

News & Announcements

THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Charlene Stevens in memory of her father Joe Hawkins.

YOUTH GROUP will be getting together on December 16th for a Christmas party from 3:30 – 5:30. All youth are invited to bring a gift of no value. It should be something that you currently have but you no longer use or want it.

OUR ANGEL TREE is now up. Many tags are still available. Please take a tag, purchase the item, return the item unwrapped in a plastic bag with the tag. All gifts are needed back to the church by December 18th. Thank you for serving those that need a little help this year.

A NOTE OF THANKS to everyone that participated in the youth fundraiser last weekend. If you participated, you may pick up your zip drive and a t-shirt in the fellowship hall. A big thank you to Lisa for donating her time and talents!

CALLING ALL BAKERS. We are once again soliciting donations of coffee cake and other baked treats for our Sunday School Christmas program. Also, please label items that contain nuts as we have members with severe nut allergies.

MILITARY BIBLE

STICKS There is a special outreach to the military. \$25 purchases a rugged military grade mp3 player with the ESV New Testament for one of our troops in the field or at the VA, and CDs and Kid's CDs for their family at home. Watch for them on the angel tree or speak with Russell for more info. Over 950,000 have been sent out to the field already.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY If you would like to become a part of the regular bi-weekly prayer and Bible study meetings drop by the West Wing on Wednesday, December 5, 6:30-7:30 am. Call Lester Peters or Ed Probst.



THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, December 2

Divine Service ~ 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Adult Education ~ 9:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School ~ 9:30 a.m.

Japanese Sunday School ~ 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Youth Confirmation ~ 5:45-7:30 p.m.

Monday, December 3

Widow's Walk @ 4 Seasons ~ 12:30p.m.

Tuesday, December 4

Moppets ~ 9:00-11:15 a.m.

ESL @ Zaharakos ~ 9:00-11:15 a.m.

Wednesday, December 5

Men's Bible Study ~ 6:30-7:30 a.m.

Mops Kids ~ 9:00-11:15 a.m.

Advent Fellowship Meal ~ 5:45 p.m.

Advent Midweek Service ~ 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 6

Staff Meeting ~ 9:00-10:00 a.m.

MOMSNEXT ~ 11:30-1:00 p.m.

Elder Meeting ~ 5:30 p.m.

Friday, December 7

IFC English Conversation Groups

~ 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 7

Sunday, December 8

Divine Service ~ 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Adult Education ~ 9:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School ~ 9:30 a.m.

Youth Confirmation ~ 5:45-7:30 p.m.

MISSION MOMENT As in the past, Advent offerings this year will be divided between local and distant missions. The local portion will be given to Pregnancy Care Center (Clarity) and Love Chapel. The remainder will be sent for the work of Tom and Debbie Going, missionaries to Japan.

Our Family Matters

**December 2
2018**

Grace Lutheran Church, 3201 Central Avenue, Columbus, IN 47203 812-372-4859
<http://www.gracecolumbus.org> ~ office@gracecolumbus.org

ADVENT/HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Wednesday Evening Services,
"Waiting Well"

December 5, 12 & 19, 6:30 pm
(Advent fellowship meals 5:45 pm)

Lessons & Carols Concert, December 15, 7:00 pm

Children's Christmas Program, December 16, 9:30 am

Christmas Eve Service, December 24, 6:30 pm

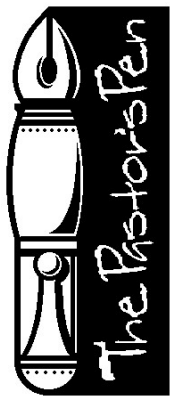
Christmas Eve Late Service, December 24, 11:00 pm

New Year's Eve Service, December 31, 6:30 pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 9:30 A.M.

It's that time again for our annual Children's Sunday School Christmas Program on Sunday, December 16, at 9:30 in the West Wing. Our program will feature Grace's youngest members who have been practicing at Children's Sunday School. There will be some tasty treats from some of Grace Lutheran's best bakers. Please invite someone to this favorite annual tradition.

**"Christ-centered worship, proclaiming the Gospel,
and nurturing all into God's family."**



A Lutheran approach to exorcism

Did you know that Pope Francis' favorite exorcist is a Lutheran pastor in Argentina?

During the Pope's tenure as a cardinal in Argentina, he would regularly call on Pastor Manuel Acuna of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Buenos Aires whenever local bishops would not give permission for an exorcism.

The demand for exorcisms seems to be increasing.

Half of all Americans believe in demonic possession and, as of October of this year, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis has received some 1,700 requests for exorcism.

The Lutheran Church of Madagascar, one of the largest in the world, regularly performs exorcisms of people and places (house blessings).

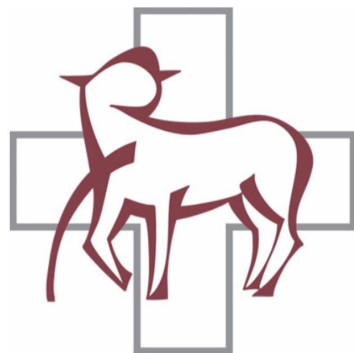
According to Dr. Robert Bennett of our Ft. Wayne Seminary and who has spoken twice at Grace on demonic possession, an exorcism does not require elaborate ritual nor the approval of a bishop.

Speaking the Word of God and praying is essential. Singing hymns is also helpful.

Dr. Bennett adds that our Lutheran liturgy is itself exorcistic, since it contains God's Word from beginning to end, incorporates confession and absolution, the Lord's Supper, blessings and hymns.

Jesus is the only exorcist, and He has already defeated the devil at the cross.

When we employ His Word and His Sacraments, Christ Himself is present to cast out Satan and his lies, removing sin and its consequences from people and places.



We have 15 more households to invite to Grace this year.

2018 is the fifty-fifth anniversary of our Indiana District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. In recognition of this, we will invite 55 households and/or individuals to worship this year. The world needs the Gospel, including our many unchurched neighbors, coworkers and classmates. The cults (Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, etc.) are busy in your neighborhood! Even in Christian churches the Gospel is being distorted, obscured by legalism and self-chosen works in order to gain favor with God. You may invite the same individuals you invited last year (most don't come unless invited several times), or new individuals whom you have yet to invite

Who could I invite?

- **My neighbor who doesn't attend church;**
- **My crafting buddy;**
- **My book buddy...**

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WIDOW'S WALK Widow's Walk meets the first Monday of the month at a local restaurant for lunch, a devotion and the support we can give each other. R.S.V.P at 812-378-2075. Next meeting: Widow's Walk will meet December 3 at 4 Seasons Nursing Home.

GRACE FOUNDATION GRANTS Grace Lutheran Church Foundation is accepting grant requests. Application forms are available in the church office. Please contact a Foundation Board member if you have any questions.

LOST AND FOUND Please collect your missing plates and serving items from the lost and found table next to the kitchen. We know there is a special spot in your house for them but not really room enough in the church kitchen.

SOUND TEACHING

TITUS 2:1

ADULT EDUCATION classes continue this week with the following:

"Romans: Alive in Christ" A CPH study (13 sessions.) Romans summarizes well both a quarter century of Paul's missionary preaching and teaching, and the essential emphases of his evangelical theology. Led by Mark Newton.

"Christians in Conflict" A Bible Study About Peacemaking looks at the causes of conflict. It shows how the biblical principles of confession, absolution, and forgiveness are all key in finding a resolution. God's Word is the most important part of peacemaking and the only way to facilitate true healing and comfort. Led by Darrah Franks & Deaconess Julie.

"Liturgy: Yesterday, Today and Forever"

Have you ever wondered why we worship like we do each Sunday? Where did the Liturgy come from? Join us for a 12-week class tracing the origin and development of the Historic Liturgy. Led by Russell Davies.

"East Wing Adult Bible Study" for parents of young families. The study digs deeper into the weekly children's Bible story.

ISSUES ETC. SCHEDULE We encourage you to continue to listen to "Issues, Etc." each Sunday at noon, AM 1010, WCSI, sponsored by Grace Lutheran.

A MOBILE LUTHERAN BIBLE

STUDY...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: 4th Century Pastor Saint Nicholas of Myra, The Movie "Fantastic Beasts 2," 16th Century Ruler Philipp of Hesse, The Book of Amos, 8th Century Hymnwriter John of Damascus, The Birth of Jesus Foretold and more. Listen anytime at www.issuesetc.org or on the LPR mobile app.