

Amazing Grace

April 2018
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The Monthly Newsletter of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church,
A congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

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Love is come again like wheat arising green

When speaking of his coming death and resurrection, our Lord Jesus Christ described Himself as, of all things, a grain of wheat.

Really! A tiny grain of wheat, an image for the Savior of the nations. Jesus used this image to teach His disciples what it would mean for Him to be glorified on the cross -- and what it would mean for them to truly follow Him. In short, it would mean death that would pave the way for new life.

“Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you’ll have it forever, real and eternal. If any of you wants to serve Me, then follow Me. Then you’ll be where I am, ready to serve at a moment’s notice. The Father will honor and reward anyone who serves me.”

John 12:24-26, The Message

Lent has led us to the moment when Jesus Christ took upon Himself the unbearable brokenness that separates us from God and from each other, and He ended up as dead as a grain of wheat that never gets planted. Yet, planted He was, in a borrowed tomb, dead as the nails that secured Him to the lifeless wood of the cross. And, on the third day, He rose, springing up alive and new. Since then life on earth hasn’t been the same.

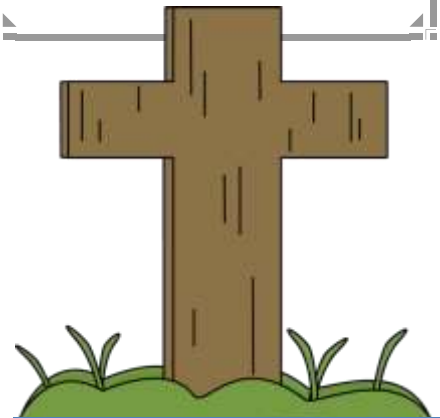
The forty-day Lenten journey brings us face to face with how barren and lifeless we are when we are laying dormant, in ground frozen by the Evil One’s icy breath. Lent was a season for baring one’s soul, turning over the soil of our hearts, praying that the Lord would plant a new and right spirit where weeds of sin have been growing and choking. Now, the 50-day Easter season prepares Christ’s followers for the growing time to come, when Pentecost heralds the worldwide spread of God’s extraordinary word by ordinary folks like us. And it began with our Lord, our Messiah, our Savior, our Jesus -- who, like a grain of wheat, sprung forth from the tomb and grew into His church called the Body of Christ.

At times, congregations can feel like a field where grains of wheat, scattered before a long fallow season, are coming back to life. There might be bare spots where winter-kill or flooding require replanting. The same can be true in the spiritual lives of each one who makes up the body of Christ.

From what I can see: There is a new growing season ahead for Grace and each of us. Pray that the season will be welcomed for Jesus’ sake and not just what’s in it for you and me. Pray that no sudden freeze, no attack of spiritual disease, will stifle or stop the growth that God desires for Grace, for each of her members, and for those with whom we will share His grace.

When our hearts are wintry,
grieving or in pain,
Your touch can bring us back
to life again.
Fields of our hearts that dead
and bare have been:
Love is come again, like
wheat arising green.

*Now The Green Blade Rises
Verse 4, Hymn 148,
Lutheran Book of Worship*



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*Deadline for the next
newsletter is
8 AM Thursday, April 19th*

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Administrative Council Minutes

[date]

**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Church Administrative Council
 March 14, 2017 Meeting Agenda**

The meeting was called to order by President Jason Platfoot. 11 members and 1 guest Dean Bill Maki were present.

***Devotions** Rick Sailor led devotions from John 13:31-36.

***Secretary's Report** The Secretary's report from the February 14, 2018, CAC meeting minutes were reported in the newsletter and there were no corrections.

***Treasurer's Report** – No treasurer's report was given due to the transition with CAC treasurer and church secretary.

***Pastor's Report-** There were 18 visitations including hospital, nursing home and shut-ins. There were 4 bereavement calls and 4 community/chaplaincy visits. There were a total of 4 counselling sessions.

***Committee Reports**

- Choice *No report

-Education *No report

-Mission *Marilyn Kohler- Next meeting will be April 4 at 6PM.

-Endowment *Jill Ludwig- Investments were healthy in 2017 and the fund is up \$10,000. Five seniors are eligible to apply for scholarships. They are looking for another area of need to support.

-Friendship * No report

-Lay / Witness * Connie— Pastor held a mini retreat on March 10 to review the procedures for lay communion distributions.

-Worship * Kristen — Easter worship service on April 1 will be at 9:00 AM. The Education committee determined that Sunday School will be held at 8 AM. There will be no breakfast on Easter Sunday. Quilts will be presented to graduating seniors at both services on May 13 so that all seniors can have them before graduation day. Gifts are also being purchased for them as in the past. A separate meeting was held with the Music sub-committee to coordinate plans for Easter service.

- **Youth *Aaron Klopfenstein-** no report given.

-Property & Trustee *Tom & Rick no report.

***Old Business** — Deacon training has been put on hold until after Easter.

New Business — The Luther League Mission trip for 2018 will be to Newark, New Jersey June 17-22,

2018. The purpose of the trip will be to rebuild areas that were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. The newly confirmed students have been invited to attend. The pastor will be attending the trip. No monies are being requested by the group. Pastor Cathi moved to approve the 2018 Mission Trip and Darlene Wooley second the motion. Motion carried.

Vote on the new Treasurer- Due to the resignation of Iva Lenhart the CAC needed to select a new treasurer. It was moved by Connie Schneider and seconded by Jill Ludwig that Darlene Wooley be the CAC treasurer. Motion carried.

It was moved by Anne Shroyer and seconded by Tom Schindel to approve Deb Russell as the temporary secretary until the new secretary can begin. Motion carried.

It was reported that there were 8 applicants for the position church secretary. The interview committee composed of Pastor Cathi, Anne Shroyer, Matt Kohler, and Greg Wooley interviewed 2 candidates. (The third person selected declined to interview). It was moved by Kristen Davis and seconded by Aaron Klopfenstein to hire Nicole Tontrup as the secretary at an annual salary of \$22,000 for a 30 hour work week.

Discussion was held about the NALC Convention in Denver Colorado August 15-17. Pastor plans to be there on August 12. A supply pastor will be needed. This conference is for the clergy and lay people.

Dean William Maki shared with us that our Mission District has a Pastoral Care and Transition Team to help congregations in transition. He explained that this team would like to come to Grace for a listening day. Everyone is welcome to come and discuss any issues, concerns, and experiences at Grace. The Team will be at Grace on Saturday April 14, 2018, from 10 AM to 3 PM. It was moved by Jill Ludwig and seconded by Rick Sailor to have the Pastoral Care and Transition Team come to Grace on April 14, 2018. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned in the Lord's Prayer.

— Connie Schneider, CAC Secretary

Parish Statistics

No changes February 21-March 20 2018

Committee Reports

Lay Ministry/Witness Committee

Six members of the Lay Witness Ministry met with Pastor Cathi on Saturday, March 10th. for a mini retreat. Linda opened with prayer.

Pastor Cathi asked members to share how long we've been on the Lay Witness team and the role that we play within the group.

Much of our time was spent on discussion related to meeting the needs of our shut ins. Pastor Cathi suggested criteria for determining who would qualify for shut in status - when members are no longer able to come to the church - the church goes to them.

We went over a handout titled "Distribution of Communion to Those in Special Circumstances." It was a thorough guide for those distributing communion.

Some other topics brought up for future consideration-

- updated photo directory
- How can we improve communications to better meet the needs of those who would benefit from our services?
- recruiting new members to our group

There being no further business, we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

We thank Pastor Cathi for preparing and serving a delicious meal.

Secretary, Susan Ware

Mission Committee Meeting: Next meeting will be April 4 at 6PM.

Worship Committee Meeting —
March 7, 2018

Easter Schedule: The Education Committee determined that Sunday School will be held at 8:00 am on Easter Sunday. Festival Worship with Holy Communion will be at 9:00 AM. Music subcommittee members met on March 8 to finalize service and music details for Easter Sunday. Joyce Regula will confirm to WOC there will be no breakfast on Easter Sunday.

High School Seniors will be recognized and gifts presented to graduating seniors at the services on Mother's Day. Seniors will chose which service they wish to attend and be recognized at.

— Kristen Davis & Pastor Cathi Braasch

From Your Thrivent Choice Committee ...



As has been noted in the worship bulletins, Thrivent members needed to designate their CHOICE dollars by March 31 of this year. Now, remember to direct your CHOICE dollars every three months. There are two ways to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Grace Lutheran Church:

⇒ Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted say "Thrivent Choice," which will connect you to a friendly Customer Care representative. Tell the representative that you want to donate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Grace Lutheran Church, Jackson Center OH. The Thrivent care representative will then assist you with your choice.

— *OR* —

⇒ You can also donate your Choice Dollars by logging into your account at Thrivent.com/Thrivent Choice and selecting Grace Lutheran Church, Jackson Center OH.

Thank you for remembering GRACE with your Thrivent CHOICE funds!

+ + +

Endowment Committee

Meeting held: March 11, 2018

Members present: Bert Regula, Rick Russell, Dennis Weaver, Abby Pence, and Darrel Klopfenstein.

Meeting began with prayer. New members welcomed to the committee were Dennis Weaver and Darrel Klopfenstein. Election of 2018 officers: President: Bert Regula; Treasurer: Rick Russell; and Secretary: Abby Pence.

Treasurer's report was given: We currently have \$101,204.34 in the Endowment Fund and \$2,101.08 in the passbook.

New business: There are five members of the 2018 Senior Class. Scholarship letters were mailed tout to the Senior Class and are due back by March 31, 2018.

Old business: We discussed various ways to increase the Endowment Fund.

Next meeting is planned for April 5 2018 at 6:30 PM. Plan is to review scholarship applicants.

Ended with prayer.

Welcome in Jesus's name!

Grace Lutheran Church welcomes Nicole R. (Nikki) Tontrup as our new office secretary.

Nikki brings some 20 years experience in office management, human resources and accounting, information technology and working with a wide range of people. Eager, quick to learn and a team player, Nikki was the unanimous choice of the search team (Greg Woolley, Matt Kohler, Anne Shroyer and Pastor Cathi Braasch) and was unanimously approved by the CAC.

Nikki hails from Botkins OH where she lives with her husband Michael and their children. She previously worshipped at Grace, Grace, and then moved her church membership to a Lutheran church closer to home some 13 years ago.

Nikki will start work on Monday, April 2, 2018. She will have orientation with Deb Russell, who has ably served as temporary secretary, and Pastor Cathi Braasch, her supervisor.

New Office Hours at Grace Lutheran Church

Office Open: 8:00 AM-1:00 PM Monday through Fridays

Lunch — 1:30 PM

Nikki also will be working from 1:30-2:30 pm daily — this hour will be for work that's best done with uninterrupted attention.



Upcoming Events & Ministry Opportunities

April 2 — 7-8 PM — Hour of Prayer — A monthly time of intercessory prayer for our families and friends, congregation, communities and other needs. In the sanctuary of Grace Lutheran Church.

April 10 — Backpack Ministry — The FINAL packing day for this school year will be Tuesday, April 10th at 6:00 PM at Grace Lutheran. We will also be having our "wrap-up" meeting at Grace on Tuesday, May 8th at 6:00 PM. We hope to see all of the churches represented at this meeting. It has been a good year - God bless each and every one of you!! — *Phil & Cora*

April 10 — Jackson Center Community Blood Drive, 2-6 PM at JC American Legion. Schedule your appointment at www.donortime.com. Questions? Contact Nancy McNamee, chairperson.

April 14 — 10:00 AM — 3:00 PM NALC Listening Day at Grace-Jackson Center: The Dean of the Northwest Ohio Mission District, NALC, will be at Grace Lutheran with a small team of clergy and lay people from the Ohio Mission Region for a Listening Day. Members of Grace are welcome to speak with the team about their experience of Grace and what they view as its strengths, weaknesses, issues concerns. The team will be at Grace Saturday, April 14 from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM and hopes you will take advantage of this opportunity to share your thoughts with them.

April 15 — Official notice of Congregational Quarterly Meeting: Grace Lutheran Church will hold its next quarterly meeting between the two worship services on Sunday, April 15 2018. The meeting will begin at 9:15 AM in the sanctuary. All voting members of Grace are encouraged to attend.

April 15 — Registration Deadline, Lutheran Marriage Encounter, April 27-29, Beachwood OH. Apply at GodLovesMarriage.org. Questions? Contact Duffy & Nan Guthrie, nguthrie@suite224.net or 440-599-9090.

April 22 — 8:00 AM — Annual Choir Service — You are invited to attend this year's Choir Service. The Adult Choir will lead the 8:00 AM service on Sunday, April 22. The service will be music centered. The choir will offer several selections, with anthems featuring a variety of styles and themes. Fritz Serr will provide an inspirational message. We hope to see you then. — *Rick Russell, Choir Director*

May 6 — 8:00 AM service — Confirmation for Grace's 8th graders

Worship Notes — The Season of Easter

Easter is a stark contrast to Lent, with its muted decor, simpler worship and symbols of Christ's suffering and death. During the 50 days of Easter we are reminded of the blessing of our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ. We who were once dead in sin have been made alive and restored to a right relationship with God. It's a gift of pure grace, a gift we could never earn and a gift we have to share with the world. Come Easter morn, the purple-draped altar and cross give way to the bright white and gold of light shining forth, the light no darkness can overcome. Easter worship reflects the joy of the season — it's full of color, flowers, great hymns and reminders of our new life in Christ.



The **ALLELUIA** is back in worship as we remember:

Alleluia!
Christ is risen!
Christ is risen, indeed!
Alleluia!

On April 22nd: Welcome To Seminarian Adam Poe

Adam Poe serves as youth and family minister at Zion NALC, St. Mary's. He is preparing for ordination in the North American Lutheran Church., and Pastor Cathi works with him in the candidacy process. Adam will be at Grace for both services on April 22, preach at the 10:30 AM service, and talk about his experiences of preparing for ordained ministry during the Sunday School hour with adults and confirmands.

On April 22, Pastor Cathi will be preaching at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Marysville OH while Pr. Tonya Kessler Brittan is in the Holy Land. Pastor Tonya preached and led worship here at Grace last October while Pastor Cathi was in Germany.

<i>Worship Servants for Sundays in April 2018</i>					
	Easter - April 1 One Service — 9:00 AM	Easter 2B April 8 8:00 AM	Easter 3B- April 15 8:00 AM	Easter 4B April 22-8:00AM Choir Service	Easter 5B April 29 8:00 AM
Lessons	Is 25:6-9; Ps 16; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Mk 16:1-8	Acts 4:32-35; Ps 148; 1 Jn 1:1- 2:2; Jn 20:19-31	Acts 3:11-21; Ps 4; 1 Jn 3:1-7; Lk 24:36-39	Acts 4:1-12; Ps 23; 1Jn 3:16-24; Jn 10:11-18	Acts 8:26-40; Ps 150; 1 Jn 4:1-11 [12- 21]
Organists	Cheryl Burch	Nancy McName	Cheryl Burch	Nancy McName	Cheryl Burch
Acolytes	Morgan Huber	Elena Platfoot	Carson Regula	Ross Ludwig	Kaiden Hinegardner
Crucifers	Morgan Kipker	Kaiden Hinegardner	Bryson Roberts	Elena Platfoot	Bryson Roberts
Lay Readers	Sandy Roach	Marie Heintz	Scott Klopfenstein	Choir	Shelby Mann
Communion Preparation	Steve Lenhart & Austin Regula	_____	Jason, Trent & Ian Platfoot	_____	_____
Deacons * see your chart	All April Deacons needed on Easter	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
Acolytes	See above	Ryan Sailor	Sierra DeWeese	Gabrielle Woolley	Sierra DeWeese
Lay Readers	See above	Jill Ludwig	Tom Woolley	Breezy Yinger	Ellen Brenner
Communion Preparation	See above	Sandy Roach	_____	No Communion — Seminarian guest leader Adam Poe	_____
A/V	No screen	Jill Ludwig	Lisa Wright	Allison Hatfield	Kay Frieders
Song Leaders	Chelsea Frederick Jill Ludwig Iva Lenhart	Melody Schneider Kay Frieders Rachel Sailor	Breezy Yinger Jadyn Yinger Jill Ludwig	Greg Woolley Iva Lenhart Chelsea Frederick	Breezy Yinger Jadyn Yinger Kassie Ludwig
April Greeters — Lyle and Holly Faler, Barb and Eldon Wical					
*April Deacons	8:00 AM J. Platfoot, T. Platfoot, I. Platfoot, L. Faler, D. Faler, D. Jenkins, L. Jenkins, C. Wildermuth, A. Regula	10:30 AM K. Frieders, J. Frieders. S. Lenhart, S. Roach			

Women of the Church

Circle 1

Circle 1 met on Wednesday, March 7th. with eight members and Pastor Cathi answering roll call with a Bible verse containing the word "beautiful".

Susan opened with a short story titled "Keep Your Fork, The Best is Yet to Come". This was a story of a Christian woman who requested she be buried with a fork in her hand. She asked the minister to explain the fork at her funeral service, reminding those in attendance of the many times they had been told at the end of the meal to "keep your fork". That meant "dessert"- the best was yet to come. I want them to see the fork as a reminder that I knew when my earthly life was over - the best was yet to come!

The secretary's report was read and Marge reported \$174.54 in the treasury. Barb reminded members that we are collecting personal care items for the Fish Pond. Sewing day is March 15th.

Barb asked for volunteers for upcoming events- - WOC Lenten meal - desserts - Barb Krugh, Barb Wical, and Marge -Drinks for Easter breakfast- Sharon and Barb Wical -Blood bank-2 1/2 dozen cookies- Diane and Marge. Barb Wical and Susan will each work a shift.

Susan led our Bible study introducing new sister Emily. Emily tried so hard to lead the perfect life. She strived to do everything she could to please God and to do all she thought she must do in order to be saved. As hard as she tried she just couldn't achieve perfection and she was discouraged.

Then she heard a minister say that Christianity is not about what we can do to win God's favor, but it is about what God has done for us through His Son Jesus (John 3:16). We could never be good enough to earn our way to heaven, but Jesus did enough for all of us who are baptized and believe to make Heaven our home.

Kay was our hostess and she served delicious cake with assorted chocolates and nuts. We closed with all praying the Lord's Prayer.

Sharon will lead the Bible study in April and Susan will serve as hostess.

Secretary, Susan Ware

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Circle 3

Circle Three met March 20th with 8 members answering roll call with a Bible verse containing "wisdom."

Darlene led the Bible study on "Leah." Her journey in life did not all have happy endings, but she was beautiful in God's eyes. She was given the great honor of continuing the bloodline of God's messiah. Her

descendant Jesus Christ would show the world God's amazing love. We thank God for how he uses all kinds of people and that we live with the awareness that we are precious and loved. We must pray that we will not be captured by the lies of the world about what true beauty is.

Treasury balance: \$132.01.

Business included:

- April project for Westerle Services.
- Need two helpers for blood drive April 10th.
- Motion made by Linda/Marilyn that we use \$40.00 to purchase personal care items for the Food Pantry.

Darlene was hostess, serving a refreshing delight of goodies.

Meeting closed with prayers.

The predicted snow arrived during our meeting and we prayed that everyone made it home safely.

— Secretary Nancy McName

Thank You's

Well done, good and faithful one! Deb Russell, you have graciously and diligently served these last 30 days as Grace's temporary secretary. You have been a real blessing to us, and you'll be a blessing as you help orient our incoming secretary Nikki Tontrup. You are appreciated very, very much!

— *Pastor Cathi, the CAC, and everyone who relies on the Grace office!*

A BIG thank you to all the ladies who helped with the two sewing days. We were able to complete 38 quilts. These quilts will be sent to countries that need them by Lutheran World Relief. God bless you all for helping with this project. Thanks again for all your hard work and good fellowship.

— Barb

Many, many thanks to my Grace family for your prayers, visits, cards and gifts of food during my recovery from cancer surgery on my nose in March. The cancer is gone, thank the Lord, but good memories of your care and concern remain. So do a few extra pounds after you fed me so well! Many thanks also to our temporary secretary Deb Russell for keeping things in good order during my recuperation and her first days on the job — Deb, you're amazing! — as well as to Pr. Mike Tamorra for covering worship and Chaplain Leslie Haines for covering my pastoral calls during the days following surgery.

— *Pastor Cathi*



Grace at prayer:

Meets at 7 PM on the first Tuesday of the month, Grace Sanctuary.

From Joyce Regula ...

A Prayer & Card Shower Request

My son's brother-in-law, Aaron Peitsmeyer, has Fibrolamellar Hepatocellular Cancer, a rare liver cancer. He is in his early 30s and worked as a teacher and football coach in Marysville. He has been on our prayer list since June while he has tried treatments to shrink the tumor that is on his diaphragm, liver and heart. On April 12th, Aaron will travel to New York for a critical surgery to remove this tumor, a procedure that could last approximately 16 hours. We would like to have a **card shower beginning April 1st** to let him know how many people are praying and supporting him. Please send cards and/or notes to Aaron at:

Aaron Peitsmeyer
997 Portlock Drive
Columbus OH 43228

Please be in Prayer

for these young men and women who are to affirm their Baptism in the Rite of Confirmation at the 8 AM service, Sunday May 6:

- Haley Elaine Barhorst*
- Morgan Elizabeth Huber*
- Morgan Alexis Kipker*
- Ross Ryan Ludwig*
- Elena Anne Platfoot*
- Carson Andrew Regula*
- Ryan Garrett Sailor*
- Gabrielle Doris Woolley*
- Grace Opal Woolley*
- Jacob Spencer Yinger*

Grace Prayer List as of March 28, 2018)

Our service people:

- Dustin Mitchell,
- Blake Zimpfer,
- Courtney Gasson,
- Ben Gross

Prayers also requested for:

- Landon Reese
- Tim Gerber
- Bobbie Burton (*Sharon Lenhart's cousin*)
- Ellie Ward
- Carol Cromes

- Marian Fultz (Bob Fultz's mother)
- Deanna Apgar
- Julie Regula (*John's wife*)
- Harriet and Luther Mann
- Mike Barhorst (*Zac's dad*)
- Doris Jean Frieders (*Jack's mom*)
- Dick Clapp (*Marie Heintz' nephew*)
- Sharon Burchett (*sister of Donna Williams*)
- Jill Ruppert
- Aaron Peitsmeyer (*Brian Regula's brother-in-law*)

- Mark Hilbun
- Phil & Martha Menzel (*Katie Woolley's parents*)
- Tom Elsass
- Tami Russell (*Rick & Debbie's daughter-in-law*)
- Euanna & Tim Herndon
- Jack Brown (*brother-in-law of D. Williams*)
- Dru Martin (*Marie Heintz's niece*)
- Wayne Gerber

Congratulations to Patrick & Michelle Shuff on the birth of a baby boy, Jax Regula Shuff, on March 22, 2018. He weighed 7 lbs 13 ozs. and was 21" long. Grandparents are Joyce Regula, and Roy & Sandy Shuff. Great-grandparents are Sarah Regula, Joyce Rostorfer, and Mary Shuff. Their address is 318 Olson Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94086.

Welcome to God's Family — Ethan Parker Fite was baptized at Grace during the 8:00 AM service on Palm Sunday, April 25. Ethan is engaged to be married to Shelby Mann in August. Shelby is Ethan's baptismal sponsor. This will be reported in the parish statistics in the next issue of **Amazing Grace**.



NALC
North American Lutheran Church

***Listening Day:
Saturday, May 14
10 AM—PM
Here At Grace***

The Dean of the Northwest Ohio Mission District, NALC, will be at Grace Lutheran with a small team of clergy and lay people from the Ohio Mission Region for a Listening Day. Members of Grace are welcome to speak with the team about their experience of Grace and what they view as its strengths, weaknesses, issues concerns. The team will be at Grace Saturday, April 14 from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM and hopes you will take advantage of this opportunity to share your thoughts with them.

“Beyond our Fears”

***Ohio Mission Region
2018 Annual Convocation***

***Saturday, May 5
9AM—4:15 PM
@Grace Lutheran Church
Westerville OH***

This year’s Mission Region Convocation features:

- ◆ **Rev. Dr. Gemechis Buba**, Assistant to the NALC Bishop for Missions, with two keynote addresses on the theme scripture, Ephesians 6:18-19.
 - ◆ **Workshops:** Prayer, Sharing Faith, Fears of the Flock, and How God Can Use Me.
 - ◆ **Elections** for Ohio Region Secretary and several NW Ohio District offices (Dean, Secretary, and two Executive Council seats (clergy or lay, terms expire May 2018 & May 2021).
 - ◆ **Displays** from church-related vendors.
 - ◆ **Opportunities galore** to grow in faith, and connect with Ohio NALC Lutherans.
- Registration:** \$30/person (includes continental breakfast and lunch) if you register by April 20; \$40 after that. Contact church office @ Grace ASAP for a registration

**May 4 is deadline
for nominations to
NALC 2018
Leadership Elections**

***Elections take place at
2018 NALC Convocation,
Aug. 15—17 in Denver***

Elections for NALC leadership positions will be held at the 2018 NALC Convocation, this August in Denver. Positions open are:

- **Executive Council** (1 clergy, 1 lay person; 4-year term)
- **Court of Adjudication** (2 persons, clergy or lay; 4-year term)
- **North American Lutheran Seminary Board of Regents** (3 persons, clergy or lay; 6-year term)

For details about each position and other details, go to
<https://www.thenalc.org/gallery/candidates-needed/>

Interested persons should speak with their congregation and pastor first about being nominated. Pastor Cathi serves on the NALC Nominating Committee. She’ll be glad to answer your questions about the open positions and nominations process.

Ask the Lord who YOU could recommend to serve in these positions!

Coming in May:

**North American
Lutheran Seminary
Annual Appeal**

Will we have enough pastors?

Will our pastors be well-grounded in God’s Word and the Lutheran Confessions?

Will they be able to teach and equip disciples at all ages and stages of life?

The North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) will continue to answer “YES” to these questions with your help during North American Lutheran Seminary Month.

Watch for more details in the May 2018 issue of “Amazing Grace” —and pray now for an abundance of prayer, financial support and seminarians stepping forward to answer God’s call. For more information, visit the NALS website: thenals.org



April 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNES-	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 Easter 8:00 am Sunday Schl 9:00 am Worship</p> <p>Ciara Johnson Dave Mann April Platfoot Toni Shady</p>	<p>2 7:00 pm Circle 2</p> <p>Larry Shroyer</p>	<p>3 1:30 pm Young at Heart 6:00 pm Worship Com 7:00 pm Grace at Prayer — Sanctuary</p>	<p>4 1:30 pm Circle 1 6:00 pm Gospel Gang 6:00 pm Mission Com 6:15 pm Catechism 6:30 pm Luther League 7:00 pm Choir Practice</p> <p>Larry Symonds</p>	<p>5 6:30 pm Endowment 7:00 pm Praise Band</p> <p>Sharon Lenhart Kathy Metz</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Jarod Ratermann Erika Metz</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Fanny Oakley</p>
<p>8 2nd Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Luther League Breakfast 9:15 am Sunday Schl 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm 4-H Mtg</p> <p>Fritz & Deb Serr*</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Garrett Serr</p>	<p>10 2:00 pm—6:00 pm WOC Blood Bank at American Legion Hall 6:00 pm Backpack Packaging</p> <p>Ross Ludwig</p>	<p>11 6:00 am CAC Meeting 6:15 pm Catechism 7:00 pm Choir Practice</p> <p>Carson Regula Dean Wildermuth</p>	<p>12 7:00 Praise Band</p> <p>Christina Bowen Ann Wildermuth</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Chris Clark Danielle Davis</p>	<p>14 10:00 am—3:00 pm Listening Day with the Dean of the NALC NW Ohio Mission District</p> <p>Spencer Knouff Sue Ludwig</p>
<p>15 3rd Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Orly Cong Mtg 9:15 am Sunday Schl 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>Andrea Canaday Olivia Wright</p>	<p>16 7:00 pm Choir Practice</p> <p>Austin & Amy Regula*</p>	<p>17 7:00 pm Circle 3 7:00 pm Men's Group</p> <p>Tatum Davis</p>	<p>18 6:00 pm WOC Board 6:15 pm Catechism 6:30 pm Luther League 7:00 pm Choir Practice</p> <p>Carly Shipp Lindsey Metz Dennis & Sandy Weaver*</p>	<p>19 8:00 am —May Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>7:00 Praise Band</p> <p>Dean & Christina</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Ethan Barhorst</p>	<p>21 11:00 am Hands of Hope Meal—Team Deb</p> <p>Marcia Davis Tom Schindel Trey Woolley</p>
<p>22 4th Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Choir Service 9:00 am Fellowship 9:15 am Sunday Schl 10:30 am Worship w/Guest Leader Seminarian Adam Poe</p> <p>Melanie Wolf Rex & Fanny Oakley*</p>	<p>23 10:00 am—3:00 pm FISH</p> <p>Bonnie Kaufman Glytana Sloan Dick Wildermuth</p>	<p>24 2:15 pm Fair Haven (Cheryl Burch & Marlaine Schneider)</p> <p>Dave & Patty Mann*</p>	<p>25 6:15 pm Catechism</p> <p>Shawn Smith</p>	<p>26 7:00 pm Praise Band</p> <p>Elliott Davis</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Traci Myers Rick & Tina Sailor*</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Tate Zorn</p>
<p>29 5th Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Fellowship 9:15 am Sunday Schl 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Don DeWeese</p>	<p>Worship times are as follows unless otherwise indicated: 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:00 am Fellowship Time 9:15 am Sunday School for all ages 10:30 am Praise (Contemporary) Service Birthdays and *Anniversaries are listed below the day's scheduled events.</p> <p><i>If any changes or additions need to be made, please call the church office at 937-596-6516 or e-mail us at graceelc@embarqmail.com — Thanks!</i></p>				

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***G**lorify God*

***R**each Out To The Unchurched*

***A**cept And Share God's Love*

***C**ome Together In His Name*

***E**quip People to Reach Christlike Maturity*

April 2018



Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Cathi Braasch, STS

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The Amazing Grace

Newsletter of

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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