Grace Notes

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED TO THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH AT
GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, CASTALIA, OH

OCTOBER 2026

MINISTERING MATTERS

Alright, who turned off the sunshine and the warmth? Oh, yeah, it was God. Just because I don't like being cold does not mean that others like the heat. We are all different. Isn't that wonderful. God wanted us all different. Life would be boring if we were all the same.

But back to the cold – we are glad that weather is also different. I would like it warm all the time but many would not. It is not a this or that or a right or wrong kind of thing. Just my opinion. I don't like my feet being cold.

But God wants us to be accepting of all things. We can question things and He will listen, but He wants us to listen to Him. He has all the answers. In Genesis 8:22, "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease". Scriptures affirm that every weather pattern – rain, wind, sun, snow – operates under God's authority.

So, I will listen to God and put on socks so my feet aren't cold. Isn't it wonderful that we have a choice.

Many Blessings to you all – with socks on.

Minister Beth



MINISTRY UPDATES

COMMUNITY MEAL - A wonderful team of volunteers worked together to prepare and serve 180 meals for the September Meal. Dave Mix, Dave Bodi, and Jim Kieffer are to thank for grilling the chicken. And of course, our others are so generous to supply the delicious desserts. Our list of volunteers also included a local group who just wanted to give back. Their help was also was appreciated. The menu for October will be Baked Spaghetti and Meatballs, Lettuce Salad, Zucchini Muffin, and Dessert. Come and enjoy!

GRACE'S TABLE FOOD PANTRY - Our food pantry routinely provides boxes of food items, paper items and cleaning supplies to 40-55 families monthly, serving an average of 194 people. In September we served 52 families with all the items listed above. Thank you to everyone who devotes their time to pantry each month! It takes all of you to make it a successful ministry!

SEWING MINISTRY - As the Newsletter is being written, 165 quilts are ready with 10-15 more anticipated to be finished by the time they are to be delivered to St. Paul's in Pemberville on October 10th. Minister Beth is planning to bless them on October 4th during worship. Our collection of blankets are really quite amazing when you stop to think about it. Donations of thread, fabric, sheets, tablecloths, and blankets are dropped off at our back door of the church. A handful of individuals dedicate a great deal of time and planning to create the layers which are then assembled and sewn by 12-16 people and enjoy the fellowship in the process. Some volunteers are members of Grace, some are from our local community and a couple come from Bellevue and Norwalk just to serve the world in the simple task of making quilts. God's work is certainly being done by these precious hands!

PROJECT SHARE - Wow! Thank you to everyone who donated items to the Garage Sale for Project Share. Your efforts to clean, gather, and donate brought in $3102 over the 1 1/2 day period and we had fun in the process! Thank you to the Castalia Lion's Club for donating the Lion's facilities and to Kyle Tester, Jack Ried, Sharon Miranda, and others for distributing remaining items in the rain to other agencies. Of course the Project Share workers are also to be thanked for their on-going dedication to serve.

SPECIAL THANKS - As I submit items to Brenda for the Newsletter, I find the word "community" is used on several occasions. There is "community" in preparing meals on a monthly basis. There is "community" in both making quilts and fundraising for Project Share. But there is especially "community" in supporting others who need an encouraging word, help stretching the hours in a day to complete necessary tasks, and lifting one's heart in prayers. As Jeff and I transition from his recent illness to the challenges of on-going health problems, as well as for the many others in much the same boat, thank you to the "community" of Grace for all your help and support. Your expression of love is truly a witness to Christ's commission to "Love your neighbor." Thank you. *Jean and Jeff Smith*

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

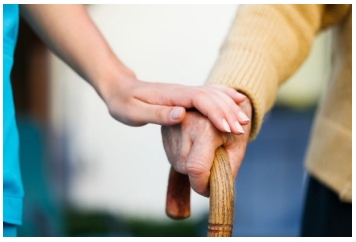
BETTY MEGGITT: The Commons of Providence, 5000 Providence Drive, Sandusky, OH 44870
TODD MILLER: Providence Care Center, 2025 Hayes Avenue, Sandusky, OH 44870

Please note: This list is comprised of individuals who have authorized their residence information to be published. If you are a member of Grace and would like to be placed on the homebound list, please contact Beth Kieffer in the office at 419-684-5059.

September 13th was the ELCA's annual God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. But we know we are called to do Christ's work every day. In response to the Caregivers' meetings, we are putting together a list of those who would occasionally be asked to assist our fellow members. Would you be willing to: Give a ride to an appointment, take someone grocery shopping, provide a meal, sit for a short time while a person's caregiver is away, pick up a prescription. Nothing in the way of medical help would be asked of you, and if you can't assist at the time needed, we would move you down the list. Please contact the following individuals if you need assistance. And if YOU need a helping hand, you can contact the church office.
419-684-5059 or 419-503-9223 for Minister Beth, 419-357-5372 for Chris Bohn, and 419-503-2208 for Bev Mix.

REMINDER:

The Caregiver group will meet on October 6th at 7PM in the Gathering Area. All are welcome to attend.



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS AS OF AUGUST 31, 2026

Operating Offerings:	$ 15,237.00
Operating Expenses:	$ 13,065.00
Operating Fund Balance:	$142,873.00
Other Designated Giving:	$ 6,703.00

IMPORTANT NOTE: Full copies of the monthly are available in the Church Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Be sure to call or email your information for the weekly bulletin announcements to Brenda in the church office at BMacdonald@gracecastalia.org by **9AM on Thursday** at the latest. **Newsletter** announcements are due no later than the 20th of the month.

To have your prayer request placed on the Grace Prayer Chain, ***please contact Lynne Yetter at 419-603-6759.***





OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	
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4 WORSHIP—9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM CATECHISM - 10:15AM	5	6 Caregiver's Meeting - 7PM	7 Sewing 9-11AM Choir - 7PM	
11 WORSHIP—9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM CATECHISM - 10:15AM	12	13 Circle 3 - 1:30PM Circle 5 - 7PM	14 Community Meal 5-6PM Choir - 7PM	
18 WORSHIP—9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM CATECHISM - 10:15AM	19	20 Church Council - 7PM	21 Sewing 9-11AM Choir - 7PM	
25 WORSHIP—9AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:15AM CATECHISM - 10:15AM *REFORMATION SUNDAY*	26	27	28 Sewing 9-11AM Choir - 7PM	

OCTOBER READERS

4. Brenda Ried
11. Billy Bohn
18. Rod Smith
25. Rhonda Rice

OCTOBER ASSISTING MINISTERS

4. Rhonda Rice
11. TBD
18. TBD
25. TBD

R 2026

T	F	S
1 iet Communion 10:00AM	2	3
8	9 Church in use for Wedding Rehearsal.	10 Church and Fellowship Hall in use all day for Wedding
15	16	17 Food Pantry 9-10AM
22	23	24
29	30	31 

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1. Chris Gibson, Beth Hermes
2. Judith Estep, Kaycee Valko
9. Clarice Gowitzka
13. Lilly Bohn
14. Ben Kehres, Lynne Yetter
16. Lindsey Kuns
21. Linda Seely
23. Jim Kieffer
26. Betty Meggitt
28. Dean Koch, David Mix
31. Kate Yetter



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

October 11: Dawn & Chris Gibson
October 12: Jan & Bob Ransom
October 13: Sheila & Cecs Duffett
October 15: Joan & David Lander
October 17: Amanda & Brett Nemitz
October 25: Ashley & Jordan Kuns
October 30: Barbie & Dick Hoffman



OCTOBER USHERS

. Brenda & Jack Ried
1. Billy Bohn
8. Dave & Kathy Bodi
5. Wendy France

OCTOBER FLOWERS

4. Jean Smith
11. Chris & Jeff Bohn
18. Chris Hamilton
25. Denny Loroff