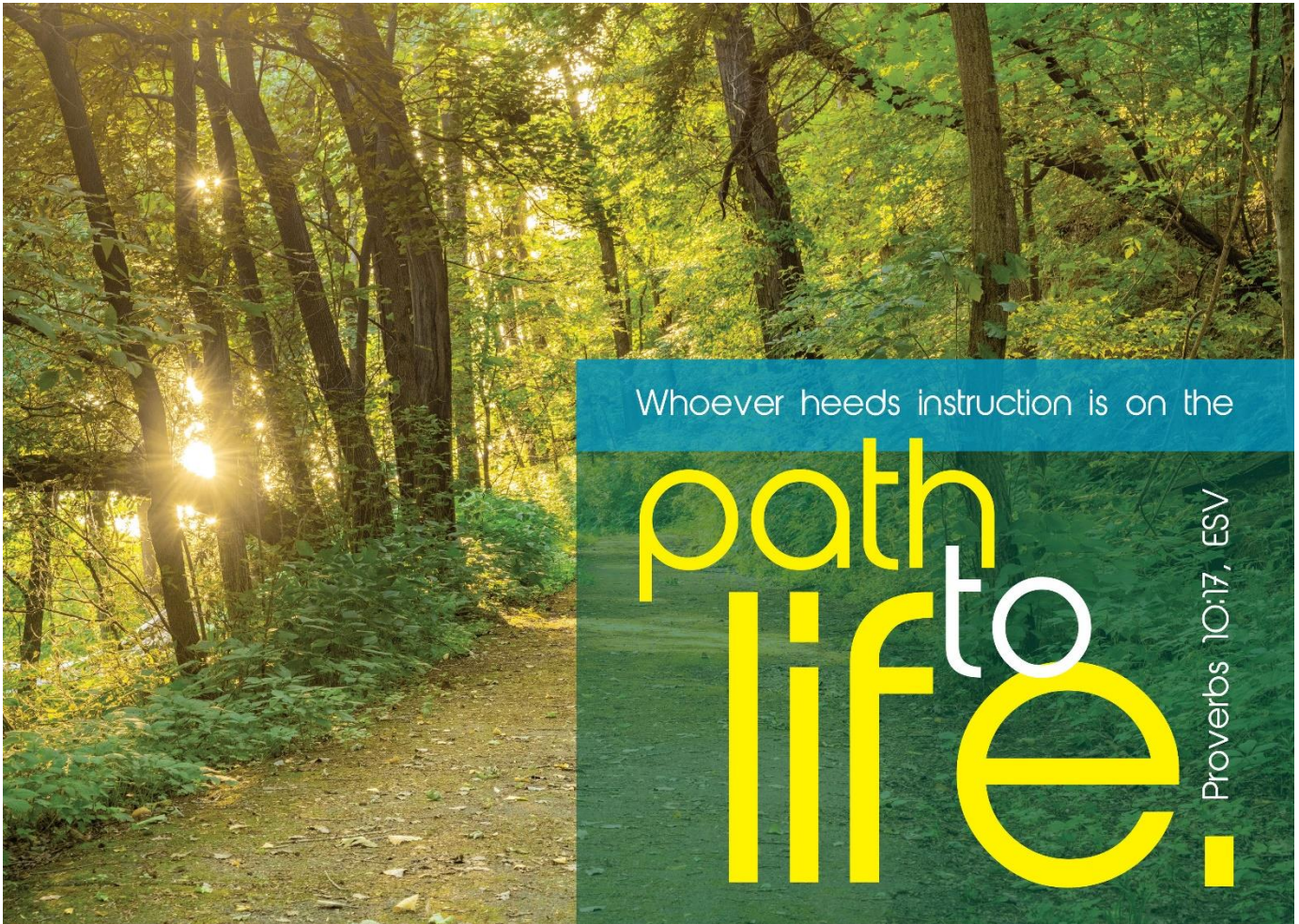




Tidings of Grace Weekly Newsletter

December 4, 2020



Verse of the Week Romans 15:4a

– **“For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction.”** God’s Word was given to us to bless us. The Bible warns us of our sin and points us to Christ for our salvation. The Bible also instructs us as to how to live out our Christians lives. This is the “third use of the Law.” As Christians we should welcome this instruction in humble faith. We know that Christ has saved us, and now we want to know how to live lives of faith that are pleasing to Him.

Office Email Address & Phone Pastor – Phil Hohulin: phohulin@hotmail.com Cell: 937-823-0403. Please contact Brenda to schedule an appointment with Pastor Phil.

Administrative Assistant – Brenda Crawford: gracewcsecretary@yahoo.com. Office: 937-859-3941.

Website Editor - Gary Petticrew: <http://www.gracelutheranwc.org>. Phone: 937-866-1285

December News

**Denotes updated information



****Thank you for all your prayers!** Patrick's surgery went perfectly and he has recovered quickly!! :) ~Kylene Terhune

****Remember tomorrow, Dec. 5, is the day to decorate the church for Christmas** starting at 9:00am. Helping a little is helping a lot!



NURSERY
Volunteers

****We are in need of nursery assistants for December 13, 24, and 27.**
Please call or text N'Anne Knight at 937-271-4512.

****Order forms for poinsettias will be in your bulletin this Sunday.** The cost is \$10 per plant. Please drop your completed order form, along with your payment, in the box at the back table. If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Gordon at 937-477-4893. **Due date for the order is Dec. 13th.**



****Please stop in the office for your Christmas gift from me!!** The tree in my office holds ornaments I made just for you. I had a wonderful time making them and thinking how blessed I am to be here. There is enough for every family to take one home. It is my way of saying thank you for making this such an enjoyable job!

~Merry Christmas~ Brenda.



**BENEVOLENCE
NEWS**

Questions about the following ministries?

Please contact Diane Jergens

(937)530-2573 or dmjergens11@gmail.com



****THERE IS STILL TIME TO FILL, DECORATE, AND DONATE A SHOEBOX.**

Filled boxes need to be at the church **no later than this Sunday, December 6**. Help provide a brighter Christmas for **children of Walter Shade**. These boxes will be delivered next week to the school principal to be distributed to families in need.

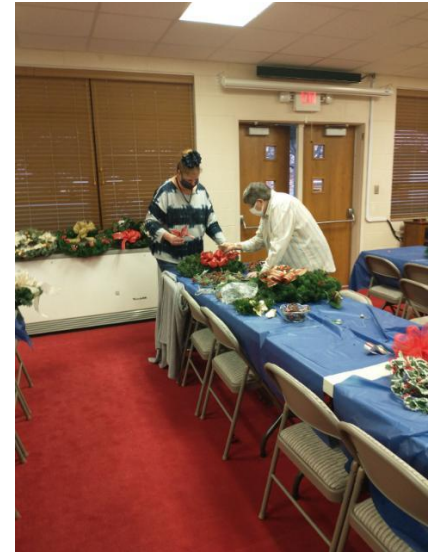
****BRING IN THE SCARFS, HATS, GLOVES, MITTENS, THROWS AND LIGHT WEIGHT BLANKETS** you have been collecting! These items can be hung on the **Mitten Tree** for Jeremiah's Letter. (Under the tree is fine too.) The donations will go to homeless in the Dayton area.



MIAMISBURG HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY. Take time out of your Sunday morning schedule and stop at the kitchen door to read over a wonderful thank you note from Helping Hands Food Pantry. There is also some great information about needed items like canned fruit, store brand cereal, and kidney beans for example. When doing your grocery shopping, throw in a few items off the posted list and drop them in the basket by the kitchen on Sunday morning. Miamisburg Helping Hands Food Pantry, serving Miamisburg and Moraine areas, is also in need of volunteers to help distribute the food at the pantry. If you are interested please call our contact, Barb, directly at (937)-866-9323 for information on how you can help.



****The wreath making event that was held on Nov. 19th went very well!** We finished a total of 26 Christmas wreaths to distribute to Canterbury Court and His Hope on Thursday, December 3. (We can only deliver them to the front door because of CoVid in the building.) Thanks to Shirley Gordon for organizing the wreath making, and to all who helped!



****Additional Benevolence Team News:**

We have adopted a family of five for Christmas from the Miami Valley Women's Center.
(Again, because of CoVid ,the gifts will be dropped off at the center's door.)



This has been a difficult year for all of us and I am personally missing all of you! Please stay safe and healthy. Our next Benevolence team meeting will be in January, 2021. Merry Christmas to all of our church family.

***Your grateful Benevolence team leader,
Diane Jergens***

Person of Grace

Susan Schmellenkamp



Waltham, Massachusetts is Susan's hometown. Susan is so enthusiastic talking about her work and contacts with others, so it is a surprise to hear that moving to Ohio was hard because she was shy about making friends. However, that was way back in second grade when her father took a job with Top Value (remember those stamps?) near Youngstown, Ohio. Susan grew into a social person and now she speaks enthusiastically about her work and about Grace church.

It was hard for her mother to leave Massachusetts because all her family lived there. In 1977 the family moved to Kettering. Susan was the only girl in a family with four boys — all of her brothers were in track at Kettering East and thought Susan had the build for it, too. She just did not have the interest. After high school graduation, she went on to get a degree in education at Wright State.

Susan met her husband, Hans, on a blind date arranged by mutual friends. He uses his master's degree in mechanical engineering in his work at WPAFB. He works for various contractors, and in these times, works from home.

They were married in Epiphany Lutheran Church in 1994 and *immediately* became involved there. Susan was a Catholic and Hans a Lutheran. They were looking for a church that they both were comfortable in attending and Epiphany was it. Their activities started with Susan in the altar guild, then she taught Sunday school and later they both worked with the youth group.

Susan taught lots of groups. She especially liked the younger ones to whom she told stories and helped them with crafts. She could see that parents liked giving their kids to her because the children obviously liked those times with her. For nine years she was the Children's Administrator at Epiphany.

Susan's father was strict about the family attending church every Sunday. After church was Sunday School and then home to a huge dinner. Susan's grandmother had cooked large Sunday dinners, and Susan's mom carried on the tradition while her children were home. Susan says, "My mom really, really enjoyed that time." Naturally, Susan loves to cook. Now her mother, who lives in a cottage at St. Leonard's, has major health issues, as she is in 4th stage kidney failure. Susan has stopped working in order to help her mother with dialysis appointments and other needs. Her father died in 2008.

When working, she is a substitute teacher for Centerville City Schools. She enjoys working with all age groups. She likes finding herself challenged with every student she teaches — young, old, physically disabled, mentally challenged, all.

In her own words:

"As an adult I find Jesus being more important in life. As I have become more involved over the years with church. I find God using me as a channel. I first became a youth leader, a mom, a childcare administrator, a teacher. I teach God's word through actions, through word and through example."

They have two children. The oldest is Elizabeth who is now starting on her career as a social worker. She finds she is especially drawn to helping the elderly and mentally disabled. If this sounds like Liz is taking after her mother, then please note that their son takes after his father. Their son, Joshua, recently graduated with a degree in computers and works for a financial consulting firm in North Carolina. Hans is an avid reader who takes breaks to work on his train layout. I don't know if Joshua is into trains, but what struck me as from father to son is that Joshua is also a reader (and likes reading the Bible daily).

Joshua sometimes says to his mother, "The grass looks long today." He knows she prays whenever mowing the lawn (and also when walking the dog). Joshua recognizes the help available in prayer, so he likes having her out mowing the lawn.

At Epiphany Susan paired up with Roseann Costantino to mentor a group of girls — two of their own and five others. There's is a good relationship, so when the Costantinos moved over to Grace Church, Roseann invited Susan who says, "Right off the bat it felt like a warm welcome." She says she is slowly getting involved because she does not yet know where God wants to use her at Grace.

Susan volunteers for TWIGs (Terrific Women in Giving) which is the auxiliary of Dayton Children's. We can see her heart to help others and her many talents in teaching and support activities. She pursues so many things. We welcome Susan and know she does not need to more active for us to see God's love in her.

by Marycarol



Online Prayer Meeting: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:00p.m.

Online Bible Study: Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Scripture list to be emailed. Contact the office to be added to the emailing.

Online Worship Services: Visit our website for recorded services and our live Sunday services <http://www.gracelutheranwc.org/>

Join Zoom Meetings

Tuesday/Thursday PRAYER MEETING:

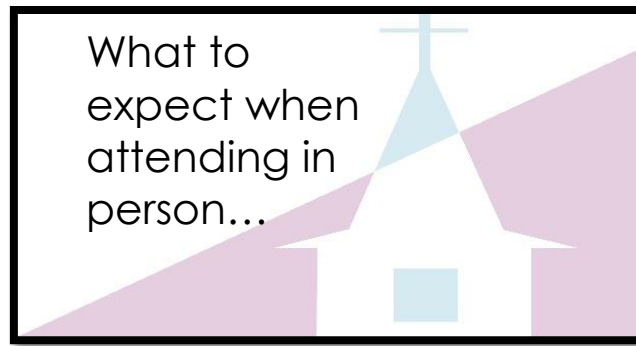
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/642038709?pwd=OVI1cjg3dE9KSytodHFaclduZmFSQT09>

Meeting ID: 642 038 709; Password: 003895.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/595370970?pwd=MGQzK0VVZXkwUFF4VzJ6aXJjMGhTQT09>

Weekday prayer meeting—Meeting ID: 595 370 970; Password: 023793.



The following procedures have been put in place for Sunday Morning Worship

- 1. Hand Sanitizer.** Two containers are available in each row.
- 2. Seating:** We will place signs in alternating rows of pews prohibiting people from sitting in them. Our congregation will be asked to sit with fellow family members only in their row. Congregants will be encouraged to sit in the balcony and on the side naves if needed.
- 3. Passing of the Peace:** Non-contact signs of greeting those with whom one is not domiciled will be strongly encouraged during the passing of the peace.
- 4. Offering:** The offering plates will be located in the sanctuary prior to the service where we used to pick up our communion cups (see number 5 below for revised communion procedures). The ushers will not pass the plate. Worshippers will place their offering envelop in the plate as they go forward to receive communion. Ushers will then take the plates to the office following the service.
- 5. Communion:** During communion, the pastor will consecrate the elements as per our usual practice. He will commune two Eucharistic assistants and then they will each carry three trays from the altar to small tables (the ones which now hold our empty cups) located along the communion rail. Instead of receiving communion in tables and kneeling at the rail, we will do the following:
 - a. The ushers will direct people forward one row at a time.
 - b. Pastor will stand at the center and distribute the wafers to each communicant.
 - c. After receiving the wafer, communicants will move to a table located on the side of the sanctuary where they were sitting. The eucharistic assistants will have placed trays with pre-filled cups on those tables after the pastor has communed them. The communicant will take a cup from the tray. (The communion cups will be spaced apart to prevent worshippers from inadvertently touching someone else cup.) A communion assistant will stand six feet behind the table and say the words "The blood of Jesus shed for you."
 - d. After receiving the wine / juice, the communicant will turn from the table and deposit their empty cup in the basket as per our usual procedure.
 - e. After one row has received the wine, the usher will direct the next row to come forward to receive the elements.
 - f. We will continue our practice of making gluten free wafers and grape juice available.
- 6. Choir / Special Music:** Due to the proximity needed for a choir to sing effectively and the difficulties presented when attempting to sing while wearing a mask, we are considering having soloists and instrumentalists provide special music. We will constantly re-evaluate this on a regular basis and hope to allow the choir to return to its vital role in our worship service as soon as possible.
- 7. Children's Moment:** We believe it is unwise to have the children come up front and sit in close proximity to children from other homes. Therefore, the pastor will conduct the children's moment but ask the children to remain seated in their seats. The pastor will stand up front instead of sit down and speak to the children.
- 8. Gospel processional:** Because the processional will likely bring the pastor within closer proximity to some of our members, we will dispense with it until there is a vaccine for the coronavirus.
- 9. Post-worship pastoral greeting:** Ushers will dismiss each row following the worship service. Wearing a mask, the pastor will stand in the narthex to greet worshippers at a safe social distance. He will not shake the hands of parishioners.
- 10. Livestreaming of worship services:** Because many in our congregation are in an at-risk category, we will livestream our worship services for those who wish to remain at home.



December Servant Schedule

9:00 service

Cantor: Kylene Terhune

10:30 Service

Assistant Minister

Dec 6 N'Anne Knight
Dec 13 Sandy Rice
Dec 20 Joe Costantino
Dec 27 N'Anne Knight

Lector

Aaron Mood
Shirley Schryver
Samee Mood
Donna Tucker

Cantor

Roseann Costantino
Cynthia Michael
Erika Wattrick
Roseann Costantino

Nursery

Dec 6 Wanda & Kylene
Dec 13 Lexi & Deb
Dec 20 Wanda & N'Anne
Dec 24 Rachel & Lexi
Dec 27 Lexi & Rachel

Sunday, December 6th Servants

Sermon: Pastor Phil Hohulin

Greeter/Usher: Bob and Jean Wheeler

Communion: Shirley Gordon & N'Anne Knight

Children's Nursery:

Choir Director: Cynthia Michael

Organist: Aaron Mood

Pianist: Samee Griffith-Mood

Violinist: Bill Slusser



- 2- Jim Wattrick
- 10 - Carol Edwards
Nathan Pfeiffer
- 15 - Doug Reed
- 17 - Rudy Oliver
- 23 - Marycarol Pretorius
Mike Rice
- 26 - Ted Popoff
- 29 - Rick Schairbaum

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00 AM Early Service 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 10:31 AM Livestream Available Through Website 12:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	30	1 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	2 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom	3 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	4	5 9:00 AM Church Decorating 10:00 AM Men's Fellowship
6 Shoe Box Ministry-boxes due 9:00 AM Early Service 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 10:31 AM Livestream Available Through Website	7	8 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	9 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom	10 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	11 12:00 PM Worship Team Meeting	12
13 9:00 AM Early Service 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 10:31 AM Livestream Available Through Website	14	15 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	16 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom	17 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	18	19 10:00 AM Men's Fellowship
20 9:00 AM Early Service 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 10:31 AM Livestream Available Through Website	21 6:30 PM Council Meeting	22 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	23 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom	24 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service	25	26
27 9:00 AM Early Service 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 10:31 AM Livestream Available Through Website	28	29 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	30 7:00 PM Bible Study via Zoom	31 4:00 PM Prayer Meeting Via Zoom	1	2 10:00 AM Men's Fellowship

Our Member's Prayer Concerns:

*Denotes Grace Member

- *Lynda Bragg—continued recovery (Pastor Phil)
- *Linda Hooghe—continued recovery (Becky Reinhart)
- *Diane Jergens—healing (Pastor Phil)
- Pam & Allen Smith**—healing for Allen after stroke (Julie Hohulin)
- Brian Smith**—needing double lung transplant (Matt Pfeiffer)
- Tim Scott**—healing (John Michael)
- Bishop John**—healing from fall (Becky Reinhart/Kristi Bradosky)
- Matthew Reed**—diagnosed with Bells Palsy (Doug and Mary Kay Reed)
- Rusty O’Ryan**—recovery (Barb Baker)
- Rod & Michelle Martin**—healing (Annemarie Stein)
- Averie**—healing (Janice Mathile)
- Robert Schultz**—healing from heart surgery (Bill Slusser)
- Sally and Paul**—healing (Cynthia Michael)
- Alicia**—protection and guidance (Cynthia Michael)
- Carolyn Greene**—upcoming heart surgery (Joyce Mears)
- Barry Becker**—cancer (Joyce Mears)
- ***Georgene Bonsteel**—healing and comfort
- ***John Moore**—comfort and healing (Marsha Wombold)
- Samuel and Sarah Robertson's family**—comfort in trying times (Aaron Mood)
- Debbie**—comfort (Shirley Schryver)
- Steve Placke**—stent surgery (Shirley Schryver)
- Chris Sell**—healing from severe stroke (Shirley Gordon)
- Meg and baby**—continued health (Jim and Erika Wattrick)
- ***Dallas Mathile**—healing (Janice Mathile)
- Robin Jergens**—healing and comfort (Diane Jergens)
- Dr. John Fleishman**—upcoming back surgery (Joyce Mears)
- Ava**—healing and comfort (Julie Hohulin)
- ***Gary and Nancy Johnson**—healing
- Jennifer Jergens**—healing and comfort (Diane Jergens)
- Nancy Newell & James Newell**—protection from illness (John Newell)
- Katharine Wattrick**—healing (Erika Wattrick)
- Susie F.**—recovery from Covid (Leslie Jackson)
- Eddie Smalley**—healing from cancer (N’Anne Knight)
- Michael Wiseman**—healing (N’Anne Knight)
- Tom Gustin**—healing (N’Anne Knight)
- Neva Smalley**—healing (N’Anne Knight)



Family and Friends in our Hearts:

Ryan Morgan (Mary Kay Reed), **Paul Yeager** (The Yeager's), **Dorothy Pace** (Gretchen Walther)

Those with Continuing Health Concerns:

Janet Dovayak (Shirley Pappas), **Sally Fiste** (N'Anne Knight), **Joe Costantino Sr.** (Joe Costantino), **Farralee Baldwin** (Becky Reinhart), **Mary Welker** (Sandy Rice), **Georgene Bonsteel** (Becky Reinhart), **Fran McDaniel** (Roseann Costantino), **Robin Connellee** (N'Anne Knight), **Cindy Puskar** (Becky Reinhart), **Gary Rothermel** (Annemarie Stein), **Yvonne Becker** (Joyce Mears), **Clayton Daniels** (Cassie Pfeiffer), **Harry Wright and Family** (Aaron Mood), **Pam Mehlhorn**, **Barbara Baker** (Pastor Phil), **Camille Evans**(Cynthia Michael) **Mike Stein** (Shirley Schryver), **Martha Williamson** (Roseann Costantino), **John Moore**(Cynthia Michael), **Nancy Bruggeman**(Cynthia Michael), **Janet Zerger**(Cynthia Michael) **Judy Yeager**(Shirley Pappas), **Natalie**(Gisela), **MacKenzie Aitken** (Lea Ravlin)

Those Confined to Care:

Lois Costantino (Joe Costantino)

Those Serving in the Military:

Josh Weiland, **Cian Morgan**, **Zach Ravlin** (Lea Ravlin), **Matthew Spence** (Lea Ravlin), **Tyler Dovayak** (Shirley Pappas)



****We received the following update from Gary Johnson:**

Please remove Faith Crouch from the prayer list. She received her lung transplant in September but we have been praying for a quick healing. I do want to provide a message from her sister that was written about 2 or 3 days after the lung transplant:

"Couldn't have had a better end to an extremely long day. Talked to Faith Alanna on the phone for about an hour. The little (BIG) things I've noticed since her transplant:

🌸 she has her beautiful porcelain skin tone back for the time in years, and rosy cheeks too ❤️,

🌸 this is the first conversation I've had with her (in probably 5-7 years) longer than 5 minutes where she hasn't had a complete coughing attack and have to completely stop our conversation until she catches her breath again; she didn't even cough one time ❤️,

🌸 she talks about life with a certainty of her future and not a certainty of death and all the things she will miss,

🌸 and above all; although her body is "being restored", her spirit is bright, happy and positive. Tonight I Thank God for the blessings and opportunities placed upon my sister and our family."