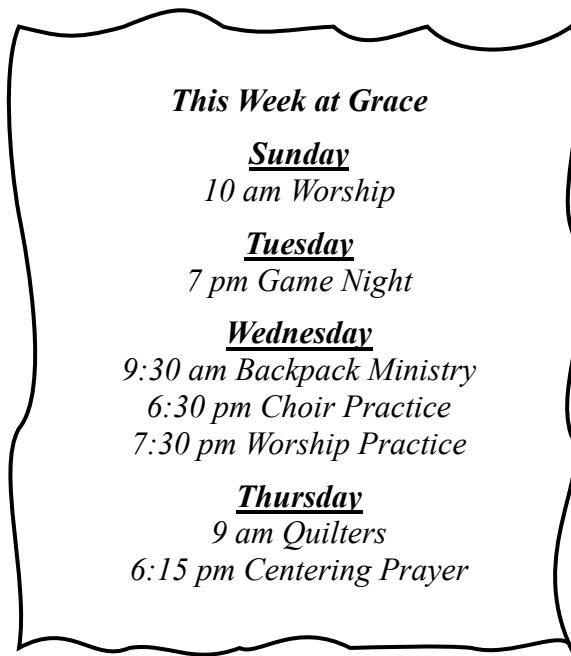


# Announcements for January 4, 2026

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



- ◆ 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 today**. 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** are available for review.
- ◆ **Game Night:** Friends, faith, and fun unite! **The first Tuesday of every month** is Game Night at Grace, hosted in the Fellowship Hall at 7 p.m. All are welcome, and encouraged to bring friends and family along. We will have board games, card games, role-playing games, and more. Light refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!
- ◆ **January's God's Work Our Hands: VISTE.** We collect food, hygiene & household items to Volunteers in Service to the Elderly, to help at-risk seniors stay in their homes.
- ◆ **Please let the office know** if you or any of our church family is in hospital or needs home communion.

- ◆ **Prayer List:** Mary Buschbacher, Mabel Carreira, Doris Cirillo, June Clark, Ann Daffer, Julie Dunston, Carol Grzegorczyk, 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, Beverly Watson, Helen & Ron Wettleson, and Max Wickham.
- ◆ 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:** Carla McGee
  - **Music:** Gene Hodges, Organist; Art Pranno, Choir Director
  - **Ushers:** Glenn Van Benschoten & Richard Tenold
  - **Doorkeeper:** P.J. Blanchette
  - **Altar Guild:** Mary Buschbacher and Phyllis Whidden
  - **Flowers:** To the Glory of God
  - **Birthdays:** 1/07: Barbara Carpanini; 1/08: Sharon Lewis
- ◆ **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  
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church 863-686-5585  
745 S. Ingraham Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33801  
Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz, Pastor: [pastor@gracelakeland.com](mailto:pastor@gracelakeland.com)  
Kandyn Mathes, Parish Administrator: [church@gracelakeland.com](mailto:church@gracelakeland.com)