



Grace Newsletter

January 2025



Congregational Meeting—

Our first meeting for 2025 will be on Sunday, January 12th after church service. Our main agenda item is to approve the budget for 2025. Please bring a dish to share. If you last name begins with: A-F a dessert, G-L a meat, M-Se a hot side dish, Sh-Z a salad. See you there!

Note: Officers will be installed during church service.



Year-end Board Reports—

All Boards and Organizations, please have your year-end reports submitted to graceonkimball@gmail.com no later than Monday, January 6. The annual report will be distributed at the meeting on the 12th.



Church Officers for 2025—

- Chairman: Chuck Stadick
- Recording Secretary: Dee Volk
- Financial Secretary: Mike Pierce
- Treasurer: Ken McIntyre

Thanks to each of you for serving Grace another year!

Thank you—

The family of Erma Ledington would like to thank Pastor Gullidge, Hope Farrell, Lorene Schuster, LWML and all who helped in the Celebration of Life for Erma. All the cards, letters and flowers were much appreciated. If you liked the service, Erma picked out all the scripture readings and the hymns. We took the flowers to Autumn Winds for the residents to enjoy. Erma loved her church family very much, and so do we.

Dick & Peggy Ledington and Charles & Betty Ledington



You are welcome to bring in flowers for the sanctuary; for in memory of, in honor or, or just because. If you would like to participate, please sign up on the flower calendar. The 2025 calendar is ready to go and is located outside Lynnette's office. You may bring in either one or two cut or potted flowers as there are two shelves available to set them on. We also offer the option for people to donate to a flower fund that will cover the cost of flowers for those Sunday's when there are no sign-ups. Just indicate that your donation is for the flower fund. You may also request that the church order the flowers for you at your expense. Please contact Patti Lawson if you would like this option and be sure to still sign up on the calendar for that Sunday.

Thank you—

Greetings, Family of Grace Lutheran Church!

My family and I wanted to write a little note to say "thank you" for the gifts, goodies, cards, and wishes for both my birthday and Christmas that we have received. We are so blessed to be part of such a wonderful family.

We look forward to getting to know each of you better in 2025. From our family to each of you, we pray that God will grant you His peace, love, joy, and guidance throughout the remainder of the Christmas Season and 2025!

*Your Brother and Sisters in Christ,
Pastor, Christa, and the Girls*

Joshua 24:15

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“A New Name & A New Year”

What’s with a name? We were very particular when Christa and I picked our four daughters' names. Their first and middle names had to be two syllables each, and “lene” or “leen” had to be used somewhere in their name. Therefore, our daughters ended up with those two things, from the oldest down to the youngest. Are we the only individuals particular about names? I would have to say “no.”

When God gives a name, He has a plan in mind. In the Bible, God gave names to various things and individuals. When He created everything, He named things like day, night, sky, land, and the seas. He entrusts this naming ability to Adam. However, later on in Genesis, we hear that God continues to give names. This time, He gives them to people. This was true for the first patriarch, Abram, and his wife, Sarai, who God had promised a child in the nations of the earth were blessed. Therefore, thirteen years after Ishmael was born, God reaffirmed His covenant with His servant named Abram. Unlike other previous times, this time, God gave him both a sign; in this case, it was circumcision as well as changing his name. We were told about three name changes in Genesis 17. In verse 5, Abram, meaning "high father," became known as Abraham, meaning "father of a multitude." Later in verse 15, God also changed this man’s wife, Sarai’s name, meaning "my princess," to Sarah, meaning "mother of nations." God was retelling Abraham that He would give him a son through Sarah. Even this son of theirs, Isaac, was given the name by God because this old couple laughed at the thought of having a child of 100 and 90. As a result, in verses 17:18-19, we were told that this promised son would be named “Isaac.” It means “he laughs.” And even the last of the patriarchs named Jacob, which means “heel grabber” or “usurper,” has his name by the Lord. In Genesis 32:28, what occurred after this one wrestling with God one evening. His name was changed to “Israel,” which means “a man who wrestles with God.” God named each one for a specific purpose.

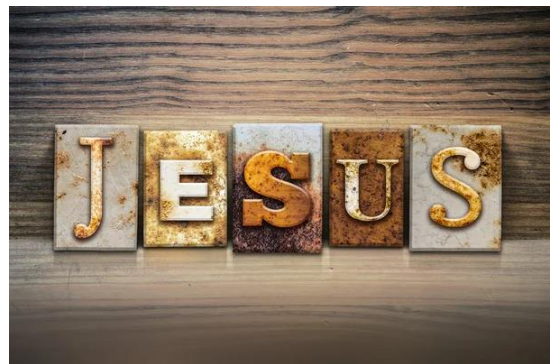
Why do I mention these names that God gave people? On January 1st, the church remembers the Promised One who comes from this family line and is given his name by the Lord. Hear these words again from the verse directly before last week’s Gospel Reading, Luke 2:21, “And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.”

And Jesus lived up to His name of Jesus, which means “Ya saves.” Jesus saves us people from our sins and eternal condemnation. We are now forgiven and granted eternal life and the wedding banquet.

And it is due to Jesus and all that He has done, that our name changed. Hear these words of the prophet Isaiah, 62:1-5, “For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem’s sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow. You will be a crown of splendor in the Lord’s hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the Lord will take delight in you, and your land will be married. As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you.” Unlike cities that are given new names after being conquered or when they are rebuilt, people are renamed to signify they are a new authority or to confirm covenant promises. And that is what is going on with her. God, through Jesus, has made us His “holy people” and “Yahweh’s redeemed people,” as well as “Sought After” and “A City Not Abandon.” This renaming signifies a new relation between the Lord and His people.

Therefore, as we embark on this new year, go forward with our Triune God that has made us His people when we were baptized “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” and goes with us in whatever we face.

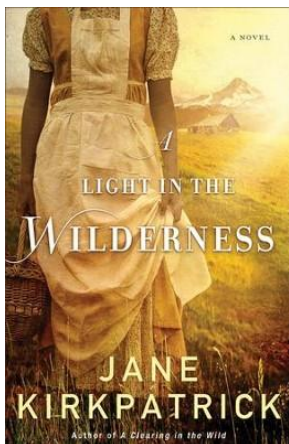
Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Jason Gullidge





Our next gathering of Grace Book Club is on Sunday, January 26 at 6:30 m. We will be discussing "A Light in the Wilderness" by Jane Kirkpatrick. Meeting place TBD.

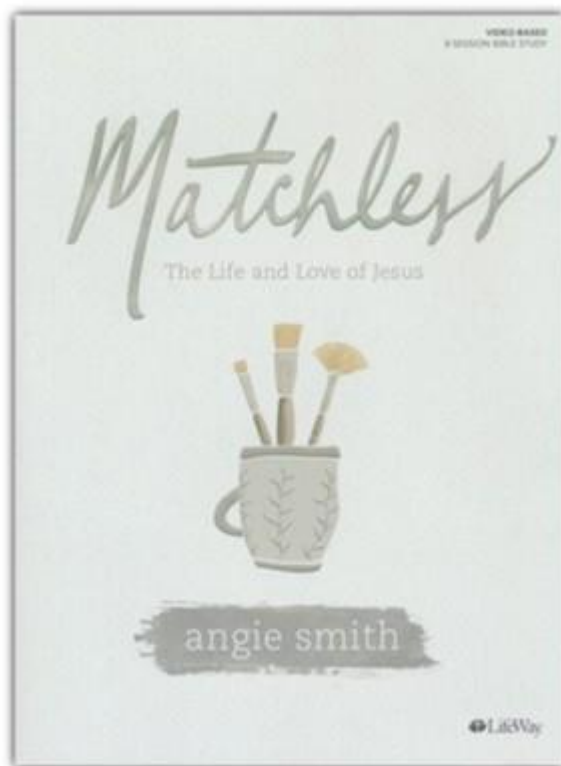
A summary: Letitia holds nothing dearer than the papers that prove she is no longer a slave. They may not cause white folks to treat her like a human being, but at least they show she is free. She trusts in those words she cannot read--as she is beginning to trust in Davey Carson, an Irish immigrant cattleman who wants her to come west with him. Nancy Hawkins is loathe to leave her settled life for the treacherous journey by wagon train, but she is so deeply in love with her husband that she knows she will follow him anywhere--even when the trek exacts a terrible cost. Betsy is a Kalapuya Indian, the last remnant of a once proud tribe in the Willamette Valley in Oregon territory. She spends her time trying to impart the wisdom and ways of her people to her grandson. But she will soon have another person to care for. As season turns to season, suspicion turns to friendship, and fear turns to courage, three spirited women will discover what it means to be truly free in a land that makes promises it cannot fulfill.



All women are welcome to join us for a heartfelt discussion and a glass of wine! If you have any questions, call Hope at (208) 405-6080.

Women's Evening Bible Study Group—

We will begin this study, Tuesday, January 7th at 6:00 p.m. We will meet in the upstairs conference room at the church. The cost of the book is \$14.00.

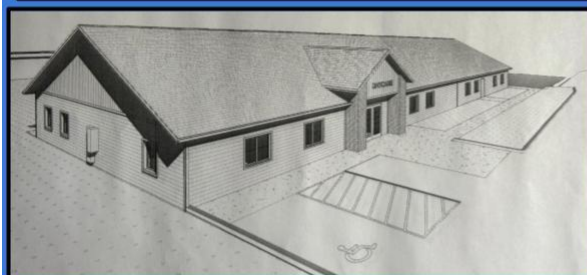


THE AUCTION COMMITTEE for the April fundraiser is seeking personal items from the members of our congregation to be donated and auctioned off at the 1st annual Grace Lutheran Church, Preschool, & Childcare Center fundraiser on Saturday, April 5th, 2025. These items to be auctioned might be: a cabin in the woods, a wine paring meal for 8, water color lessons, party baskets, personalized art, etc. Additionally, if you have something nice that is unused or unwanted around your home, we would be glad to consider it for the auction. If you have any ideas for this type of auction item or you know someone who would be willing to donate, please notify Greg King or Janet Brooks.

Mark Your Calendars!

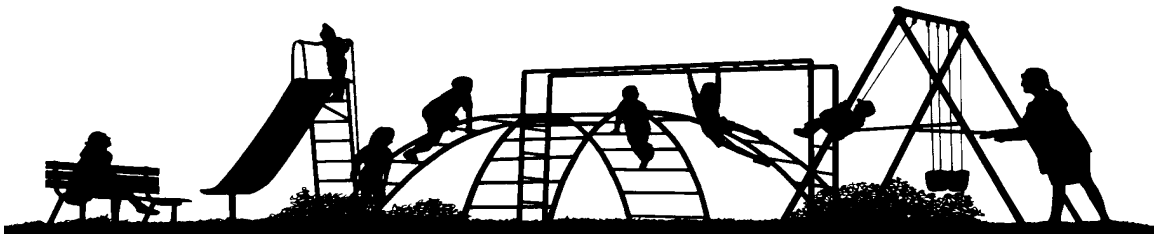
Saturday, April 5th

Contact the church office or Lynnette for donations!



Dinner Auction Located at Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church

Grace Lutheran
Childcare Center
Dinner Auction
Fundraiser



Preschool News!

4-Year-Old Class

December was focused on celebrating Jesus and learning about the journey Mary & Joseph had to make to Bethlehem and his birth. We also learned about the shepherds and wise men visiting him. Our kiddos worked hard to learn songs for their Jingle Bells Christmas program. We decorated the sanctuary with crafts that looked like a snow globe, wreaths as well as pretend Christmas lights and a faux stained-glass window of the nativity scene. We had tons of fun making Christmas crafts like pinecone Christmas tree, a directed drawing of a reindeer, and a super-secret present for our parents. We had our first family project and the children created a paper stocking to share with the class and hang by our "fire place!" We celebrated our last week of school before break with fun dress up days, a birthday cupcake for Jesus and a gift exchange for our kiddos. Our learning focus was on the letters W-K, the numbers 10-11, the oval shape, and the color green.

December Bible Verses: Do not be afraid, you have found favor with God. - Luke 1-3 & A Savior has been born. - Luke 2:11. Bible Stories: Angels visit Mary & Joseph, Mary visits Elizabeth, Jesus is born, Shepherds see the Star & Wise Men visit. For bible crafts we made a beautiful angel to remind us of the angels visit, a manger with baby Jesus on a star, a candy cane to represent "J" for Jesus and the shepherd's staff and we made a three wisemen craft.

Reminder: Classes resume on January 6, 2025!!

We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!!

Ms. Amanda & Ms. Cheri

3-Year-Old Class

December was filled with so much fun learning about the Nativity and our Bible verse was: "Jesus has been born for you" Luke 2:11. We learned about Joseph, the angel Gabriel that came to Mary to deliver a very important message, about being afraid and Mary trusting God, being thankful for gifts, the Wise Men's gifts, and especially the gift of Jesus as God's gift to us. We made an angel ornament with baby Jesus for them to take home and hang on their tree, and an angel adorned with feathers in their colors of choosing. We decorated a Christmas tree ornament, worked on your very special presents, and our days were filled with so much fun learning and simply celebrating Jesus all month long. Several kiddos had their family come see our Christmas Program which brought us much joy with the excitement of their enthusiasm to RING THOSE CHRISTMAS BELLS! Thank you to everyone for supporting your child's education and their special events.

The highlight ending December was with decorating their very own Gingerbread houses, our surprise book exchange, and a birthday party complete with cake for Jesus!

We are very grateful for the many gifts graciously and thoughtfully given to us and send our thanks and gratitude for your kindness. We were abundantly blessed, "THANK YOU!"

We are eager to see what the New Year brings for each of your little ones who are growing and learning more and more every day. Our letters last month were Kk and Ww, the shape was an oval, the color was green and we reviewed the numbers 1-11.

We can't wait to see you all back on Tuesday, January 7th. 

Ms. Andrea & Ms. Martha



Next meeting is Monday, January 6th at 6:00 p.m. downstairs in the fellowship hall. All women are welcome to join. Lorene is hosting and providing our devotion. Contact Carla Shields if you have any questions.



Returning God's Blessings

Two long-time friends, both now widowed, were having lunch as they typically do the fourth week of every month. Ruth and Sarah were talking about family. Ruth shared, "Ever since my daughter got married, her new husband has separated her from me, and I never see her. I don't even get to talk to her. Inconsistently I get a birthday card or Christmas card from her. I'm thinking of removing her from my will." "I am so sorry," Sarah responded. "That must be painful. You two were so close when she was growing up. Removing her from the will seems pretty drastic. Dare I say, it seems final. Are you ready to give up on her? What do you hope to accomplish by doing that?" Ruth sighed and said, "I don't know what I really want. I am just so hurt and sometimes I want to hurt back. But I know that's not what the Lord wants me to do. I just need someone with whom to discuss this." "Have you met with Pastor about this?" "Yes, a couple of years ago. But my hurt seems to be getting worse." "Well set up an appointment with him. I know he has really helped me with the Lord's encouragement on multiple occasions. Here's another thing. Maybe an LWML Gift Planning Counselor could help you redirect your hurtful action into something more positive. Why don't you give her a call?" Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor stands ready to assist you in putting together a faithful plan from your estate, even weaving through difficult family challenges. For support, contact Lois Anderson at loisandersonlwml@gmail.com

PRAYERS

Prayer requests—

Please submit your requests for prayer by phone (208) 459-4191 or by email to graceonkimball@gmail.com. Also, please note that not all members are on our prayer request distribution/contact list.

[If you would like to be notified of prayer requests that come into our office, from and for our members](#)

[please ask to be put on the "prayer chain" email distribution list.](#) This list is different from our "general" distribution list.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



If you do not keep your Portals of Prayer books, please consider returning the books to the church. They will be distributed in the future as part of prison ministry. There is a box in the entryway to place them in



Keep in our Prayers—

We pray God's healing, care and comfort for those dealing with:

Cancer – Sharon Andrews, Dana Brooks, Patrick Knee, Don Southard, Teresa Owens, Dave Vorderstrasse, Wayne Snavelly, Jerry Bengtson, Jim Nelson, Penny Storms Jeffries, Gary Olufson, Jerry Shaffer, Denise Shaffer, Doris Powell, Dave Koontz, Patti Wood

*Liver – Bryant Neal
Heart–Brook Van Leuven, Janice Beaudry, Gregg Nanninga (on heart transplant list)
Mental health – David Ledington
Deaths – Erma Ledington, Jana Coffman*

We also remember and pray for our homebound members – Janice Beaudry, Jerry Bengtson, Jack Carter, Mel Clausen, Margaret Edmiston, Rayaline Hartsock, Flo Hopkins, Gail Meyer, Irene Pedro, and Charles & Paula Row.

Grace Lutheran Childcare Center—

October 2, 2024 – Construction Started

December – furnaces installed, sheetrock finished, outside brick placed and trenches dug.



January 2025

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
John 16:33: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world"			1 New Year's Day	2 Bulletin Deadline	3	4 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.
Preschool – Winter Break						
5 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion No Confirmation Class 6:00 pm Youth Groups	6 Preschool 4s 6:00 p.m. Concordia Circle LWML	7 Preschool 3s & 4s 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study	8 Preschool 4s Bulletin Deadline	9 Preschool 3s & 4s 1:00 pm Crafters 5:00 pm Board of Stewardship & Finance 6:00 p.m. Council	10	11 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.
12 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship No Confirmation Class Potluck & Voter's Meeting 6:00 pm Youth Groups	13 Preschool 4s	14 Preschool 3s & 4s 11:30 am Preschool Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study 6:00 pm Board of Elders	15 Preschool 4s Bulletin Deadline	16 Preschool 3s & 4s 9:15 am Preschool Partners 9:30 am Preschool Chapel 9:50 am Pre-K Buddies 1:00 pm Crafters	17	18 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.
19 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Holy Communion 12:15 pm Confirmation Class 6:00 pm Youth Groups	20 Dr. Martin Luther King Day No preschool Newsletter Deadline	21 Preschool 3s & 4s 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study	22 Preschool 4s Bulletin Deadline	23 Preschool 3s & 4s 1:00 pm Crafters	24	25 9:00 am Group Bible Fellowship at a member's home.
26 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship 12:15 pm Confirmation Class 6:00 pm Youth Groups 6:30 pm Grace Book Club	27 Preschool 4s	28 Preschool 3s & 4s 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study	29 Preschool 4s Bulletin Deadline	30 Preschool 3s & 4s 1:00 pm Crafters	31	