
THE LIVING GRACE NEWSLETTER

Issue 14

December 2024

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408



This is ONLY possible because of all of you!!!! We surpassed our goal!!! This is such an incredible ministry and we pray for each of these boxes as they reach children all over the world. We pray they feel the love of Jesus through these boxes. You all are amazing and we can't thank you enough for making this possible!!!! What should next years goal be?????





The Bulletin Board

Fairless Food Cupboard

The Fairless Food Cupboard is always taking donations of any nonperishable items, but for the month of December we are focusing on laundry detergent, canned green beans and corn, as well as any nonperishable food items.

Operation Christmas Child

We are collecting items each month for Operation Christmas Child. For the month of December, we are asking for prayers, prayers and more prayers. It is unbelievable how many boxes we were able to do this year and it is all thanks you all! Thank you!!

An Hour of Prayer

The prayer group meets on Thursday at 10:00am. Together, we share scriptures, devotions, joys, concerns, and experiences. We laugh, cry and sometimes even sing together! More important, as we pray, we are growing in a closer relationship with God and as a family in the body of Christ. Please join us, and experience God's grace together. We hope you are able to join us!!!!

Communion Schedule

Below is the Communion Steward Schedule for 2024.

12/24=TaJuana West

12/29=Ashley Lynch

(Please contact Toni Derus if you need to reschedule)

The Widow's Ministry

The Widow's Ministry is in the start up phase of serving so if you or anyone you know is in need of any kind of help please contact Tim Mihal or the church office. This could be anything as simple as grocery pick up, raking leaves, seasonal decorating to the big things like housework, laundry, home projects or repairs. Please let us know if we can be of service to anyone.

Upcoming Church Events

- December 22nd = Kidz Program during Church Service & Birthday Party for Jesus immediately after
- December 24th = Christmas Eve Service 8pm with Communion & Candles
- January 11th = take down Greens 10am
- January 11th = Bingo & Chili cookoff with Cinnamon Rolls for dessert (judging for chili only) 5pm
- February 1st = (tentative date) Clue event/fund raiser put on by Youth
- February 8th = Preparing of Super Bowl Subs Fund Raiser for Youth pick up after church service Sunday 9th
- May 10th = packing of rice packets for missions 10am-2pm

Living Grace Sports Fellowship

We are starting a sports fellowship! The goal is to foster connections & build relationships by periodically playing a variety of sports in an environment that is welcoming to people of all ages and skills. Initially, we are thinking of the following sports: flag football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, golf, and more to come. Join us whenever and for whatever you want! If you are interested, please complete the contact form on our website.

Leadership Directory

Please check out page 8 of this newsletter. I'm sorry it is so small but that is a lot of information to try and get on one page. This is the most up to date leadership directory for 2025. This way you can see who leads what committee and who is on those committees. If you see a spot you would like to volunteer for please let me know asap. Also, if you see your name on here and you wish to no longer serve in this way please let me know that as well. Thanks everyone!!!

tithes & offering

Worship the Lord in Giving



Stewardship Report...

Date	11/3/24	Date	11/10/24
Attendance	P- 125 OL- 52	Attendance	P- 108 OL - 44
Offering	\$5,715.76	Offering	\$3,357.50
Date	11/17/24	Date	11/24/24
Attendance	P- 108 OL- 55	Attendance	P - 102 OL- 56
Offering	\$4,102.08	Offering	\$

Total Operating Expenses: \$ 209,560.00
 Finances Needed Per Week: \$ 4,352.45

Special thanks to Cadyn & Jenna McKelvey who do our church sign out front. Jen Troyer & Nicole Denney who do all the bulletin boards in the church. You all do a **WONDERFUL JOB!!**

Weekly Sermons can be accessed on our Facebook page as well as the church YouTube channel.

Those Serving our church in December.....

December Media Technicians

12/1 Tyler	12/8 David
12/15 Hunter & Jason	12/22 Jason
12/24 Tyler	12/29 David

December Door Watch

12/1 Russ Mathias	12/8 Paul Werstler
12/15 TaJuana West	12/22 Matt Miller
12/24 Tyler L.	12/29 Persephone L.

December Scripture Reader

12/1 Phil Glasgow	12/8 Cadyn McKelvey
12/15 Patricia Kling	12/22 Russ Mathias
12/29 Phil Glasgow	

December Kidz Church Helpers

12/1 Trudy Kukuk	12/8 Mike McKelvey
12/15 Jessi, Cali & Macy	12/22 Cadyn McKelvey
12/29 Family Worship	

December Sunday School Teachers

K - 2: Cadyn & Sarah	3 - 4: The Stacys
5 - 8: Tim Mihal	High School: Sherri Kandel
Adult class: Pastor Carl	Nursery: N/A

December Greeter - N/A

December Ushers - Mike M. Andrew M. Joe K. (alt. Quentin L)

December Card Ministry - Mary Beth Pumneo

December Communion Stewards -

12/24 TaJuana 12/29 Ashley

missions

our backyard and beyond



We ended up preparing and shipping 408 Operation Christmas Child gift boxes! Thanks to all who helped by donating items for the boxes, making the doll blankets and hacky sacks (some of our WOW gifts) sorting the donations, packing the boxes and financing this outreach.

Over 50 people helped pack the boxes at the packing party and enjoyed the hot dogs and walking tacos provided by Kendel. Special thanks to Jennifer and Nicole, the OCC project leaders, and Vickie Sampsel, Western Stark County OCC Coordinator.

The December Mission Offering will go to the shipping fee of \$10 per box. The \$10 suggested donation for Operation Christmas Child (OCC) shoeboxes covers the costs of collecting, processing, and shipping the gifts to over 170 countries and the cost of ministry materials like The Greatest Gift Gospel Booklet and The Ministry Partner Guide. The boxes were taken to Calvary Baptist Church in Massillon, the first step on the journey to a young child's heart. Please keep in prayer safe travel for the boxes and for the children who will receive them and find the real meaning of Christmas, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior!

For the Fairless Food Cupboard we are seeking donations of laundry detergent and canned green beans and corn. Donations of any personal hygiene products, nonperishable food items and cleaning products are always accepted.

The St Pauly used clothing shed accepts all used clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases (NO PILLOWS), curtains and stuffed toys. Tell your family and friends about our ST Pauly used clothing shed.

The Mitten Tree is up and waiting for donations. New hats, mittens, scarves, and ear muffs are accepted.

All donations will go to local children.

Thank you for your continued support of Missions!
God bless and Merry Christmas!

GROUP 412

KNOW | LIVE | LOVE

*Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.
1 Timothy 4:12*

LIVING GRACE YOUTH MINISTRY

livinggracecc.org/youth | youth@livinggracecc.org

We are approaching the end of the year quickly. Be sure to stay updated with all our resources (website, GroupMe, Bulletin Board, Youth white board). To join the GroupMe communication app, click the link: [Join GroupMe](#)

As a reminder, beginning Wednesday January 8th, Group412 Youth will meet every Wednesday from 5:30-7pm. The intention and heart behind this change is to allow us to connect more consistently, build stronger relationships, more meaningful activities and ultimately a growing faith! Additionally, our church is starting (on January 8th) a church wide initiative called 'Wednesday Night Reset'.

On Friday (11/29) from 1-3pm the Sports Fellowship is playing flag football (at Navarre Sports Complex). This is not a Youth Event, but I know some youth have mentioned wanting to play. If your youth is planning to play, please complete either the full [Medical & Permission Form](#) or the simple [Event Permission Form](#).

News & Important Reminders:

- The events in December are:
 - Bible Study Sun. (12/1) @6pm | Youth Night Sat. (12/14) @5:30pm | Movie Night Fri. (12/27) @6pm
- The 2024/2025 Health & Permission form is now available. To access, select the following link: [Health & Permission](#)

Teaching Series Overview:

TITLE: The Hills

SERIES BOTTOM LINE: This series encourages youth to understand what it means for them to be the light of the world.

SESSION 1: God created you to shine.

SESSION 2: God's light in you brings order to chaos.

SESSION 3: God's light in you brings light to others.

We are having a movie night on Friday
December 27th from 6-8:30pm. Join us
for a Christmas movie and snacks.

Beginning Wednesday January 8th,
Group412 Youth will meet every Wednesday
from 5:30-7pm. The intention and heart
behind this change is to allow us to connect
more consistently & build stronger
relationships!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

livinggracecc.org/youth | youth@livinggracecc.org

GROUP412 SNAPSHOT

DECEMBER

- Sun. (12/1), 6-7pm: Bible Study
- Sat. (12/14), 5:30-8:30pm: Youth Night
- Fri. (12/27), 6-8:30pm: Movie Night

JANUARY

- Wed. (1/8), 5:30-7pm: Youth Group
- Wed. (1/15), 5:30-7pm: Youth Group
- Wed. (1/22), 5:30-7pm: Youth Group
- Wed. (1/29), 5:30-7pm: Youth Group
- Fri. (1/31), 5:30-8:30pm: Game



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 30/40 group 5pm Youth Bible Study 6-7pm	2	3	4 B – Rosi Jones	5 Prayer Group 10am	6	7 Nydegger Rented – Wuske Smith Hall Rented – Kukuk Men’s Breakfast
8 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 11:00	9 B – Bryan Majors	10 B – Adam Denney	11 *Self Defense Class 5pm *Bell Practice 6:45pm B – Don Hamner	12 Prayer Group 10am B – Sue Mihal	13	14 Nydegger Rented – Petscher Youth Night
15 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 11:00	16	17	18 *Self Defense Class 5pm *Bell Practice 6:45pm B- Natalie Simmons, Theresa Dorkoff	19 Prayer Group 10am	20	21
22 Worship 9:30 Kids Christmas Play Birthday Party for Jesus B – Todd Schneider	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 8pm Nydegger Rented – Miller B – Alex Denney	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	27 Youth Movie Night 6 – 8:30pm B – Kathryn Hess	28 B – Jenna McKelvey
29 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 11:00 B – Brannon Hughes, Jason Everhart	30	31				

In the Light

Stories of faith from the people of Living Grace

Russ Mathias

We sang a song in November that tells my story “He Touched Me”. In the spring of 2003 that is exactly what happened when I cried out “Jesus, if you exist, take my life”. At that moment my life changed.

If you had asked me before then if I was a Christian, I would have said sure; knowing Jesus is the Son of GOD. Knowing that and actually knowing Christ Jesus and His freeing Grace are two totally different things.

GOD is Sovereign. At our original church I was honored to have been a facilitator of Stephen Ministry while Arbie facilitated Celebrate Recovery. Eventually we moved to another church where we found it impossible to get plugged in to any of their outreach programs. Then The Holy Spirit got hold of me. With His help we rescued my mom from a disastrous living situation, found a house, and took care of her. The congregation of the church showed Mom the love she had not experienced for some time. We stayed there until she passed away.

I then determined how Arbie and I would manage the rest of our financial lives together after we retired in 2017. GOD had a different plan... GOD is Sovereign... when MY plan went belly up, I finally committed to GOD’s plan. In 35 days, our house sold, completely furnished, we purchased a truck, an RV, and we were off to New Mexico. GOD wants us to know His will for our lives.

After four years of service, sharing The Gospel, and NOMADing across the U S in approximately 20 locations, the LORD led us here, Living Grace Christian Church. We have had many opportunities here.

Giving Glory to GOD, Sharing The Good News, following The Will of GOD, are everlasting commitments that have become my life.

Living Grace Christian Church

**Leadership/Committee Directory
2025**

Administrative Board Members...2025

***Voting Members**

****Part of quorum but only votes if there is a tie.**

Current Committees

Administrative Board

Meetings are scheduled every other month.

Finance Committee

Meetings are scheduled one hour before each Ad Board Meeting

SPR Committee

Meetings are scheduled as needed.

Trustee Committee

Meetings are scheduled as needed.

Safety & Security Committee

Meetings are scheduled as needed.

Christian Education Committee

Meetings are scheduled as needed.

Worship Committee

Meetings are scheduled as needed.

Mission Committee

Meetings are scheduled as needed.

Choirs

Each Sunday - Voices of Praise - 8:30 a.m.
Bell Choir - Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.

Please! Please! Please!

If you have any concern in any area, please go to the person that is a representative of that ministry area.

Thank you!

Pastor Rev. Carl Kandel
Secretary Ashley Lynch
Youth Director Gabe Kukuk
Youth Director Assistant Trudy Kukuk
Music Director, Organist Cory Janson
Custodian Seth Lackey
Christian Education Director Mariah Ricker



**Chairperson..... Ken Jones
*Secretary..... Ashley Lynch
Pastor..... Rev. Carl Kandel
*Lay Leader..... Dave Denney
Lay Delegate..... Tim Mihal
*SPR Chairperson..... Judy Werstler
*Treasurer.....
Financial Secretary..... Lisa Glasgow
*Finance Chairperson..... Denese Majors
*Education Chairperson..... Mariah Ricker
*Hospitality Chairperson..... Hannah Stacy
*Missions Chairperson..... Tim Mihal
*Trustee Chairperson..... Tyler Lautzenheiser
*Youth Coordinator..... Gabe Kukuk
Camp Contact Person..... Janelle McKelvey
Church Historian..... Kendel Croston
Funeral Dinners..... Helen Petscher

Members at Large

*Chuck Petscher
*Mike McKelvey
*Sherri Kandel
*Justin Bender

Trustees – Tyler Lautzenheiser, Chairperson

Term Expires end of 2025
Russ Mathias Morris Chaney Matt Miller

Term Expires end of 2026
Tajuana West Donna Wendell Ray George
Todd Schneider – At Large

Term Expires end of 2027
Rich Hayden Josh Stacey Jason West
Kimberly Justice – At Large

Safety & Security (Sub committee of Trustees)

Justin Bender Matt Miller Ray George
Judy Werstler Persephone Luckring Russ Mathias

SPR Committee – Judy Werstler, Chairperson

Term Expires end of 2025
Joe Kammer Arbie Mathias Sharon Leib

Term Expires end of 2026
Persephone Luckring Hannah Stacy Jada Miller

Term Expires end of 2027
Sharon Seese Erin Hostetler

Committee on Lay Leadership (nominations) - Rev. Carl Kandel, Chairperson

Term Expires end of 2025
Jeremy Lynch Ashley Lynch Mariah Ricker

Term Expires end of 2026
Mary Wuske Tajuana West Jennifer Troyer

Term Expires end of 2027
Tim Mihal Gabe Kukuk Sherri Kandel

Christian Education Committee – Mariah Ricker, Chairperson

Pastor Carl Dave Denney Tim Mihal
Ashley Lynch Janelle McKelvey Helen Petscher |
Jada Miller Jeremy Lynch Jackie Fetters
Linda Bender Judy Michener Sherri Kandel
Seth Lackey Ken Jones Rosi Jones
Sharon Leib Deidra Chaney Cadyn McKelvey
Jenna McKelvey Erin Hostetler Arbie Mathias

Teachers

Kidz Church Evelyn Luckring
VBS Ashley Lynch
JOY Club Mariah Ricker & volunteers
Nursery Kenzie Lanier
K – 2nd Sunday School Cadyn McKelvey & Sarah Hess
3rd – 4th Sunday School The Stacy's, Linda Bender, Nicole D.
5th – 8th Sunday School Tim Mihal
High School Sunday School Sherri Kandel
Youth Group Gabe Kukuk & Trudy Kukuk
Adult Study Rev. Carl Kandel
Confirmation Class Rev. Carl Kandel

Finance - Denese Majors, Chairperson

Sue Bednar Lisa Glasgow Denese Majors
Nicole Denney Deidra Tschantz Kendel Croston
Barb Kenney Randy Janson
Member at large – Mike McKelvey

Multi-Media Committee

Jason Everhart Tyler Lautzenheiser Gabe Kukuk
David Denney Hunter Miller

Sound: Craig Wuske, Jason Everhart

Facebook: Ashley Lynch

Instagram: Mariah Ricker

Church Website: Gabe Kukuk & Tyler Lautzenheiser

Wednesday Night Services Media

Russ Mathias Jeremy Lynch

Music

Voices of Praise Cory Janson
HandBell Choir Lisa Glasgow

Mission Committee - Tim Mihal, Chairperson

Chuck Petscher Rose LaFollette Abby Kling
Janelle McKelvey Tajuana West Kenzie Lanier
Jennifer Troyer Nicole Denney Kendel Croston

Hospitality Committee - Hannah Stacy, Chairperson

Volunteer Schedule for Communion
Matt Miller - Ushers
Mary Wuske - Altar Guild
McKelvey Family – Church Sign
Jennifer Troyer & Nicole Denney – Bulletin Bords

Meals prepared for those in need – Organized by Tajuana West
Helen Petscher Persephone Luckring Toni Derus
Sherri Kandel Abbey Kling Rose LaFollette
Rosi Jones Judy Werstler
Barb Define Sharon Seese
Lisa Glasgow Sherry Hamner
Anita Janson Sharon Leib

Card Ministry (volunteers)

Jan – Rayann Huntsman
Feb – Mary Wuske
March – Lisa Glasgow
April – Kenzie Pavlik
May – Jane Miller
June – Deidra Tschantz
July – Rosi Jones
Aug – Tajuana West
Sept – Lisa Glasgow
Oct – Nicole Denney
Nov – Sherry Hamner
Dec – Mary Beth Pumneo

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

December Christian Education Updates

Sunday School is going wonderfully. We have the best group of teachers and the kids are loving what they are learning about Jesus through lessons and cool crafts! The adult study is still going strong with 24+ people in attendance each Sunday. Please join us if you haven't, yet! Please don't let the adult study being too crowded turn you away from coming. If/when we have too many people, we can move the study to Nydegger Hall where we will have more than enough room. So please join us, we would love to have you!

KIDZ Church Kidz are working very hard on their Christmas Program! Our Christmas Program is called "*Journey to Bethlehem*" and the kidz cannot wait to put on their program for our church. There will be 2 dress rehearsals on Sunday, December 8th and Sunday, December 15th. These dress rehearsals will be from 10:45-11:45 after our church service in the sanctuary (during Sunday School.) Mark your calendars for DECEMBER 22nd to see the Kidz Christmas Program "*Journey to Bethlehem*."

NEWS FOR OUR 6-8th graders & their parents: We are going to have something special for our middle schoolers **once a month** during our church service. We are calling this group Core6-8. We plan on having this the *first Sunday* of each month. It will be a time where we can focus specifically on them and have small group fellowship with them. Our small group talks/discussion will be led through the Core52 Study, the youth version.

Gabe is taking over the first couple small group dates. The middle schoolers can meet in the back of the sanctuary, after the hymn and before the scripture reading. Please have them bring their Core52 book! If there are any questions about this, please see Gabe & Trudy Kukuk or Mariah Ricker.

Wednesday Night Reset starting January 8th

5:30-6:00 - Dinner in Nydegger Hall

6:00-7:00 - Nursery 0-4 years old

JOY Club K-5th

Group412 6th-12th

Worship & The Chosen Study for Adults

7:00-7:45 - Bell Choir

*Our heart behind this idea is for families to grow spiritually as a unit, through worship, prayer & opportunity to teach children important biblical values. Please join us in our midweek reset!

(more details will be announced on Sunday, December 1st)*

-Mariah Ricker
Christian Ed. Director

Mission Statement

“Make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.”

To Witness

*Pointing to Jesus in all we do

To Disciple

*Teaching how to apply Christ in everyday life

To Worship

*To glorify the Lord in all we do

To Serve

* To be a servant of the Lord and those He loves

Pastor - Rev. Carl Kandel
Secretary - Ashley Lynch
Youth Director – Gabe Kukuk
Youth Assistant – Trudy Kukuk
Pianist & Choir Director - Cory Janson
Christian Education Director – Mariah Ricker
Custodian – Seth Lackey

You can find us on Facebook and YouTube!

Church Website: www.livinggracecc.org

Church Email address: livinggracecc@yahoo.com

Church Phone: (330) 879-2340

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 9 – 2 p.m.

Living Grace Christian Church
121 Basin St.
Navarre, OH 44662

