



NOVEMBER 2023 GRACEGRAM

Grace alone . . . Faith alone . . . Word alone . . .

Sing!

Sing

A

New

Song!

Sing of
that day
when all will
be one!

United
in
LOVE!

~ David Haas



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Don't judge wine by its label. Proverbs 23:31

I had to label my containers that I use in storage, if I didn't I would need to open every container to find the item that I was needing. (Especially those Christmas decorations) Labels can be quite helpful. When labels are used often they can assist us in living more productive lives. But I have also known labels to be something that can divide. Here are a few labels that were used around me in the last two weeks.

Labels:	Mask wearer	Sinner
	Drunk	Divorced
	Retired	Striker
	Lazy	Overworked



I probably could come up with other labels, and the context that I heard these labels being used was ALWAYS in a judgmental manner or tone. I intentionally thought of this first list of labels, because God has taken all these labels and made them into nothing! They no longer have power to separate us from the love of God revealed in Christ Jesus. The labels I strive to focus my time and energy are things such as:

Labels:	Kindness	Nice	Friendly	Loving	Listener
	Abundant	Generous	Helpful	Providing	Walker
	Thoughtful	Sharer	Humble	Joyful	Partner

All of these labels also really do not matter, except I do appreciate knowing what type of soup I am opening. The label that really matters is Child of God. Each of us is precious in God's sight. I am so thankful that each of us have that label. We are wrapped in God's grace and love. If we are going to use labels, let us use them in love.

Serving with you in Christ,

Pastor Ken +



**Deadline for the
December GraceGram is
November 17, 2023.**

Send your articles to:
Brenda Hess
parishadmin@grace-hastings.org



PASTY SALE PICKUP

Saturday, November 4

If you ordered pasties, please pick them up between 11:00 and 2:00.



Mark your calendars!

Brothers of Grace Annual Christmas Dinner Night Out will be on Thursday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m. This year we are celebrating at Yankee Bills on M179.

Remembering Our Shut-In Friends

As the holidays approach it's a great time to remember our friends who are not able to attend services with us. You can find addresses for Donna Buehl, Wes and Opal Gillons, Elsie Merrow, Beverly Brown, Shirley Beck, Carolyn O'Connor, and Karl Golnek in this GraceGram. If you know of someone that needs to be added to this list, please let Brenda know. Thank you.



MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES MARK YOUR CALENDAR

This year we will be celebrating the Advent season by gathering on Wednesday evenings on December 6th, 13th, and 20th. Wednesday Advent meals will take place in the Fellowship Hall starting at 6:15. The worship service will follow beginning at 7:15 in the Sanctuary. We hope you can join us.



Advent Devotionals

Will be available again for the 2023 Advent season. Details to follow in upcoming bulletins.

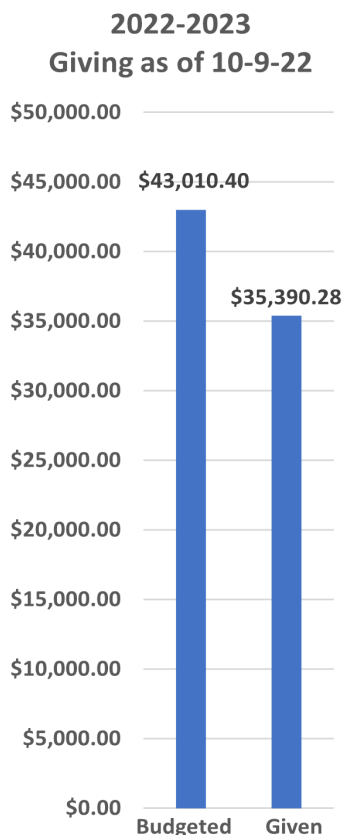
All Saints Day November 5

If you have someone you would like to add to the list for All Saints Day, please sign them up on the list in the Gathering Area or email to Brenda at parishadmin@grace-hastings.org.

Reminder: Sunday, November 5th
the time changes and daylight savings ends..



We are **PREPARED TO BE** . . .



Please use this QR Code to access online giving.



God's Creation 2023 Outreach Calendars

God's Creation Calendars are available for \$5.00 and are provided as a ministry of outreach for you to share with relatives, neighbors, coworkers, friends, teachers, letter carriers, the homebound and caregivers...anyone you think who would have their day brightened by this lovely calendar with its inspiring Bible verses. They are provided at a low cost to purchase and share, and are not a fundraiser. Pick up your calendars in the Gathering Area and pay in the envelopes provided. Envelopes can be placed in the offering plate, or on the parish administrators desk. Thanks for supporting this beautiful ministry.



Christmas Family Adoptions

Once again this year the Outreach Committee is planning to adopt five families from the Hastings area to receive family food baskets and gifts for each child in the family. Watch for the **grocery list** to be posted on the bulletin board and the **children's gift chart** to be set up in the gathering area later this month.

Save the Date



Jesus's Birthday Party will take place on Sunday, December 10 following the 10:45 service. A meal will be provided.

GIVING TREE

The *Giving Tree* will be set up in the gathering area after the Thanksgiving holiday.

What is needed most are disinfecting wipes, paper towels, and afternoon snacks for students. These are items most often purchased out-of-pocket by the teachers themselves. Tags will be placed on the tree listing donation suggestions.



Thanksgiving Community Service

There will be a greater Hastings area Community Thanksgiving Service at **6:00** p.m. on Sunday, November 19 at the First Presbyterian Church located at 405 North M-37.



Secret Santa

You'll be notified on November 19th with details and the name of your Secret Santa recipient. The reveal of your Secret Santa will take place on Sunday, December 10 at the Jesus Birthday party.



**American
Red Cross**

Blood
Services

Blood Drive

On Monday, November 20 Grace is hosting a **BLOOD DRIVE**. Please watch the bulletin for more information.



Executive Committee:

President: *Tim Schoessel*
 Vice President: *Vickey Argo*
 Secretary: *Lisa Pobl*
 Treasurer: *Linda Maupin*

Church Council Members/Liaisons:

Vickey Argo (Congregational Care)
Doug Neeb (Property)
Patti Comp (Outreach)
Jamie Heise (Youth & Family)
Bill Freedlund (Social Activities)
Greg Franks (Stewardship)
Deborah Wilke (Small Groups)
Kate Watson (Worship)
Mark Anton ("Free Agent")

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 am and 10:45 am

Worship also

On line:

www.grace-hastings.org



OUR
MISSION

Saved by Grace.
 Called to Worship.
 Sent to Serve.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

10:45 am

1st Sunday after Labor Day
 through May @ 10:45 a.m.

Seeking a coordinator

Our Staff:

Ken Scheck II
Minister of Word and Sacrament
kscheckii@aol.com

Cindy Olson, *Minister of Music*

Brenda Hess, *Parish Administrator*

Mon-Thurs 9AM - 1PM

parishadmin@grace-hastings.org

Kim Domke, *Bell Choir Director*
kdomke08@gmail.com

Aurora Collins, *Nursery*

Nathan Freedlund, *Custodian*

OUR MINISTERS:
 THE PEOPLE OF GOD

- Martin Luther



www.CreativeCertificates.com

Grace Lutheran Church

239 E. North Street
 Hastings, MI 49058

Website:

www.grace-hastings.org

Facebook:

Grace Lutheran Church- ELCA
 Hastings, MI

Phone:

269-945-9414
 269-945-2645

PLEASE
 PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE



**Evangelical Lutheran
 Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Let Us Pray: If you are aware of others that should be put on the lists, please notify the office.

Homebound:

Donna Buehl	Thornapple Manor 2700 Nashville Road Hastings, MI 49058
Wes Gillons	Thornapple Manor
Opal Gillons	Thornapple Manor
Elsie Merrow	Woodlawn Meadows 1825 East Street Hastings, MI 49058
Beverly Brown	Woodlawn Meadows
Shirley Beck	Hope Landing 1252 North Cochran #116 Charlotte, MI 48813
Carolyn O'Connor	Hope Landing #118
Karl Golnek	Medilodge of Holland 1221 East 16th Street Holland, MI 48423

Military:

Grandson of Freedlunds
Parker Stancil (US Army)

Daughter & son-in-law of Cherie Clements
Myrina & Cody Crawford

Granddaughter of Gwen Hansen
Cynthia Rudesill

Nephew of Joe & Sharon Varkula
LT Joel Taggart (USN, Virginia)

Grandniece of Karen and Bill Halstead & Jan Schreiner
Julia Ehredt (Bahrain)

Nephew and Godson of Ed and Kim Domke
Seth Domke (Pensacola, Florida)



BIRTHDAYS

Doug Neeb	11/05
Chris Bush	11/10
Sean Benedict	11/11
Steve Carr	11/15
Dan Patton	11/23
John Burdick	11/25

ANNIVERSARIES

Dean & Nyla Rounds	11/12
Barry & Margaret Wood	11/15
Joe & Sharon Varkula	11/28



We are **PREPARED TO BE . . .**

Food Pantry Donations

Did you know the food pantry can purchase food for it's clients at a significant discount? When you consider donating to the food bank, please consider giving a monetary donation. Checks can be made out to Barry County Cares.



Bell Choir Openings

The Bell Choir extends an open invitation to come to a rehearsal to see what bells are all about. If you are interested, you can come to a rehearsal on any Thursday from 3 -6 p.m. A private lesson is also available for anyone wanting to try. Questions? Please contact Kim Domke at kdomke08@gmail.com or 269.908.0024.



Outreach Projects Planned for December

The Outreach Committee is again planning to coordinate our three usual projects during the month of December:

- ♦ Adopt-a-Family Christmas gifts for children
- ♦ Adopt-a-Family Christmas food baskets
- ♦ Giving Tree – snacks for SE Elementary teachers to distribute to their students

We look forward to the generous and faithful response our members have given to these projects in the past. Watch for sign-up sheets to be posted in the gathering area later this month.



*I will praise
the name
of God
with a song,
and will
magnify him with*
THANKSGIVING

Psalms 69:30



Hand 2 Hand

The Outreach Committee invites you to help the Hand2Hand Program which provides food over the weekend to students in need in Hastings schools. The number of students being served recently increased from 66 to 71. We are collecting donations of Yoo-Hoo Chocolate Milk, pudding cups, Slim Jims, granola bars, individual size instant oatmeal, ramen noodles, and ready-to-eat mac and cheese. In addition, November items are as follows, microwave popcorn, individual fruit cups, Knorr pasta sides, and canned chicken noodle soup. Please place all donations in the box at the front entrance. **This month's donations are due on November 27.**

If you would like additional information regarding this program, please visit <https://h2hkids.org>



hand2hand
because a hungry child hurts

NOVEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
Grace Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.			Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Bells 3:00-6:00		Pasty Sale Pick up 11:00-2:00
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Time Change All Saints Sunday Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person, and Online worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Women of Faith 11:00 am Executive Committee 6:30 Flutes 6-8:30	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Brothers of Grace 7:00 Bells 3:00-6:00		Veteran's Day 
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person, and Online worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Social Activities Committee 4:30 Outreach 5:30	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Women of Faith 11:00 am Council 6:30 Flutes 6-8:30	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Bells 3:00-6:00	Deadline for December GraceGram Articles	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 Community Thanksgiving At First Presbyterian 6:00 pm	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Blood Drive Details to follow	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Women of Faith 11:00 am Council 6:30 Flutes 6-8:30	Office Closed	Thanksgiving 		
26	27	28	29	30		
Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:45 <i>In-person, and Online worship</i>	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Women of Faith 11:00 am	Pastor's office hours 10am-12	Pastor's office hours 10am-12 Bells 3:00-6:00		