

Grace of Christ Presbyterian Church  
*Together at Grace*

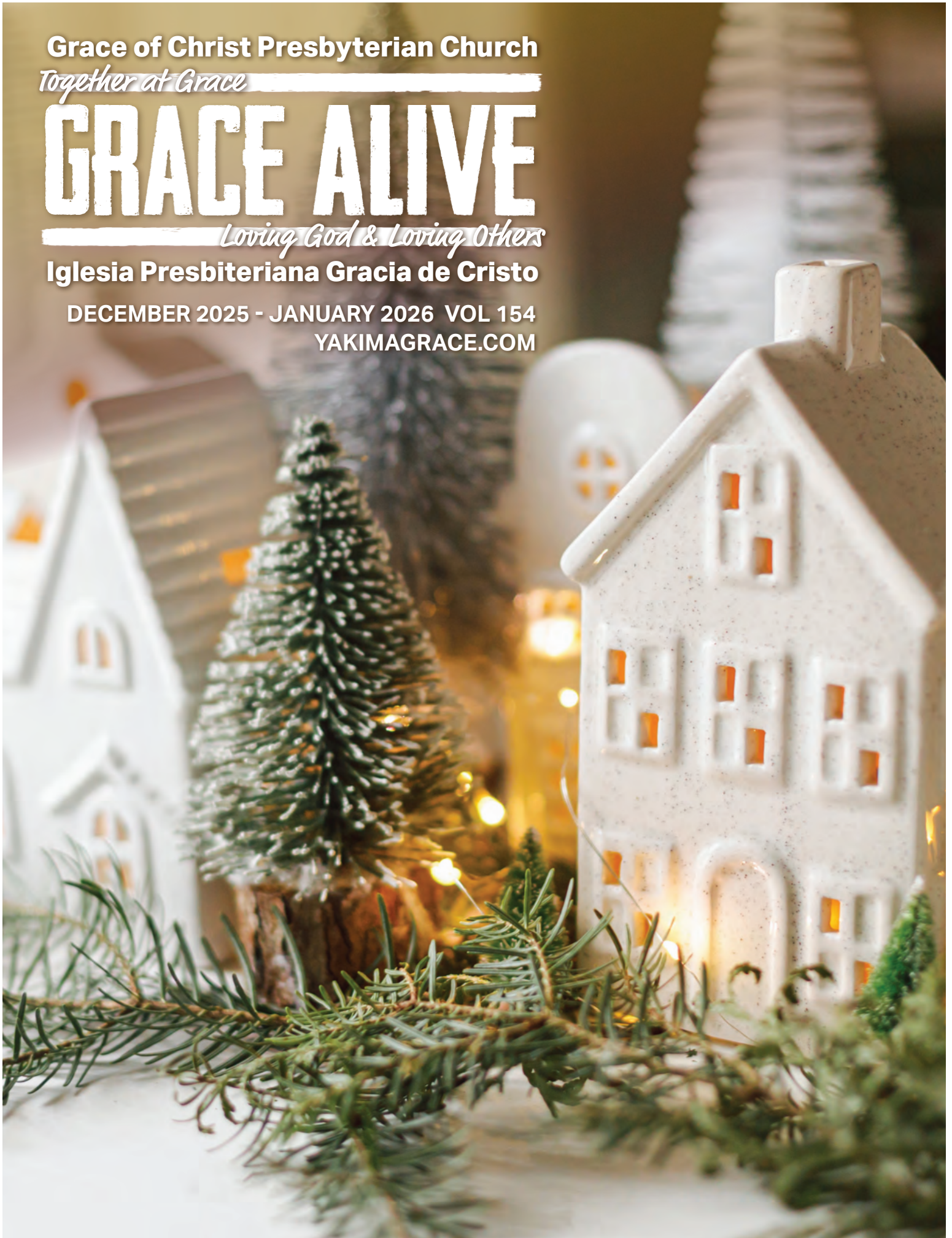
# GRACE ALIVE

*Loving God & Loving Others*

Iglesia Presbiteriana Gracia de Cristo

DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026 VOL 154

YAKIMAGRACE.COM







## Pastor

— *Rev. Dr. Gregory Wagenfuhr*  
*Lead Pastor*



Welcome to Grace of Christ Presbyterian Church! This Christmas season we're talking about expectations and value. Christmas is the time of year when we celebrate the things that are important to us (or what we think is supposed to be important). We have songs celebrating home, family, innocence, white snow, gift giving, and all the positive emotions we can muster. But the imagery of Christmas, as with our songs, is a bit old and nostalgic. No one looks or dresses like Santa Claus, no one really uses sleighs, or gets about by horses with bells. If Christmas, like other midwinter holidays, has been about hope amid darkness, it would seem that our hope doesn't lie in the future, but in longing about the past. Are the best days behind us? Was there a time of innocence, a time when society was more childlike in its wonder, in its joys, in its hopes? Do we all hope for a simpler time?

Perhaps. Indeed, the past was smaller, more local, and involved problems that average people could actually do something about. Now we live in a world of AI, of war on industrial scales, of global economies. Our families are scattered across the country or even the world looking for work and the best opportunities. The scale of the world has grown, and that makes us all individually small. And so maybe we hope for something small, something simple, some easy fix to go

back to a time where individuals could find meaning locally and where simply changing the heart of one industrialist like Ebenezer Scrooge would transform a whole community.

For some church is part of that nostalgic past with memories of simple times, simple messages, and a simple vision of how the world is related to the supernatural. And so, church feels as old-fashioned as a model Dickensian Christmas village. It's just too simple to address the problems of today. Its message, its blind hope in some 2000-year-old guy and a 2000-year-old book feel quaint and outdated in a rapidly changing world. We're too grown up now, too jaded, too technological to take it very seriously.

But what if we are still simple ones? The message of Christmas in the Bible is not about some nostalgic time of a quaint little family. It's the story of the most disruptive event of human history, the invasion of God into the world of human affairs. It's the divine challenge to human order, to the simplistic story that we are managing our personal and civilizational affairs well by ourselves. The Gospel of John (1:14) puts it this way, "The Word became flesh and made his home among us." The "Word" here can mean "an account". It's a word that has its origin in how people value things. The message here is the one who gives things meaning, who gives value to things, has come to the world as light, but people prefer to live in darkness and reject the light of truth. Darkness is simple.



Jon Waite Retirement Celebration



Rev. Dr. Gregory Wagenfuhr Installation Blessing



## Pastor

It's about control of information and thus control of value, control of stories and people. It's about keeping people in the dark, keeping secrets, telling simple stories to create alignment with some side or other.

The story of Christmas, of Jesus Christ coming into the world, isn't a story about how amazing the miracles were, but a story of God coming to disrupt the ways humans control each other and his creation with a challenge. It is God coming with what Jesus will call his kingdom—a different order of living in God's world, a different way of seeing other people, valuing others, and seeing the light triumph over the darkness. Never before has the control of information and the modes of distribution been more simplified and owned by so few. Celebrating the coming of the Word of God is celebrating the freedom brought by the light. Jesus later says, "If you have your living in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32).

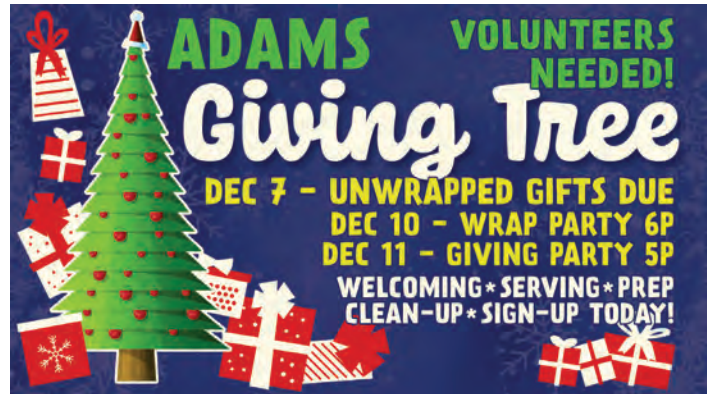
Christmas is anything but a holiday of the simplistic and nostalgic. It is a celebration that God has sent us the one who can set us free to a different future, both in this life and hereafter.

If you are interested in learning more about Jesus and how the message of Jesus is as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago, I'd love for you to get in touch with us or join us for further conversations on Sundays or during the classes we have here at Grace.

Blessings,  
Rev. Dr. Gregory Wagenfuhr  
Lead Pastor



Adeilia's baptism with parents Pastor Gregory and Ainhoa, and her sister Aristéia on November 23, 2025. Godparents Mark and April Norman.



## Adams Giving Tree

- 1 **Pick Up Gift Tags** – Beginning November 23rd from the Giving Tree in the Garden Room.
- 2 **Bring New, Unwrapped Gifts** back to church (office or Garden Rm) by Sunday, December 7th.
- 3 **Help Wrap Gifts** on Wednesday, December 10th at 6:00pm in the Church Gym.
- 4 **Help Deliver Gifts** on Thursday, December 11th (Call the church for more info: 509-248-7940).
- 5 **Volunteer at the Adams Giving Tree Party!** Thursday, December 11th at Adams Elementary School. (\*Volunteers come at 4:00pm and the party starts at 5:00pm!)
- 6 **Join the Team Serving Dinner!** Thursday, December 11th at 4:00pm at ADAMS Elementary School Gym.
- 7 **Sign-Up for these Volunteer Opportunities** by calling the Church at: 509-248-7940.



Giving Tree at the Adams Elementary Gym



**Kara Brown**  
Student Ministry  
Director



**Jahzeel Garcia**  
Student Ministry  
Assistant

## Student Ministry

It is the busiest time of the year. It's colder and darker outside, and Advent is already here. The end of the year came so fast. How did that even happen? It's nearly impossible to believe that it will be 2026 in just a few short weeks.

The thought of the year ending makes us reflect. With this last series of lessons on the greatest commandment, we delved into what it means and how we can apply it practically to our lives as students. "Jesus replied, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Matthew 22:37-39 NIV)

We broke it down to three things: first, love God because he loved you first, second, love yourself as God sees you because you are valuable in his eyes, and third, love others because God loves them too. These things are true always. So, we should keep this in mind as this year ends, and the next one begins. God loves us always, so we should love God always, ourselves always, and others always.

It is the busiest time of the year, so keep your eyes out for all of our Christmas events. Such as cookie decorating night, our Christmas party, the last Sunday Club of the year, and more!

Watch for our newsletter and Instagram post.



**Four Square in the Air – Grace of Christ Gym**

## GRACE YOUTH WINTER CALENDAR 2025-2026

<b>Sundays</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Lower Level Classrooms</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Gym</b>
<b>Sun, Nov 30</b>	<b>Jacob's Well</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
<b>Thur, Dec 11</b>	<b>Adams Giving Tree Party</b>	<b>4:30pm – 7:30pm</b>	<b>Adam's Elementary</b>
<b>Sat, Dec 13</b>	<b>Christmas Cookie Decorating</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Merrill's Home</b>
<b>Wed, Dec 17</b>	<b>Youth Christmas Party!!!</b>	<b>5:30pm – 8:30pm</b>	<b>Garden Room</b>
<b>Wed, Dec 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Service</b> <b>(**NO Youth Group**)</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>Sun, Dec 28</b>	<b>NO Sunday Club Today</b>		
<b>Wed, Dec 31</b>	<b>NO Youth Group – Happy New Year's Eve!</b>		
<b>Sun, Jan 5</b>	<b>Sunday Club Resumes</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Lower Level Classrooms</b>
<b>Wed, Jan 7</b>	<b>Youth Group Resumes</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Gym</b>
<b>Sun, Jan 25</b>	<b>Jacob's Well</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	<b>Chapel</b>





## Family & Children's Ministry

— Sarah Huck

**Family & Children's  
Ministry Director**

### Greetings Grace Family,

I hope this message finds you well and enjoying the blessings of the holiday season.

As I write this on November 7th, I've been home for a week with sick children. Any parent knows how hard it is when one child is unwell — but when all of them are down at once, it's a whole different level of exhaustion.

It always starts the same way: a slightly glassy look in their eyes, followed by the dreaded words, "Mom, I have a sore throat." Instantly, your heart sinks. You start praying, *Please, God, bring healing now.* "Let's try for school," you say, hopeful.

But before the backpacks are zipped and the lunches are packed, the coughing begins — and doesn't stop. So you unpack the lunches, knowing full well this is the beginning of a very long week.

I rarely get sick myself, but I was down for two weeks toward the end of October. Somehow, I made it through Trunk or Treat, though I remember lying on my back in the media room upstairs, staring up at twenty buckets of candy loaded onto carts, thinking, *How am I ever going to get through this day?*

So when the kids began showing symptoms, I knew exactly what it meant. I knew what to expect, and I knew how it would progress. That Monday, I called the doctor and said what any desperate mom would say: "I know you haven't seen the kids, and this is probably breaking protocol, but I was sick and had exactly what they have. I need Z-packs for them now. This is going to get worse and turn bacterial, and I need to get ahead of it."

Of course, the nurse replied, "Unfortunately, we don't prescribe antibiotics until we've seen the patient. And we wouldn't prescribe anything at this point. When they've been sick for six days, let us know and we can get them in."

**Six days?!** I'd have to wait until my kids gradually got sicker before they'd even consider calling something in? I was so frustrated. I kept trying to explain, *"Look, I know what this is! I can tell you exactly how this will go — from bad to worse overnight."* But it didn't matter what I said.

There are few times in life when you can predict exactly what's about to happen — a play-by-play. This was one of them. I knew how it would start. I knew what would happen at night, in the mornings. I knew when the headaches

would begin, when the appetite would disappear, when the light sensitivity would kick in. I knew which days would be the worst. I could predict every symptom and the exact sequence they'd follow.

Why am I sharing this story? Because it was remarkable how much comfort my children found in knowing I had gone through the same thing. There was reassurance in knowing that before their next symptom hit, I had already experienced it — and could help them through the next phase.

It was comforting for them to hear me say, "Tonight the cough will get worse, so we're going to start taking dextromethorphan at bedtime." It helped when I said, "Keep drinking fluids now, before your throat hurts so badly you won't want to." They trusted me because I had walked the same path just days before.

**Deuteronomy 31:8 reminds us that "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."** God is leading us. He has gone ahead of us, preparing the path for what is to come. He is with us in every circumstance and every journey — and He will never abandon us. We trust Him on the path, knowing He already knows what happens next.

**Psalms 139:16 says, "Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."** I find this tremendously comforting. Not only is God going ahead of me, but nothing that happens to me is catching Him by surprise.

And not only can I rest in the knowledge that God knows what's going on in my life — I can come to Him and ask for wisdom to prepare for what's next. **James 1:5 promises, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."**

As we enter this season of celebration, reflection, and togetherness, may we remember that just as our children find comfort in knowing we've walked the path before them, we too can find peace in knowing that God has gone before us. Whether we're facing illness, uncertainty, or simply the chaos of holiday schedules, we are not alone. God is already there — preparing, guiding, and sustaining us.

This holiday season, I encourage you to lean into that truth. Invite God into your plans, your parenting, your quiet moments, and your chaos. Ask Him for wisdom, strength, and peace. And when things feel overwhelming, remember: He sees you, He knows what's ahead, and He will never leave you.

**May your home be filled with warmth, your hearts with peace, and your days with the gentle assurance that God is with you — leading, loving, and lighting the way.**

**Blessings to you and your family, now and always.**

Family & Children's Ministry

GRACE FAMILIES ADVENT ART SHOW

# O HOLY NIGHT ART SHOW

This Advent season, Grace Families invites you to participate in our O Holy Night Art Show – a celebration of the story of Jesus's birth told through art.

## DETAILS

**Theme:** The Nativity story expressed through your creative vision

**Mediums:** Any art form is welcome (painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, mixed media, etc.)

**Scripture:** Each piece must be inspired by and supported by one of these passages:

**Luke 2:1-20      John 1:14**  
**Matthew 1:18-25      Micah 5:2**  
**Isaiah 9:6**

**Deadline:** All artwork must be submitted to Sarah no later than **December 14th** to ensure we have the proper easels and displays prepared.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HOW YOU BRING  
THE BEAUTY OF CHRIST'S BIRTH TO LIFE  
THROUGH YOUR CREATIVITY!



# KIDS SING

## Grace Kids Christmas Practice

Sat, Dec 20 - 5:00pm  
Sanctuary

## Kids Sing!

Sun, Dec 21 - Both Services  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Sanctuary







## Grace of Christ Preschool

— Becca Mailand  
yakimagrace.com/preschool



**“God gives good gifts!” Matthew 7:11.** This is one of our memory verses for Christmas. All our preschool students understand that Christmas is about presents. And trees. And stockings. And lights and snowmen and Rudolph and Santa and elves and... you get the idea. It's EVERYWHERE this time of year. We also get to find a small manger, hidden under all the bright lights and jingle bells. A reminder that Jesus came in the quietest, humblest way. Not to a celebration, but to a young mom and dad. Not to bring us riches, but to give us peace. Christmas can be bright and cheerful and fun, but the real celebration happens quietly, joyfully in our hearts every time we remember that Jesus loves us.

### Thanksgiving Joy

The turkey is done but the thanks have just begun! Thank you for making this a very successful Apple Pie season. Your support means that students will experience the very best Christian education we have to offer. We hope you enjoyed your pies this year!

And thank you to all the people who have made a special donation to the preschool this year. These anonymous donations really help the rising costs of supplies.

### Christmas Highlights

Here are some of our favorite traditions, new and old!

- **Christmas Spirit Week** – Cozy PJs? Holiday Socks? Flannel Day? We've got them all!
- **Gingerbread Day** – We read about, bake, hunt, and create our Gingerbread people all day!
- **Ornaments** – Glittered pinecone trees, colorful handprints, and thumbprint snowmen go home each year as keepsakes for parents and gifts for grandparents!
- **Holiday Arts & Crafts** – Just take a look at the hallway near the South doors!

### Christmas Program

You're invited to our Preschool Christmas Program on Friday, Dec 19 at 10am. Enjoy cookies and photos with Santa in the Garden Room after the program. Merry Christmas!

### Christmas Story Time

There is nothing cozier than sharing a story on a chilly December day. Here are a few recommendations from our preschoolers:

- Room for a Little One, Martin Waddell
- Who Is Coming to Our House? Joseph Slate & Ashley Wolff
- Snowmen at Christmas, Carolyn Buehner
- The Legend of the Candy Cane, Lori Walburg



## Deacons

*Beauty Wrapped in Wax*

On January 13, 2023, my girlfriend Tracy passed away. Although she had more than her share of health challenges, her passing was unexpected. The church staff and Deacons did a wonderful job of being supportive and taking care of so many things related to her Celebration of Life.

To put it in perspective: most people spend at least a year planning a wedding. A Celebration of Life shares many of the same elements—but we're usually given only a few days or weeks to prepare. The Deacons and staff here at GPC are well equipped, and they take pride and joy in assisting with the planning and fulfillment of the service and all that surrounds it. At a time when friends and family are overwhelmed with grief, fatigue, and a whole range of other challenges, the staff and Deacons provide great relief by making things happen. I know I'm being repetitive here, but I cannot emphasize enough how much of a blessing it is to be cared for in this way during such a difficult time. As I would find out later that same year in December, the care and love from the Deacons doesn't end after the cleanup from the Celebration of Life.

One day in December 2023, while at work, I received a text message from one of the Deacons, Peggy Steere. She said she had something for me and wanted to set up a time to bring it by. I had no idea what it might be—maybe a Christmas gift, I thought. When Peggy arrived, she was carrying a small gift bag. I was still racking my brain about what might be inside. When I reached into the bag, I was greeted by a

waxed Amaryllis bulb. Peggy explained how it worked, and I began anticipating what it might bloom into. Also tucked inside the bag were two pamphlets—one offering guidance on caring for the Amaryllis bulb, and another sharing ways to ease the pain of losing a loved one during the Holidays.

Peggy shared that the Deacons offer these waxed Amaryllis bulbs as a heartfelt gift to those they supported through Celebrations of Life in the past year. Holidays can be especially painful for those who have lost someone. They can be a conspicuous reminder of someone's absence. I try to turn that acknowledgment into an opportunity to speak or reflect on the ways we enjoyed holidays together—but I digress. (That could be an entire article unto itself.)

As Peggy was getting ready to leave, I told her I definitely wanted to help with the distribution of bulbs next year as a way of giving back. This year as a Deacon, I look forward to being able to assist in the distribution of this beautiful gift.

I placed the bulb on the kitchen windowsill. I watched it slowly sprout and grow. I wondered when it would bloom, and what shape and color it might be. A few weeks later, it did indeed bloom into something beautiful.

The beauty of the bloom made me reflect on how the sharing of this gift—a beautiful act in itself—was later amplified by the flower and what it represented. It was a quiet reminder that even in grief, something living and lovely can emerge. That beauty can be wrapped in wax and still find its way to the light.

– Dave Geho



Deacons preparing Amaryllis bulbs for transport



A simple heartfelt gift to those who lost a loved one





## Hospitality

— Linda Mathews

*"For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgement, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."*

— Romans 12:3-5

We give thanks to the Lord for His creativity and generosity; He blesses each of us with gifts to serve Him and our community. For our church family to function as one body, we must put these gifts into practice. What is your gift? If you are drawn to Hospitality, we have something for you!

If you love people, talking on the phone and are an organizer, please prayerfully consider joining the scheduling team. This group recruits volunteers to fill the Sunday greeting and welcome center positions. These are two of the most important areas on a Sunday morning – our church family and especially our guests want to feel connected and welcomed. If this appeals to you, please contact Linda Mathews at 509-388-5527 or Cathy Campbell at 509-961-0775.

On that same note, if you love being on the service side of social gatherings consider joining our team who brews coffee, sets out cookies, and keeps the water pitchers filled on Sundays. Contact Dave W if you are interested. 509-945-3719.

Our Sunday morning usher team continues to grow! To learn more about this group, contact Donnie Ide at 509-952-0238.



On Sunday, November 23 Azaleya Agustin Garcia and Ezequiel Garcia Blanco were blessed. Parents Mabeth Garcia-Figueroa & Yahir Agustin Madrid and Adriana Blanco & Noe Garcia-Figueroa.



## Koinonia

I had the pleasure of enjoying lunch with the Wagenfuhrs. It was held at the church, which made it so convenient. With a small group in attendance there was a chance to get to know church family better and I met someone new. These meals are a perfect example of how we at Grace can become more of a community. See page 17 for instructions on how to RSVP for a Koinonia meal.

On November 23 we had a full Sunday celebrating two blessings, a baptism, and our annual Thanksgiving Potluck. Enjoy the pictures!

— Cathy Campbell



*"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone."*

— Ephesians 2:19-20



A fun feast and full house with church family on Sunday, November 23 at our annual Thanksgiving Potluck.



**A child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder:**

**Dec 24  
Christmas Eve  
Services**



**Dec 24  
Family  
Christmas  
Pageant**



**Dec 17  
Youth  
Christmas  
Party**



**Dec 19  
Preschool  
Christmas  
Program**

**Dec 13  
Youth Group  
Christmas Cookie  
Decorating at the  
Merrill's Home**



**Dec 13  
Ghormley  
Mountain  
Meadow  
Christmas**

**Nov 30  
First Sunday  
of Advent**

**Dec 7  
2nd Sunday  
of Advent  
Communion  
Sunday**

**Dec 3  
Youth  
Group**



*A weary world*



and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God. – Isaiah 9:6



**Dec 24  
Carols and  
Candles**



**Dec 25  
Merry Christmas!**



**Dec 21-Jan 4  
O Holy Night  
Art Show**

**Dec 21  
4th Sunday  
of Advent  
Kids Sing!**

**Dec 14  
3rd Sunday  
of Advent**

**Dec 14  
O Holy Night  
Art Projects  
Due to Sarah**

**Dec 10  
Wrap Gifts  
for Adams  
Youth Group**



**Dec 11  
Adams  
Giving Tree  
Event**



*Rejoices!*





# Mission Ministry

Find Your Mission.  
Find Your Passion.



## PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL WORKERS

### Pray for Grace of Christ Missions every day.

*Here are suggestions on who/what to pray for each day of the month:*

- 1 - Praise God for the privilege of coming before Him and praying for our church, our missions and our international workers.** Pray for your heart to be right before God; ask Him to teach you how to pray. Pray for Grace of Christ/Gracia de Cristo, that we would be a unified body of believers, and the Jesus would be exalted among us.

- 2 - Adams Elementary School** - Pray for the principals, staff, teachers, and students as they gather every day. Pray for the Reading Mentors from our church who go and help children improve in reading. Note: Do you want to help do that?



Adams Reading Ministry

- 3 - Aaron & Ronda Barker** Pray for the Barkers working with YWAM in Kona, HI. Pray for Aaron as he finishes his PhD and discerns the Lord's leading in future ministry. Pray for Aaron's mom, Julie Barker, a member of our church, who is having health issues.



Aaron & Ronda Barker

- 4 - Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!** Read Psalm 150 and praise the Lord today.

- 5 - Michael & Lani Johnson** Pray for health and strength as they lead Blessings of Hope, which helps young people grow in faith and obedience to Jesus. Pray for protection from heat and seasonal storms in the Philippine islands.



Michael & Lani Johnson

- 6 - Pyriam.org in Egypt**

Pray for the team that produces the Scripture mini scrolls, that they will grow in grace and love for God and each other as they make detailed mini scrolls and bookmarks.

- 7 - Davis High School**

Pray for the staff, teachers, and students at David High School, our near neighbors, that they would thrive. Pray for Jahzeel as she helps start a Young Life group there, and for Donnie Ide as he shines the love of Jesus to students every day.



Davis High School

- 8 - Nathan & Emily McIndoo** - Pray for Nathan and Emily and their young family. Pray for an effective witness for Christ on the campus of Boise State University in Idaho. Pray for students to choose to follow Jesus.



Nathan & Emily McIndoo

- 9 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes** - Pray for Barry Reifel as he mentors local coaches in many sports who in turn mentor student athletes. Pray for students to be open to knowing Jesus and following Him.



Barry Reifel

- 10 - David & Noni Graves** Pray for David and Noni in Papua, Indonesia. Pray for David's safety as he flies small into remote areas to help missionaries and to fly out medial evacuation patients. Pray for wisdom and alertness as he also must maintain his plane mechanically. Pray for Noni in her own ministry. Pray for their two girls finishing college in the States.



David & Noni Graves

- 11 - "I was glad when they said unto me, 'Come, let us go up to the house of the Lord!'" (Psalm 122:1)** Be glad that we can worship together in such a beautiful building, yet let our focus be on Jesus whom we are worshipping. Praise God for our church building, and even more for the privilege of coming together to worship!



## Mission Ministry

### 12-Garth & Caroline

**Gustafson** - Pray for Garth and Caroline and their children in Battambang, Cambodia. Pray for the YWAM Discipleship Training Program (DTS) there, that students will deepen their faith and their walk with God. Pray for the Orphanage, that the children will thrive.



**Garth & Caroline  
Gustafson**

### 13-Gerardo Mendoza

Praise for Gerardo and Jenny's new baby girl! Pray for Gerardo's ministry opportunities both at Young Life and at Madson House. Pray that the children who come to Madison House will feel safe and loved, and that their families will be blessed as well by this ministry.



**Gerardo & Jenny  
Mendoza**

**14-Madison House** - Pray for Madison House, that the building can be well maintained, that the leadership Gerardo provides will be Christ-centered, that Jasmine and other helpers will come alongside Gerardo as a cohesive team, and that the children who come will be blessed and come to know Jesus.

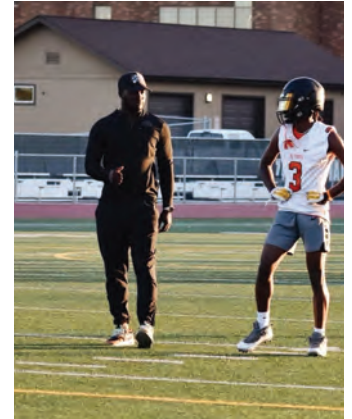
**15-Young Life** - Pray for Young Life, that groups that are established at various local schools will continue to grow and attract new students. Pray for Young Life leaders as they try to establish new teams in other schools. Pray for Jesus to be honored and made known to the students.



**Young Life**

### 16-Joseph Leary

Pray for Joseph as he leads in many areas at the Toppenish Tribal School. Pray for adequate support from the tribe and from the community. Pray for Joseph to be encouraged in his many jobs, and for others to step up and help where needed. Ask God to give Joseph wisdom and strength to manage the Toppenish Tribal School.



**Joseph Leary**

**17-Mabel Swan** - Pray for Mabel Swan Manor, that it will continue to be a blessing to low-income seniors. Pray for the residents to be well and to thrive. Pray for the managers to have wisdom, love and grace for the residents. Pray for the building to be well maintained.

**18-"O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"** Read Psalm 8 and go to church rejoicing!

### 19-Project Mercy & Orphanage

Pray for Project Mercy to continue to grow and thrive under the leadership of Bete, son of Marta and Deme. Pray for sufficient resources to fund the orphanage, schools, hospital, and other ministries. Pray for teams from our church and others to continue to go and provide encouragement and tangible help. Pray for Ethiopia to remain a free and God-fearing nation.



**Bete Demeke**

**20-Sacred Road Ministries** - Pray for Sacred Road Ministries as they meet needs on the Yakama Reservation. Pray for the Granberry family, who have poured their lives into loving and serving their neighbors. Pray for protection from the evil one in all aspects of their lives and ministry. Pray for the families and youth and children they serve, that many will be drawn to Jesus through the love of Sacred Road staff.



**Sacred Road Ministries**

## Mission Ministry



Trailseekers & Orcas Encampment

**21-Trailseekers & Orcas Encampment** - Pray for Trailseekers that meets in our church basement every Monday afternoon. Pray for more drivers to bring students from Adams Elementary and take them home after. Pray for the teaching the students receive at Trailseekers, that they will be drawn to Jesus by the love of their mentors and teachers. Pray for Greg Nebecker and those who plan the Orcas Encampment in the early summer.

**22- Yakima Union Gospel Mission** - Pray for the many ministries of the Yakima Union Gospel Mission. Pray for all those who come through their doors, that they will sense the love of Jesus in that place. Pray for sufficient supplies to meet the needs of many. Pray for adequate space for those who need a warm, safe place to sleep at night. Pray for the staff and board of the YUGM, for God's wisdom in making decisions and guiding the ministry.

**23- Whitworth University** - Pray for Whitworth University, that the name of Jesus will be known and praised on that campus. Pray for the professors, the staff, and the students, that there would be unity in diversity, and that Christ would be honored in all the dorms, classrooms, and other spaces.

**24- Youth Ministry Interns** - Praise God for all our youth ministry interns this year. Pray that each one will find their place of service and will feel loved and cared for as they love and care for others. Pray for a deepening walk with God and a desire to continue to serve Him their whole lives.

**25- Watch a Prayercast video at Prayercast.com, and go to church!** Worship God together!

**26- Pray for the Huichol**, the last remaining unreached people group in Mexico, with fewer than 2% of their number believing in Jesus. Praise God for the 2%, and ask God for more to hear the gospel and to have faith to believe. Pray for those currently working to bring the gospel to them.

**27- Pray for lead pastor, Dr. Gregory Wagenfuhr**, that God will fill him daily with the Holy Spirit and empower him to lead us well in following Jesus. Pray for his family, Ainhua and the girls, that they would love and support each other well.

**28- Pray for our elders and deacons** as they lead the function and ministry of the church. Pray for each member, that they would see their calling as from God and for people.

**29- Pray for Kara, Jahzeel and the youth**, that they would learn to hear Jesus' voice and grow to love Him more and more. Pray that they would also love each other, encouraging and supporting each other.

**30- Pray for all our Sunday School and mid-week children's leaders**, that they would serve with love and kindness and compassion, and that the light of Jesus would fill their faces as they greet children every week.

**31- Pray for all our Hospitality team members**, who often serve behind the scenes, or unnoticed. Pray for joy in serving and for more to join their numbers. Praise for those who sign up to make coffee, serve cookies, to be at the Welcome Center, and to usher. Ask God to bless each one.

### CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST MCINDOO FAMILY UPDATE



Nathan and Emily McIndoo work with CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) on the Boise State University campus in Idaho. Emily's mother, Cindy Carter Schively, used to be a pastor here at our church. That is her connection to us. From some

of their recent letters, the McIndoos ask us to help cover the campus in prayer as another school year has begun. They had many events planned over the first few weeks in order to connect with as many students as possible. But without prayer, they are hobbled. So please join in praying for the McIndoos and for the students they connect with.

Their goal this school year is to see 25 students give their lives to Jesus, and it all begins as they prayerfully step out to meet students where they are. With a growing interest in Jesus among college students, pray that God uses the events and the McIndoos' time on campus to share the Gospel with many. If you would like to get their prayer letters, here is Emily's email address: emily.mcindoo@cru.org. And if you want to know more about CRU and all their ministries, go to [www.cru.org](http://www.cru.org).



## Mission Ministry



### HUICHOL PRAYER PROJECT

Please join us in praying for this people group. Here is some information about them and why we want to pray for them.

The Huichol are an indigenous people group in western Mexico who are, according to [www.joshuaproject.net](http://www.joshuaproject.net), the last remaining unreached indigenous people group in Mexico, with fewer than 2% of believers in Jesus. Our proposal is to begin praying for this people group as a church. From time to time, we will give you more information about them to fuel your prayers. Will you join us in praying for the Huichol?

The Huichol refer to themselves as Wixárika or simply “people”. They live primarily in western Mexico in the Sierra Madre Occidental mountains. This area includes some of the most rugged terrain in Mexico, with mesas, cliffs, and river valleys covered mostly by scrub and thorns. Historically, the rough terrain insulated them from outside influences. They successfully resisted Spanish colonialism for many years and always maintained a high degree of self-rule. Today the Huichol are no longer as isolated and are integrating into the general Mexican society and economy. The Huichol have a complicated relationship with the Mexican government which tries to tax them and enforce Mexican law. Since the Huichol have lived autonomously for centuries, this sometimes means conflict with their way of life.

Today there is an unprecedented opportunity to reach the Huichol with the message of Jesus through groups like The Seed Company. The New Testament and the JESUS film are available to the Huichol. The Huichol need much prayer and additional laborers to work with them so they may have adequate access to the message of Jesus.

### Specific Prayer Points:

- Pray for a spiritual hunger that will lead Huichol leaders to the cross and the empty grave. Pray that God will save key Huichol leaders who will boldly declare the gospel to their people.

- Pray that God will strengthen and encourage missionaries presently working among the Huichol.
- Pray that God will give Huichol believers boldness to share the love of Jesus with their own people.

### PROYECTO DE ORACIÓN DE HUICHOL

Los Huicholes son una etnia indígena en México quienes son, según [www.joshuaproject.net](http://www.joshuaproject.net), la última etnia indígena no alcanzada en México, con menos de 2% de creyentes en Jesús. Nuestro propósito es empezar a orar por esta etnia como iglesia. De vez en cuando, les daremos más información acerca de los Huicholes para alimentar sus oraciones. Únase a nosotros en orar por los Huicholes.

Los Huicholes se llaman Wixárika, es decir, “la gente”. Viven primordialmente en la parte oeste de México, en las montañas de la Sierra Madre Occidental. Esta area incluye terreno muy escabroso, con mesetas, acantilados, y valles fluviales cubiertos de matorrales y espinas. Historicamente, el terreno los protegió de las influencias de afuera. Resistieron con éxito la colonización de los españoles por muchos años y siempre mantuvieron un alto grado de autogobierno. Hoy día los Huicholes ya no están tan aislados y están integrandose en la sociedad Mexicana y en la economía. Los Huicholes tienen una relación complicada con el gobierno Mexicano que intenta gravar impuestos y enforzar la ley. Porque los Huicholes han vivido autónomamente por siglos, a veces eso trae un conflicto con su manera de vivir.

Hoy día hay una oportunidad sin precedentes a alcanzar los Huicholes con el mensaje de Jesús por medio de grupos como The Seed Company. El Nuevo Testamento y la película JESÚS están disponibles en su idioma. Los Huicholes necesitan mucha oración y trabajadores adicionales para trabajar con ellos y que tengan acceso adecuado al mensaje de Jesús.

### Oraciones específicas:

- Ore por un hambre espiritual que guiará a los líderes de los Huicholes a la cruz y a la tumba vacía. Ore que Dios salve a líderes Huicholes claves quienes declaren con audacia el evangelio a su etnia.
- Ore que Dios dé a los creyentes Huicholes una audacia a compartir el amor de Jesús con su propia gente.
- Ore que Dios dé esfuerzo y ánimo a los misioneros que están trabajando actualmente con los Huicholes.

Information from:

[www.joshuaproject.net/people\\_groups/12141/MX](http://www.joshuaproject.net/people_groups/12141/MX)

## Camp Ghormley



### MOUNTAIN MEADOW CHRISTMAS - DEC. 13-14

Begin the celebration of Christmas with your family at Camp Ghormley! Continue (or create!) the tradition of crackling fires, gingerbread houses, cookie decorations, sledding and tubing, fantastic food, and Trek for Tree. We look forward to celebrating with you! Reserve your spot today!



### HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT- FEB. 6-8

Get away from the drab winter in the city and experience fresh powder with friends! Tubing down our giant hill, awesome games with great people, and amazing food in the wintery mountains are just a few of the things to get excited for! Join us for a weekend of learning more about who God is and who you are in Him. Registration now open!



### YOUNG ADULT DISCIPLESHIP RETREAT 12TH GRADE - 28 YEARS OLD FEBRUARY 13-15 | CAMP GHORMLEY

Sign up for a weekend to refresh and deepen your faith in our Creator through fellowship, worship, and great speaker sessions with other, like-minded young adults.

Learn about camp ministry and about Great Commandment Ministry - a local discipleship ministry that we are partnering with to make this a great weekend! We hope that this weekend will help you take the next step in your journey of faith.

Registration and more information:

<https://www.campghormley.com/young-adult-discipleship-retreat/>



### NEW OFFICE

Our new office has been completed! Thank you to Grace of Christ and all individuals who supported us financially to complete this project. We're excited that we now have a current and up-to-date space to welcome parents of campers and guest group leaders. Included in the building is a new nurse station, freeing up Alder and increasing our maximum camper capacity in the summer.

### END OF YEAR GIVING

You are invited to be a part of changing the lives of kids, youth, and adults who experience our camp through the gift of a financial donation: <https://www.campghormley.com/donate/>

Register for these events and more at [www.campghormley.com](http://www.campghormley.com)



## Sharing Life Together at Grace



### SUNDAY MORNING CLASS: DEEPER ROOTS JOIN US AT 9:15AM IN ADULT ED – SUNDAYS!

Our Deeper Roots class continues to grow! We welcome new believers and longtime believers into discussions that begin with our questions and find responses from God in the context of His Word.

We want to remind everyone that there is no designated calendar for topics and that the content is dependent upon what we study at home and bring back to our group for thoughtful and loving consideration. The concept of faith as a stretching of our souls for us to accommodate God's perspective is principal in our thinking and discussion and the growth of our hearts.



### WOW WOMEN OF THE WORD BIBLE STUDY TUESDAYS | BEGINNING JAN 13 | 9:45AM | LOUNGE

The WOW (Women of the Word) Bible study is digging into the action packed gospel of Mark. The fall class followed Jesus through the first eight chapter revealing evidence to the question "Who do you say I am?"

The winter/spring WOW study will begin Tuesday, January 13th at 9:45am-11:00am in there west Lounge. We will resume our *Life Guide* "Follow Me" study, walk with Jesus to the Cross and learn through the eyes of Mark more about Jesus and what it means to follow Him. All Grace women and their friends are welcome. You will find a warm, welcoming gathering of women who are eager to dig into God's word and who support one another in fellowship and prayer. Come join us, Tuesday, January 13th, 2026, 9:45-11:00am.



### LEARN TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR

Start the new year with a new hobby! Are you intrigued by the bells? Can you read music? Come learn to ring with once-a-month sessions on the third Tuesday of each month

You don't have to be a prodigy to play. Would it surprise you to learn that director Julie began ringing bells with only two years of piano lessons under her belt? Yes, it's true! Learn to Ring sessions include guidance in how to ring a bell (it's not as easy as ringing a Salvation Army bell), short musical exercises, and tackling a one-page song. Walk out the door with success!

No obligation to join Bells of Grace or to play in church, although that would be great. We meet at 6:30pm in Room M (preschool room across from the choir room). Mark your calendar for **January 20th, February 17th, March 17th, April 15th, and May 20th.**

**Questions? Contact Julie at (530)209-4329 or [jbhunziker@gmail.com](mailto:jbhunziker@gmail.com).**



### KOINONIA - Meals with the Wagenfuhrs

You are invited to join us for fellowship and a potluck meal with our new pastor, Gregory and his wife Ainhua. The host will provide the main dish and connect with you to coordinate a possible side or dessert.

To sign up for an upcoming meal, go to [yakimagrace.com/koinonia](http://yakimagrace.com/koinonia) and click on the day and time that work for you!

Interested in hosting a future event? Click on "Be A Host" to find out more.

## Sunday Services



### 9AM SUNDAY SERVICE

**9am** Contemporary style worship, classes for children of all ages. Childcare available.

**9am** Grace Kids (K – 5th grade) in KidZone 2nd Floor

**9am** Middle School and High School Clubs (6th – 12th grade)  
Mezzanine and Lower Level Classrooms

**9:15am** Deeper Roots Adult Bible Study (Adult Ed Room)

### 11AM SUNDAY SERVICE

**11am** Traditional style worship with choir and pipe organ. Childcare available.

**Prayer** Available at the front of the sanctuary after each service.

**Communion** Served the First Sunday of each month at both services, unless otherwise noted.

## Calendar of Events December

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
Sun, Nov 30	First Sunday of Advent		
Sun, Nov 30	Jacob's Well - A time for Worship	6:30pm	Chapel
Mon, Dec 1	Personnel Team Meeting	10:30am	Library
Mon, Dec 1	Preschool Board Meeting	1:00pm	Adult Ed Room
Tue, Dec 2	Staff Calendar Meeting	10:00am	Adult Ed Room
Tue, Dec 2	Mission Ministry Team Meeting	4:00pm	Adult Ed Room
Tue, Dec 2	Worship Ministry Team Meeting	4:30pm	Garden Room
Wed, Dec 3	Youth Group	6:00pm	Gym
Sat, Dec 6	Communion Set Up	10:00am	Fireside Kitchen
Sun, Dec 7	Second Sunday of Advent		
<b>Sun, Dec 7</b>	<b>Communion Sunday</b>	<b>Both Services</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
Tue, Dec 9	Church Officer Christmas Dinner	5:30pm	Garden Room
Tue, Dec 9	Session Meeting	6:45pm	Adult Ed Room
Tue, Dec 9	Deacon Meeting	6:45pm	Fireside Room
Wed, Dec 10	Program Staff Meeting	11:00am	Library
Wed, Dec 10	Business Ministry Team Meeting	3:00pm	Library
Wed, Dec 10	Wrap Adams Gifts / Youth Group	6:00pm	Gym
Thur, Dec 11	Foundation Meeting	4:00pm	Adult Ed Room
Thur, Dec 11	Adams Giving Tree Event	5:00pm Volunteers 4pm	Adams Elementary School Gym
Thur, Dec 11	Sozo Leader Meeting	6:00pm	Adult Ed Room
Fri, Dec 12	Kid's Night Out	5:30pm - 8:30pm	Gym
Sat, Dec 13	Ghormley Mountain Meadow Christmas Register <a href="http://www.CampGhormley.org">www.CampGhormley.org</a>	All Day	Camp Ghormley
Sun, Dec 14	Third Sunday of Advent		
Tue, Dec 16	Staff Bible Study	10:00am	Adult Ed Room
Fri, Dec 19	Preschool Christmas Program	10:00am	Garden Room
Sat, Dec 20	Grace Kids Christmas Practice	5:00pm	Sanctuary
Sun, Dec 21	Fourth Sunday of Advent: Kids Sing!	Both Services	Sanctuary
Dec 22 - Jan 4	Preschool Winter Break		
<b>Wed, Dec 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Services</b>		
<b>Wed, Dec 24</b>	<b>Family Christmas Pageant</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>Wed, Dec 24</b>	<b>Organ Concert</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>Wed, Dec 24</b>	<b>Carols and Candles</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>Thur, Dec 25</b>	<b>Merry Christmas!</b>		
Dec 25 - Jan 1	Christmas Break / Church Closed (except Sundays!)		Entire Church
Sun, Dec 28	No Sunday Club Today (Youth)		



## Weekly Meetings and Classes

### MONDAYS

Preschool 9am  
Trailseekers 2:45pm Gym  
Men's BSF 7pm Sanctuary

### TUESDAYS

Preschool 9am  
WOW Bible Study 9:45am Lounge  
Men's BSF (Satellite) 7pm Lounge  
Handbell Rehearsals 6:30pm Mezzanine

### WEDNESDAYS

Preschool 9am  
Youth Group 6pm Gym  
Temple Choir Rehearsal 7pm Sanctuary

### THURSDAYS

Preschool 9am  
Women's BSF 9:15am Sanctuary  
Worship Team Rehearsal 6pm Sanctuary

### FRIDAYS

Preschool 9:00am

### SATURDAYS

On Fire Ministry Youth Bible Study  
& Dinner 6pm Gym

## Calendar of Events January

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
Fri, Jan 2	Office / Church Open!	8:30am - 5:00pm	
Sat, Jan 3	Communion Set Up	10:00am	Fireside Room
<b>Sun, Jan 4</b>	<b>Communion Sunday</b>	<b>Both Services</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
Mon, Jan 5	Personnel Team Meeting	10:30am	
Tue, Jan 6	Epiphany		
Wed, Jan 7	Staff Calendar Meeting	10:00am	Adult Ed Room
Sun, Jan 11	Deacon Meeting	12:20pm	Lounge
Mon, Jan 12	Koinonia Lunch with Wagenfuhrs - RSVP on church website	11:30am	Fireside Room
Mon, Jan 12	Preschool Board Meeting	1:00pm	Adult Ed Room
Tue, Jan 13	WOW Bible Study Begins	9:45am-11:00am	Lounge
Wed, Jan 14	Program Staff Meeting	11:00am	Library
	Business Ministry Team Meeting	3:00pm	Library
<b>Mon, Jan 19</b>	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day / Church Closed</b>		
Wed, Jan 21	Staff Bible Study	10:00am	Adult Ed Room
Sun, Jan 25	Jacob's Well - A time for worship	6:30pm	Chapel
Mon, Jan 26	Koinonia Lunch with Wagenfuhrs - RSVP on church website	11:30am	Fireside Room
Tue, Jan 27	Session Meeting	6:30pm	Adult Ed Room
Wed, Jan 28	Program Staff Meeting	11:00am	Library



Adams Elementary Reading Ministry

### ADAMS READING MINISTRY

It has been several years since we started and the Adams Elementary Reading/ Mentoring Team has once again begun another school year. Volunteers from Grace of Church Church have embarked on their yearly journey of reaching out to the staff and students at Adams. Readers are paired up with students for an hour each week to help with reading, share activities and most importantly, to provide a caring listening ear while encouraging their student.

If you are interested in volunteering and would like to talk with someone who has volunteered in the program, feel free to contact Tom Oliva.

Thank you to Walt Nelson, Kathy Mathison, Audrey Van Horn, Tyler Van Horn, Sally Halfmoon, Rick Murray, Rich Williams, Jean Schiewe, Linda Estela, Donna Fuhlman, Jim Fuhlman, Tom Oliva, and Nancy Gustafson for your involvement in this important program!



Please Join Us

# Christmas Eve

Candlelight Services

Wednesday, December 24

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

An Interactive Service For Families . 4:00pm

## 82ND ANNUAL CAROLS & CANDLES

Organ Prelude . 7:00pm

Carols, Readings & Special Music . 7:30pm

