

Volume 33, Issue 1

January 2025

A Publication of Grace Lutheran Church
3000 W. Golf Course Rd.
Midland, Texas 79701

Herald  *f Grace*



“But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

1 Peter 2:9

A Message from Pastor Ramey

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Ephesians 3:18-22



Jesus and His Church

The theme for 2025 is based on how the Church Year is divided up: The first half (Advent – Easter) is about the life of Jesus while the remaining Sundays (that is, the Pentecost season) is about the life of His Church; hence, ***Jesus and His Church!*** While previous themes were mainly through January and focused on our commitment to Grace’s mission and ministry, we will be working with this theme for the entirety of this Church Year, first focusing on the Gospels and what we see in the life of Jesus, and then focusing on the Acts of the Apostles and the first congregation and its subsequent growth.

St. Paul had to help the church in Ephesus grasp the significance of the Gospel and how it was meant to bring people together as one body – a singular community of believers. Ephesus, located in modern Turkey, was a major trading center and made up of diverse ethnicities. Jews and Gentiles from various countries lived and worked next to each other. Both Jews and Gentiles had heard the Gospel of Jesus and had come to believe in Him as their Savior. Sharing that same faith broke down the cultural barriers that existed between them. In Jesus they were now one people, having one faith, one hope. Together, they were God’s Church – the body of Christ on this earth; His feet and hands to go and do the marvelous works God laid out for them (and us) to do. Jesus united sinners with the forgiveness of God and unites those once enemies into a one holy and Christian Church. As that Church we, in turn, share the Gospel and work to bring those separated from God and one another by sin together in the grace and the forgiveness of Jesus. We are in this *together* – ***Jesus and His Church!***

We have four gifts from God with which to work: *time, talent, treasure, and testimony*. As we make our way to **Commitment Sunday** (January 26th), prayerfully and carefully consider how you can manage what God has given you for the sake of His mission and ministry here at Grace congregation. Together, as those blessed by God, let us become a blessing to others and our Midland community.

Pastor Ramey

Worship Preparation for January

January 5, 2025 Epiphany of Our Lord (Observed)

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-11; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: "They Went Home by Another Way"

January 12, 2025 The Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 4:15-22

Sermon: "The Beloved Son"

January 19, 2025 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 128; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11

Sermon: "The Life of the Party"

January 16, 2025 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10; Psalm 19:7-14; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a;

Luke 4:16-30

Sermon: "The Gospel As An Inconvenient Truth"

New Bible Study begins in January

Pastor Ramey will begin a new, nine-week study on "The Kingdom of God," based on Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount," which is found in Matthew 5-7. Epiphany season is about the revealing of the Savior to the world as seen in the visitation of the Gentile Magi, who had followed the star which led them to the Christ-Child, born to be the world's Savior. As Jesus proclaims God's Kingdom, He also defines it in ways that would challenge the *status quo* of Judea 30 AD. Booklets will be made available for those who are interested by Christmas. A suggested gift of \$5.00 per booklet is requested to offset the printing costs for the church.

Listening Posts Beginning in February

Listening Posts are opportunities for Grace members to share their "stories" about their membership at Grace Lutheran Church. There will be a few "probing" questions offered prior to the Posts (in the February newsletter) to help everyone think about what they want to share. The Posts will be held at various times on various days of the week. Each group will be limited to no more than 10 participants, and will last for 60-90 minutes. Sign-up sheets will be posted by mid-January. The goal of this exercise is to gather as much information on the "what was" (i.e., history) of the Grace congregation to help us understand the "what is" (current situation) of our church. Further events will help us determine the "what will be" (future) of our mutual mission and ministry. We need at least 65% of the current worship attendance (about 78 participants) to get a good reading on the congregation.



Pastor Ramey will hold a second session of training for individuals interested in serving as Lectors/Readers for the Sunday morning lessons on **Saturday, January 11th at 10:00 am** in the Sanctuary. Please sign up on the **PINK SHEET** if you plan on attending.

January's Readers

January 5
Stacy Baker

January 12
Rachel Pelletier

January 19
Jodie Hawkins

January 26
Gina Zimmerman

Reminder: Pastor Ramey is offering a second training course for those interested in reading the lessons on Sunday mornings. This session will be on **Saturday, January 11th at 10:00 am** in the Sanctuary.

“Listening Posts” are Coming . . . Here are some “prompting questions” to think upon:

“Listening Posts” are gatherings of 10-12 members who meet with Pastor Ramey to discuss the “as was” and “as is” of Grace congregation and begin to contemplate where God is leading us in the “what will be.” They last about 90 minutes. Sign-up sheets will be available in mid-January.

“Prompting questions” are just that – questions asked to “prompt” you to think about what you want to say concerning your experiences at Grace congregation. What are the things you think of as you consider these questions; write them down and bring your notes with you.

- [1] Do I believe God's best blessings are *before us* or *behind us*? Why, or why not?
- [2] What are my *fond*est memories about Grace? What are my *sad*dest memories?
- [3] How do we view and handle conflict that arises due to the differences we bring to the table? What are the *unwritten rules* about how we deal (or don't) with differences of opinion?
- [4] What needs to *die* in order for us to live? What programs or ideas were effective in the past, but now are limiting the health and growth of our congregation?
- [5] Does our church view the changing culture as a *problem to be solved*, or as an *opportunity to be embraced*?
- [6] What is the difference between *doing* church and *being* church?
- [7] Do I feel confident inviting my non-churched friends to Grace congregation? Why or why not?

Just give some thought about these questions and let God lead you on from there. Looking forward to hearing everything you have to share!

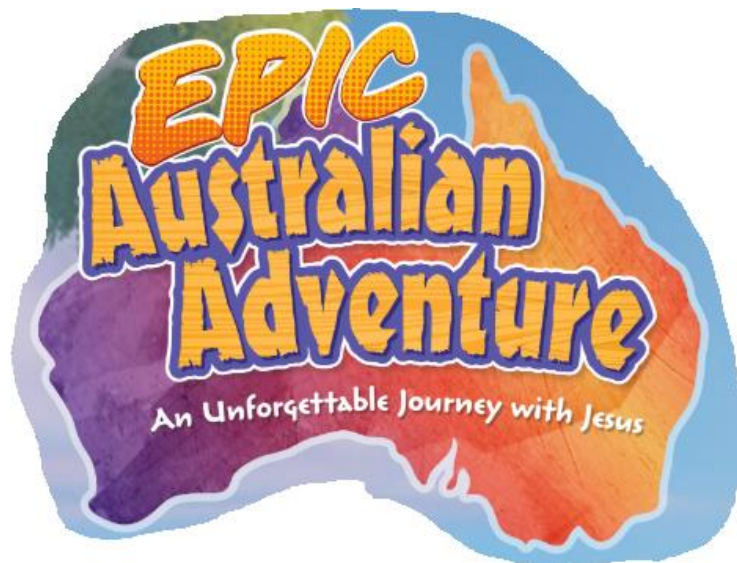
Thoughts from Ms. Carol



Dear Grace Family,

This summer, WE are going on an **EPIC AUSTRALIAN ADVENTURE!** That's right, I said "WE!" It's time to begin planning for this VBS adventure and I need a team of servants to begin working on the "itinerary" for this 3-day trip. We'll encounter amazing animals, lush landscapes, stunning sea life, and wondrous wilderness. And most importantly, we'll be guided by our Savior, Jesus, who tells us, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" in our theme verse, John 14:6. The dates for VBS 2025 will be July 20, 21 and 22. My thoughts are to have a team of "Mates" be responsible for different areas of VBS to include Registration (digital), Games, Crafts, Music, Decorations, Donations, Mission Project, Recruitment of VBS Workers, Science, Openings/Closings, Bible Stories and Snacks. As a "VBS Team- Mate," you will be crucial to the preliminary work that needs to be done before the children even arrive! The VBS Kit from CPH will arrive in January. After I have had an opportunity to sift through all the resources, I will plan our first team meeting. At this meeting I will go over everything with you and we will divide up the responsibilities and begin planning for what is sure to be an EPIC Adventure! Watch GIA and the Pink Sheets in late January or early February for more information or talk to me anytime! However, in the meantime, don't just push it out of your thoughts. Start praying now for our VBS, and for a team of servants who will get this adventure off to an epic beginning!

God Bless,
Ms. Carol





It's 2025! We can't wait to see you back on January 8 at the ECP!

Important Dates:

January 15-16: Puppet Chapel

January 20: No School – MLK Jr. Day

January 27-January 31: Lutheran Schools Week

We will celebrate Lutheran Schools Week with Dress up Days, a special snack and learning about GROWING in Compassion with the story of the Good Samaritan!

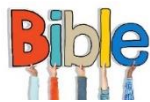
Mon, Jan 27 – Hat Day

Tues, Jan 28 – Crazy Hair Day

Wed, Jan 29 – Crazy Sock Day

Thurs, Jan 30 – What You Want To Be When You Grow Up Day

Fri, Jan 31 – Wear your Grace Lutheran T-Shirt



Jan 8-10: Jesus at the Temple

We thank God for you...because your faith is growing...
1 Thessalonians 1:3
GROW in Jesus as YOU grow!

Jan 13-17: Jesus calls His disciples

(Jesus said) Come Follow Me. Matthew 4:19
GROW as a disciple!

Jan 21-24: Parable of the Forgiving
Father (The Prodigal Son)

In Jesus, we have the riches of God's Grace. Ephesians 1:7
GROW in mercy!

Jan 27-31: Parable of The Good Samaritan

Love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:39
GROW in Compassion!

Thank You Grace! You are a blessing to us all!

Pastor Ramey Dear friends in Christ, on behalf of the staff of Grace Lutheran Church, I want to say a great, big “Thank YOU!” for your Christmas gifts of support and encouragement. We are thankful for your thoughts, prayers, and generosity. We are all looking forward to a good New Year as we strive together to make known the goodness of God in the gift of the Christ-Child.

Ms. Carol To my Grace family, Thank you for the outpouring of Christmas wishes through cards, gifts and just peeking into my office with kind words of gratitude and appreciation. I love my job and I love all of you!

Victoria Crawson Thank you all once again. Your generosity is most appreciated not only at Christmas, but all year long. I always look forward to seeing many of you each day.

Virginia DeBerry Thank you for the most generous gifts. Your thoughtfulness and support are truly overwhelming.

Geneva Gavaldon A huge ‘thank you’ to all the Grace members for your very generous Christmas gift! It was truly appreciated! Looking forward to being here for many years to come!

Rossy Rascon I thank God because in all my jobs I have always found good people who help me get ahead. Thank you for your generosity. Blessings to all!

Midweek Ministry

Bible Bunch through K – 2nd Sharon Burks, Jennifer Powell
Faith Formation 3rd – 4th Stacy Baker, Lisa Dalager
Pre-Confirmation 5th-6th Lauren Schwalbach, Jodie Hawkins
2nd Year Confirmation, 8th Grade – Parlor – Pastor Ramey
Youth (Financial Peace), High School – Youth Room
Adult Bible Study, All Ages – Library





Thank you to everyone who donated blood on Nov 20th.
We were blessed to collect 11 units
which will stay in Midland and
help those in desperate need.

Things, they are a Changin'...

With costs increasing at every turn, Grace has been trying to save money everywhere we can. So, beginning with the January 2025 newsletter, we will no longer print out copies for every member. It will be sent out electronically, along with the Grace calendar and Pray For Us Calendar. A limited number will be printed and placed on the Resource Center. If you require a hard copy, please notify Victoria in the Church Office and one will be printed for you. We appreciate your understanding as we move forward.



Wednesday Meals for December

Join us for the Wednesday Meals. There's always great food and fellowship. Meals start at **5:00pm and end at 6:00pm**. Show your appreciation with a free-will offering to help cover the expenses. All meals include drinks, salad & desserts.

- Jan. 8th Baked Potatoes
- Jan. 15th Soups
- Jan. 22nd Breakfast
- Jan. 29th Chicken Nuggets

Please make sure to sign up for dinner *each week* on the **PINK SHEET so we can prepare enough food for everyone.**

2025 FLOWER CHART



The **NEW 2025 Flower Chart** is located on the Grace bulletin board in the east hallway, across from the Community Room. **The flowers are still \$50/vase.** Please fill out an envelope, place payment inside and turn it in either in the **offering plate** or on **Victoria's desk** no later than Monday preceding your flower date to get the dedication in the Worship Folder on the day your flowers are on the altar.

Make checks payable to Grace Altar Guild.

Please note there is a new place to check on the envelope at the bottom if you would like to pick your flowers up by Tuesday morning.

What's Going On At Grace

Sunday's Divine Service – 10:30 am

If you are not able to be in the Lord's house on Sunday, you may request a CD and DVD copy of the divine service from Victoria in the Church Office. You may also listen to the previous Sunday's divine service via our website, www.gracelutheranmidland.org. It is usually uploaded on the following Monday.



The Columbarium is fully functional and there are several niches available. Engravings are also available. Engravings have been done on the niches occupied. If you would like to purchase a niche in the Columbarium, please see Victoria in the Church office for the forms.



Thank You Malcom Moerbe for serving in January

A teller assists Jim Raven (Grace's Financial Secretary), in counting the tithes collected after Sunday service. It normally takes about one hour.

No prior training is needed.

Jim will show you on the spot how to help, and your presence serves as an important "control" in ensuring more than one person is present while tithes are counted.

Tellers are needed for 2025!

***Please sign up on the PINK SHEET
In your weekly worship bulletin.***

Check your calendars & prayerfully consider when you can serve.

Grace Quilters News



Grace Quilters were able to donate \$2,000 to the Altar Guild from the sale of quilts in December. In addition, we donated 8 full-size quilts to Midland Fair Havens & 4 lap quilts to Texas Oncology. Thanks to Grace members, staff and ECP teachers for your generous contributions! (Pictured is Mr. Clay Schimank who LOVES his tractor quilt!)

The prayer focus for January the is Outreach Board
Teresa Clingman-DeShaw & Natalie Keese





G.R.A.C.E. Connections

Stay connected to the Word and your family at Grace!

We currently have 2 active Connection Groups at Grace.

Growing in Grace Meets Wednesday during Midweek Ministry hour in the Library.

Men's Breakfast Connection Leader is Ryan Hamilton. Meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at Higher Grounds Coffee on Andrews Highway from 6:45am – 7:30am. Topics will vary.

G.R.A.C.E. Connections are the Grace congregation in mission. They are groups of 4 to 12 people who come together and are intentionally led in the mission statement of our congregation:

† **Sharing God's Grace**

† **Living His Word**

† **Making Disciples**

The Core Values of G.R.A.C.E. Connections are:

- **Growing...**by reaching out, *witnessing*, and forming new groups
- **Relating...**and *connecting* with each other as the body of Christ
- **Acting...**in Christian *service* and mission
- **Caring...**and *praying* for each other and the world
- **Enriching...**personal growth and spiritual transformation through *Bible study*

Satan seeks to divide to destroy. Stay CONNECTED. Be CONNECTED. Be a part of a G.R.A.C.E. Connection!





Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Colter Lange	01/02
Amber Cartwright	01/04
Chan Price	01/08
Stacy Baker	01/08
Bill Hartzoge	01/09
Sandy Traugher	01/10
Michael Perry, Jr.	01/10
Gwen McWhorter	01/10
Bruce Boyles	01/10
Madeline Gray	01/16
Lindsay Hale	01/25
Linda Gilmore	01/27
Collin Klabon	01/27
Connor Klabon	01/27
Londyn McWhorter	01/27
Connie Barnes	01/31



Baptismal Birthdays

Sara Johnson	01/05
Collin Klabon	01/05
Connor Klabon	01/05
Joe Nicholas	01/07
Corey Nicholas	01/07
Emma Hayslip	01/14
Madison Richmond	01/17
Chloe Schimank	01/21
Amber Cartwright	01/23
Evan Hale	01/24
Linda Gilmore	01/27
Gwen McWhorter	01/27
Ryan Hamilton	01/28
Stacy Baker	01/30



Anniversaries

James & Cheryl Werner 01/18
33 yrs.



Status of the Budget

The following is a summary of Grace's actual revenue and actual expenses along with the amount budgeted for 2024:

Cumulative: **Not currently available.**

Actual Revenues	\$ (Includes interest)
Actual Expenses	\$
Revenue less Expenses:	\$()
2024 Budget	\$970,952.00

For questions, please contact Aaron Hobratschk at 806-790-6369.



Thank you for the desserts!

Vicki Byars, Khristi Moritz, Michele Hayden,
Laura Ramey, Gina Zimmerman, Sandra Parsley, Diane
Moore, Jeremy and Elizabeth Grabow, Fern De La Garza,
Shana Price, Margie Norton, Lisa Dalager,
Rachel Pelletier, Tiffani Hamilton, Margaret Cloyd,
Lea Keesee, and Sharon Burks!

I was hoping to get 13 desserts and ended up with 24! Way to go Grace! We were able to have enough for 2 desserts for each station and 3 for the 2 larger stations along with a Rosa's gift card. The firemen on duty couldn't say thank you enough! They were so pleased and grateful for the gifts from Grace Lutheran.





**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
WINNERS!**



Kelli, Kyndall and Allison Jones







CHATTER

TEXAS DISTRICT CEF NEWSLETTER

1221 Satellite View, Round Rock, TX 78665
512.646.1233 • 1.888.951.1233 • TexasCEF.org



December 2024



The Way in the Manger

One of my favorite versions of the carol “Away in a Manger” is sung by Nat King Cole. Every time I hear this song I feel like I am brought right beside the manger.

Allow me to play on the words here - to separate “away” into “a way.” The baby lying humbly in the manger would lead the way to the Father and to eternal life. He is the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus is the greatest gift we could ever receive. He is a gift of true love. His birth represents an invitation to all of us to become children of God and heirs to the Kingdom.

The invitation was manifested that night in the manger. Extend the invitation to those around you. It is the greatest and most important invitation they will ever receive or we will ever give.



Follow us on Facebook - facebook.com/texasdistrictcef



Follow us on Instagram - [@texasdistrictcef](https://instagram.com/@texasdistrictcef)

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” ~ John 14:6



Merry Christmas

from

Becca, Cheryl, Cynthia, Debbie, Juanita,
Kenda, Reelyn, Renee, Rolando, and Ruby

DECEMBER INTEREST RATES

FIXED RATE

One Year Note	4.250%	(4.32% APY)
Three Year Note	4.150%	(4.22% APY)
Five Year Note	4.000%	(4.06% APY)
Jumbo Investment*	4.350%	(4.42% APY)

*\$100,000 minimum, 18 month term

CONGREGATIONS

Savings	1.250%	(1.26% APY)
Building Fund	3.500%	(3.56% APY)

FLOATING RATE

One Year Note	3.000%	(3.03% APY)
Three Year Note	3.250%	(3.29% APY)
Five Year Note	3.500%	(3.55% APY)
Flex Savings	1.000%	(1.00% APY)
Rainy Day Fund**	1.250%	(1.26% APY)

**Amounts over \$10,000 receive the Flex Savings rate



All Individual Texas District CEF Investments (FLEX, fixed and floating rate notes) may be included in a person's IRA portfolio, through our custodian GoldStar Trust Company. www.texascef.org/ira.html (1) Subject to penalty for early withdrawal. (2) Rates subject to change. Rates reviewed monthly. Texas District Church Extension Fund is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, CEF Investments are not SIPC or FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This does not constitute an offer to sell or a request to buy. The offer is made solely by CEF's Offering Circular.



Through investments from Texas District LCMS congregations and their members, Church Extension Fund will be the preferred financial resources partner for district ministries focused on multiplying followers of Jesus.

Texas District Church Extension Fund
1221 Satellite View, Round Rock, TX 78665
512.646.1233 • 1.888.951.1233 • TexasCEF.org

January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Elders Tim Benton & Steve DeShaw Ushers Mark Zimmerman Brent Keese Jim Raven Dennis Wehneyer 5 Discipleship Series Begins 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Divine Service w/Communion	Altar Guild Kelii Jones Kristi Moritz Teller Malcom Moerbe		1 Church Office Closed 	2	3	4
	6	7 2:30 Mission Agape	8 ECP Resumes Classes 5:00 Meal – Baked Potatoes 6:00 Joyful Chorus 6:00 Midweek Ministry 7:15 CYFLM Mtg.	9 1:00 Quilters 10 2:00 pm 	11	
12 New Officer Installation 8:15 Elder's Meeting 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Divine Service	13	14	15 6:45 Men's Breakfast Conn. 10:00 ECP Puppet Chapel 5:00 Meal – Soups 6:00 Joyful Chorus 6:00 Midweek Ministry	16 10:00 ECP Puppet Chapel 1:00 Quilters	17	18
19 Life Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Divine Service w/Communion	20	21 2:30 Mission Agape	22 5:00 Meal – Breakfast 6:00 Joyful Chorus 6:00 Midweek Ministry	23 1:00 Quilters	24 6:00 Mother/Son Mystery Night in Grace Fellowship Hall	25
26 Commitment Sunday 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Divine Service	27	28 Lutheran Schools Week	29 5:00 Meal – Chicken Nuggets 6:00 Joyful Chorus 6:00 Midweek Ministry	30 1:00 Quilters	31	



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

EPIPHANY — JANUARY 1-31

Epiphany is from a Greek word meaning to “reveal” or “make manifest.” The season of Epiphany is our time to focus on the revelation of who Jesus is — both true God and true man — as we remember Christ’s revelation to the Gentiles in the visit of the Wise Men.

Give thanks as you pray:

- 1.** *That God would make us bold witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ in this new year and always.*
- 2.** *For opportunities to witness to friends, family members and strangers. Please send Your Holy Spirit to give us wisdom and faithful words to use during these encounters.*
- 3.** *For our congregations, that God would strengthen them by fostering a faithful Lutheran approach to confessing Christ to neighbors and planting daughter congregations.*

- 4.** *That our schools would be faithful mission outposts, reaching unchurched families with the Gospel and strengthening the faith of church members.*
- 5.** *With thanksgiving for all the Synod’s faithful church workers, that they might be re-energized daily and find great joy in their service.*
- 6.** *That just as You made known Your Son to the Gentiles through the leading of a star, You would continue to bring the light of Your Gospel to the hearts of all people.*
- 7.** *For new church plants and mission starts, that the Lord would help faithful congregations sprout up in every corner of the United States.*
- 8.** *That we would be effective in reaching out to people of different ethnicities who are living in our communities. Pray that the Lord would use us*

- as His instruments to make the LCMS a reflection of the Church Triumphant.
- 9.** *For those marching for life, whether at the National March for Life in Washington, D.C., or a pro-life event closer to home. Please pray that all those who attend might be a powerful witness to others.*
- 10.** *For all children, that they would be brought to the saving waters of Baptism and raised in the love, nurture and admonition of the Lord.*
- 11.** *That the Lord would help us raise our children and young people in the faith, always pointing them to the hope and salvation found only in Christ.*
- 12.** *For college students, who are struggling with many different issues and challenges. Ask God to make them receptive to the peace and healing of the Gospel.*

- 13.** *For the aged, that they would be godly examples to the young as they are patient in their tribulations, joyful in their hope, firm in their faith and humble in all they say and do.*
- 14.** *That God would strengthen our hope and impact by encouraging partnerships in the Gospel that clearly confess Christ.*
- 15.** *For the Synod’s 35 districts, that they might have the resources and wisdom to effectively reach out to their communities.*
- 16.** *For strong districts, congregations and Recognized Service Organizations. When our Synod is strong at home, we can better reach out across the world.*
- 17.** *For all missionaries around the world, who leave family and friends to travel to a foreign land to share the Gospel with those who have not heard. Pray that God would grant them safety, wisdom and strength.*

PHOTO: LOMS COMMUNICATIONS/STEVE M. LUNSFORD

JANUARY Pray For Us Calendar

- 18.** *With thanksgiving for all the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ who support the work of LCMS missionaries through their prayers and gifts.*
- 19.** *That God would raise up indigenous pastors, deaconesses and other church leaders to reach out to their own communities and share His Word.*
- 20.** *For the Synod's partner churches around the world, that they would continue to teach Christ's Word in all its truth and purity.*
- 21.** *With thanksgiving for all past missionaries. Thanks be to God, the Gospel seeds they planted continue to bear much fruit.*
- 22.** *That God would raise up more missionaries to serve at home and abroad, according to His will.*
- 23.** *That the Lord would open up the hearts and minds of people around the world, so that His grace-filled message can be spread far and wide.*
- 24.** *For discernment, that we might heed God's call to serve in His name, whether around the world or right here at home.*
- 25.** *That God would bless mission work in urban areas and protect those He sends to work in these often-difficult situations.*
- 26.** *For mission work in sub-urban areas, that we would not become complacent in the work God has called us to do in our own communities.*
- 27.** *For mission work in rural areas, that congregations would be equipped to respond to the changing demographics around them.*
- 28.** *That congregation members might be welcoming to every person the Lord brings to their church.*
- 29.** *That God would strengthen our faith so that His Word has free course in our congregations and homes.*
- 30.** *For all people who turn away from the loving arms of their Savior. Pray that the Holy Spirit would transform their hearts and minds.*
- 31.** *With thanksgiving that God has called and equipped us to join in His mission to seek and save the lost. Ask God to give you courage to be His witness in your daily life.*



Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

PHOTOS: LCMS COMMUNICATIONS/STEVEN M. LAMSFORD

Grace Prays~~~~~2025

We continue to pray for the following:

- Protection for our armed forces and strength for their families.
- Wisdom for our nation's leaders.
- Continued guidance and blessing for Pastor Ramey and his family.
- Continued guidance and blessing for Ms. Carol.
- Strength and commitment in tending our baptismal journey.
- Our ECP

*For updates to Grace Prays,
please email Victoria
at
office@gracelutheranmidlandtx.org
or call the Church Office,
432.697.3221*

OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

- ❖ Mike Barbian, Cimarron Place
- ❖ Charles Colgan, Ashton Medical Lodge
- ❖ Jerry Damm, Legacy Ranch
- ❖ Eleanor Dillenburger
- ❖ Georgi Rushing

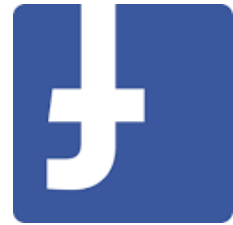
ILL OR RECOVERING

- ❖ Susan Johnson (Virginia DeBerry's mom) will have surgery to remove her left kidney due to cancer was rescheduled to 1/20/25.
- ❖ Margie Norton is doing well. She has a few more weeks of PT ahead of her.
- ❖ Chuck (Khristi Moritz's father-in-law) is battling lymphoma & has a blood clot in his lung. The procedures went well and he's home. Chemo started 12/11.

PRAYERS OF MOURNING

- ❖ Gail Granat died on 12/13.
- ❖ Bradley Norton who died on 12/21.
- ❖ David Stock who died on 12/23.

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and you'll see our logo.
Our Website Address is:
www.gracelutheranmidland.org



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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