

**Morning and Welcome to Grace!
Announcements for January 5, 2024**

Immediate Prayer Needs

Dee Johnson, Vera Richardson - sister of Patty Allen
The family of Mike Kamentz – partner of Kate Schaller
The Family of Norm Iverson

Ongoing Prayer Needs

Ellen Batten, Amy Batten, Sandy Briggs, Brad Lint, Livia Ocken, Barb Powers, Ed Ridnour, Dana Roby,
Tony - son of Linda Rundle, Karen Taylor, Deb Ubom

Praying for one another is an important part of the life of a community of faith. *Share your prayer needs or update your personal contact information with us by using the white Prayer Cards in your pew. Place the folded card in the offering plate as you leave today, or in the locked office mailbox. You may also choose to simply call 515-276-6873, or email Pastor Mike mike@gracedm.org or Vicar Jesse jesse@gracedm.org.*

Happy Birthday: Julie Honsey, Tammy Denton, Amy Schmelzer, Paul Calahan, Kathy Roat, Catherine Lewis, Sandra Briggs, Michael Friesth, Caden Mendez

Happy Anniversary: Joie and David Gronert

Poinsettias on the Altar are sponsored by members in honor and memory of loved ones. You may take yours home after worship today.

Communion – All communion wafers are gluten free. Find directions for communion in the bulletin margins.



Fellowship, Coffee, and Donut Holes in the Gathering Hall right after following worship.



Education Hour returns this weekend!

Today, Sunday January 5

- **3rd Annual Fleece Hat Making!** Please join us for the October All-Ages Mission Opportunity on Sunday, January 5, after worship in Grace Hall. After enjoying our coffee and donuts, we will be making warm fleece hats to be placed in the Little Free Pantry as the weather turns colder. Most of the hats will be pre-sewn and just need some cutting and tying to create a pompom top, but if you'd like to create a hat from start to finish, sewing machines, patterns, and help will be available. Please contact Jill Boeschon or Cathy Watson (numbers in the directory) with any questions.
- **New Member Class with Pastor Mike!** The next New Member Class will also be held on Sunday, January 5 after worship. Grab a donut after worship and meet Pastor Mike in the office!



Saturday and Sunday, January 11 & 12: Step into the new year with a walking meditation

On Saturday, January 11 from 9:00-3:00 and on Sunday, January 12 from 10:00-noon Being New and COCI warmly invite you to stop by Grace Lutheran Church and walk a labyrinth that will be set up in Grace Hall.

Labyrinth walking is an ancient practice used by many faiths for centering, contemplation, and prayer. Entering the serpentine path of a labyrinth, you stroll while quieting your mind and focusing on a spiritual question or prayer, walking first toward the center and then out again. There is no right or wrong way to do this. Often walkers set an intention, sometimes with the sense of letting go of what it is time to shed on the walk in, opening oneself to inspiration or guidance in the center, and then emerging back into life, renewed, refreshed, ready to live into the next unfolding steps of life. An excellent way indeed to start a new year.



Bible Study will resume:

- Tuesday January 7, 9 a.m. in Grace Hall
- Thursday January 9, 6:30 p.m. in room 102



Choir Rehearsals

Choir will resume on Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Music room.



Worship Volunteer Needs:

January dates and needs have been added to the online signup. Sign up there, or go to gracedm.org, and click on the word "Volunteer" in the upper right corner of your screen. If reading this online just click here! [Online Worship Volunteer Signup](#).



Thank you to the choir singers, handbell ringers and brass players for adding their joyful sounds to the Advent and Christmas season! And a special thank-you to Rich Snyder for his faithful service and for choosing beautiful music to support our worship during this season and throughout the year.



Tuesday, January 7: Committee Reports for the Annual Report are Due

Our goal is always to assemble, format, print and mail the annual report in time for the Budget and Finance Forum on Sunday January 22. Please email your reports to Michelle@gracedm.org



2025 Altar Flowers

The 2025 altar flower signup sheet is now online: <https://volunteersignup.org/ADMHD>
We invite you to sponsor a bouquet of flowers for the altar. You can include a special message in the bulletin, and the flowers are yours to take home after the worship service on Sunday. The cost is \$25 and you can pay through Grace's online giving site (<https://gracedm.org/give-to-grace/>) or by check or cash to the office. Please put your first AND last name(s) in the first name field and type a special message (optional) in the last name field (in memory of ... in honor of). Contact Kathy at kbowerma@hotmail.com with questions or to sign up if you are not online. Thank you!

Being New Spiritual Center Inauguration Day Meditation

Join us for centering prayer/silent meditation at 10:00 on Monday, January 20. We will gather in Grace Hall as well as online. Contact Julie Honsey (honsey.julie@gmail.com) if you would like the Zoom link. Co-sponsored by Being New and COCI.



Annual Budget and Congregational Meetings

Budget and Finance Forum: Sunday, January 19, 2025

Meet in Grace Hall at 10:15 a.m., after worship and fellowship. Copies of the Budget will be available at this meeting.

Annual Meeting: Sunday, January 26, 2025

The meeting will take place in Grace Hall after worship. We will be voting on the amendments to the Grace Lutheran Church Constitution and Bylaws. The proposed changes are highlighted on a bulletin board across from the office. We also have a few copies of the entire document and the proposed changes in the office if you would prefer to flip through that. We will have a potluck lunch after.



January Little Free Pantry Request of the Month

This month, we will collect breakfast food for the Little Free Pantry: cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, and pancake/muffin mixes. You can also provide donations online through the [GIVE](#) page or check payable to Grace Lutheran Church with "Little Free Pantry" in the memo. There is also an [Amazon Grace Wish List](#) available where items will be shipped directly to the church. Thank you for your donations.



Grace Endowment Fund – Please share this opportunity in your communities.

Endowment grants are awarded each year to groups both inside and outside of Grace. A certain percentage of the funds given each year must be awarded to community groups outside of the Grace community, so please share and promote this opportunity widely. Applications are due January 31, 2025. Additional details and examples of projects can be found [on our website](#) <https://gracedm.org/support-of-others/grace-endowment-fund/>



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