

Announcements for December 21, 2025

*Our Mission is to share God's love with each other,
our community, and the world.*

This Week at Grace

Sunday

10 am Worship

Wednesday

Office Closed

4:30 pm Pre-Service Music

5 pm Christmas Eve Service

Thursday

Office Closed

Friday

Office Closed

- ◆ **Christmas Eve Service:** Our Christmas Eve service will take place on Wednesday. **Music starts at 4:30 pm**, and our **Worship Service with Holy Communion starts at 5 pm**. Please come and bring your friends and family to celebrate the birth of Our Lord!
- ◆ **Holiday Hours:** Our church office will be closed beginning Wednesday, December 24, and will resume normal operating hours on Monday, January 5. Our parish administrator can be reached via phone during office hours (9 am – Noon) on 12/29/25, 12/30/25, and 1/02/26 at (863) 686-5585. In case of pastoral emergency, please contact P. Lois Sorensen at (813) 494-4052.
- ◆ **Centering Prayer** will not meet on Thursday, December 25, or Thursday, January 1.
- ◆ Our **annual meeting** is upcoming on **Sunday, January 11 at 11:30 am**, in the Fellowship Hall following worship. Please make plans to attend.

The agenda consists of four items:

- the proposed **2026 Ministry Spending Plan** (aka Budget)
- a few required and a few recommended **updates to our church constitution**
- the slate of individuals recommended by council to **serve on council** for the 2026-2028 term.
- to vote on authorizing the **replacement** of the main **Fellowship Hall air conditioning** unit.

To prepare you to vote in this important meeting, P. Olga-Maria, Terry Neal and other members of the finance committee /council will be available during **coffee hour on Sunday, January 4**. We will go over the Ministry Spending Plan and Constitutional revisions together and address any questions you may have. The Ministry Spending Plan and Constitutional revisions **documents** will also be made available on Sunday, Dec. 28.

- ◆ **December's God's Work Our Hands:** Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Donations to this fund create a pool of resources for members & neighbors in need. We also collect gift cards for gas, groceries & pharmacy.
- ◆ **Prayer List:** Mary Buschbacher, Mabel Carreira, Doris Cirillo, June Clark, Ann Daffer, Julie Dunston, Carol Grzegorzczuk, Anne Guilford, Judy Haer, Jeff Hale, Gloria Hanchard, Lydia Hodge, Brian Hosty, James & Grace Irish, Katie King, Wil Krell, Amy Krell, Bob & Jane Lemley, Scott Listy, Lynda Mack, Ron & Flo Mari, Mac McPeak, Monica Mencia, Avery Monroe, Doris Muszynski, John Shamp, Abby Shocik, Mike Shocik, Tim Simpson, Arleen Smith, Betty Smith, Linda Springer, Kristen Storms, Natalie Thiele, Henry Tomlinson, Glenn Van Benschoten, Gary Venable, Connie Wasserman, Greg Wasserman, Helen & Ron Wettleson, and Max Wickham.
- ◆ **Please let the office know** if you or any of our church family is in hospital or needs home communion.
- ◆ The **Backpack Ministry** helps feed the students of Oscar J. Pope Elementary. Please continue to bring ramen noodles and 16/18 oz creamy peanut butter.
- ◆ **Friendship Pads:** All who are worshipping with us today, especially those who are visiting, are invited to sign the Friendship Pad that is at the center aisle end of the pew. Please list your phone number if you are visiting. We would like to be in touch with you and to welcome you to our church. After you sign, please pass it down the pew and back.
- ◆ **Serving Today:**
 - **Presiding Minister:** The Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz
 - **Assisting Minister:** Terry Neal
 - **Music:** Gene Hodges, Organist; Art Pranno, Choir Director; Mary Flekke, Bell Choir Director
 - **Ushers:** Kevin & Cheri Zarnstorff
 - **Doorkeeper:** P.J. Blanchette
 - **Altar Guild:** Mary Buschbacher & Phyllis Whidden
 - **Flowers:** Pastor Olga-Maria Cruz: Christmas Blessings
 - **Birthdays:** 12/25: Melanie Buskirk
- ◆ **Worship Opportunities:**

Sunday Morning Worship in-person and livestreamed at 10:00 am

Online: Website - <https://www.gracelakeland.com/live>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/churchgracelakeland>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@gracelakeland/streams>
- ◆ **Contact Information:** Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – Noon
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