellowship, Grace Thrivent Volunteers will be going caroling to the shut-in's. If you would like to go, we will be leaving at approximately 2:00 p.m. Please sign up in the narthex.

Mitten Tree

The mitten tree will be up soon. Please, help us fill it with hats, mittens, gloves and scarves (new or gently used) to be given out to families in need.



GRACE ONLINE GIVING

Please help us grow through electronic giving. Giving online is fast, easy, and secure. Never worry about bringing your checkbook or cash again—you can set up recurring payments, so your donations continue even when you forget or are on vacation.

1. Visit our website at: www.gracelutheranmonroe.org
2. Locate the Give Online button.
3. Donate!

If you need help setting up your online account for electronic giving, please call the church office at (734) 242-1401 and talk to Margaret, she will help you set your account up.

To learn more about giving online or through our GivePlus mobile app, contact our church office.



MEMORY TREE

Christmas is a joyful season filled with church and family activities. Christmas can also be a sad time, missing the loved ones that have left us here on earth and are now spending time with Jesus. The Altar Guild will again be doing the Memory Christmas Tree this year. Beginning **December 1**, we would like you to bring an ornament that brings fond memories of your loved one(s), write their name on the provided tag and hang it on the tree in the Narthex. At the end of the season, you can take the ornament with you or leave it to be used next year. We pray that your tears will turn into smiles when you are reminded that your loved one is with Jesus this Christmas and someday you will see them again!

Stockings

Board of Evangelism will be making Adult stockings to give out to the shut-ins and to people who might need a little cheer in their lives. If you know of anyone who would like to receive a stocking, please contact JoAnn Bunge (734-755-0097)

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

Grace Lutheran Church is adopting a couple of families from Family Services Center and Paula's House to help with their Christmas. There are tags on the Christmas tree (by the balcony steps), for the family's needs. After purchasing the gift, you have the choice of wrapping the gift or just bringing the gift in by December 15th, but the tag needs to be returned with the gift. If you are interested in helping a family, please pick up a tag. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Sorter at sorter@hotmail.com or (734) 625-1766.

BIBLE STUDIES

Sunday Morning Bible Study starting at 9:15 a.m. in the gym.

Sunday School starts at 9:15 a.m. Preschool thru 5th grade meet in the fellowship hall; 6th thru 12th grade meets in the Youth Room, in the parish house basement.

IMPACT For all 9th grade through young adult-aged youth and friends on **Mondays** at 8 p.m.

Thursday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Classroom. Will meet November 21 and then be on hiatus till *Thursday, January 9, 2025*



Please notify the office of any changes in address , email, or telephone numbers.

Thank you.

NOVEMBER 2024

THE MESSENGER



Proclaiming God's *Grace*
through faith and love.

GRACE'S UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Nov. 27 Thanksgiving Eve Worship-7 p.m.
- Nov. 28 Thanksgiving Worship-10 a.m.
- Nov. 29 Office Closed
Altar Guild decorating church-10 a.m.
- Dec. 4, 11, 18 Advent Worship-11 a.m. (luncheon following) & 7 p.m.
- Dec. 8 Christmas Fellowship Potluck after 10:30 a.m. service
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve-4:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. w/Communion
- Dec. 25 Christmas Service-10 a.m.
- Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Service-6:00 p.m. w/Communion