

Herald of Grace



Jesus came and stood among them and said to them,
"Peace be with you."
...the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. John 20:19,20

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends in Christ,

As we make our way toward Holy Week and our remembrances of Christ's entry into Jerusalem, His betrayal, crucifixion, death, and resurrection, we are mindful of His Words in John 10: "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." ^{John 10:10,11} **Life . . . abundantly . . .** We enter into Holy Week, prepared for death. Indeed, the Good Shepherd was going to lay down His life for His sheep, His flock - us. But it was for the purpose of bringing life to those who had been dying all along in their sin, guilt, and shame. New life - **abundant life** - is the gift we receive and celebrate through the death and the resurrection of Jesus.

As we move forward in our transition time here at Grace, we have identified challenges to the life of the congregation which we need to attend to:

- ✝ No sense of "shared" ministry - As a congregation, many feel that we do not have an idea of what our mission and ministry as a church is or ought to be. To get a handle on the *what* we are to be and do, we need to redefine our *why*. Revisiting, reviewing, and reframing our understanding of the church's **Mission, Vision, and Values** will help everyone get on the same sheet of music for the same of our mission as a congregation.
- ✝ Leadership moving forward - Grace sits in an "in-between" point where a new style of leadership and cooperation needs to be put in place. Rather than everything going through the pastor, leadership and ministry teams need to function as (wait for it) - **teams!** This will require members stepping up while the pastor steps back.
- ✝ Lack of fellowship - The early church was known for its *oikos* - **fellowship** - one church, one family, one body moving together in its mutual journey. It is time for us to reinvest time and effort to engaging with each other as the brothers and sisters in Jesus He calls, gathers, and makes us to be.
- ✝ Lack of outreach - For the sake of the people who do not know or have fallen away from Jesus, Grace needs to do what we have said we're all about: **(a) sharing God's grace, (b) living His Word, and (c) making disciples.** Through events on campus, service within the community, and social ministry presence, we reach out with the love we have been shown in Christ, touching others as His hands on earth.

In the coming months, we will be working toward making Grace congregation a *missional* church that lives out our calling as disciples of Jesus. We are beginning a mutual journey that will be a *process* for everyone to participate in. I am calling upon *everyone* to join together as we learn, grow, and minister to our community as the family of faith we have been called to be; through Jesus!

Pastor Ramey



Palm Sunday

April 13, 2025

“Father, Forgive”

The service will begin with Confession and Absolution, Prayer, a reading from the Processional Gospel (John 12:12-19), and followed by the entrance of the children with their palm branches as we sing “All Glory, Laud, and Honor.” The message is based on Luke 23:34, where Jesus calls upon His Father to forgive those who were in the process of killing Him. Hymns include: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*; *What Wondrous Love is This*; *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*; and *Were You There*.

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 2025

“Praying Psalm 143”

The service will conclude our Lenten series, *Praying the Penitential Psalms* as we conclude with Psalm 143. Holy Communion will be celebrated, and the Altar will be “stripped” in preparation for Good Friday. Hymns include: *Today Your Mercy Calls Us*; *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*; *Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord*; *I Come, O Savior, to Your Table*; and *The Lamb*. The service closes with the “Stripping of the Altar” and our silent exit from the Sanctuary.

Good Friday

April 18, 2025

“It Is Finished”

This solemn service will look at Christ’s crucifixion and death as the completion of His earthly mission to “seek and save the lost.” Hymns include: *Chief of Sinners Though I Be*; *Jesus I Will Ponder Now*; *Go to Dark Gethsemane*; *O Dearest Jesus, What Has Hast Thou Broken*; *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*; *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*; and *Were You There*.

Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025 *“Perplexed, Amazed, Befuddled”*

Our Easter celebrations (7:00 am & 10:30 am) will focus on the unexpected - a dead Jesus taking a walk with two of His disciples. Liturgical elements will be taken from *Divine Service*, Third Setting and will include the hymns: *Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense*; *Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won*; *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*; *Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia*; *Jerusalem, My Happy Home*; *At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing*; *Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands*; *I am Content! Jesus Ever Lives*; and *He’s Risen, He’s Risen*. Oh! There will be eggs to hunt!

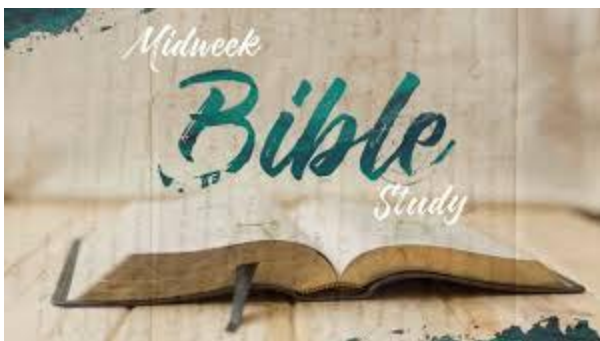


ACOLYTE		READER
Wade Stansell	April 6	Tim Benton
Jacob Jones	April 13	Jim DeBerry
Wade Stansell	April 20	OPEN
Cadence Hall	April 27	Rachel Pelletier

We are grateful to those who serve on Sundays!

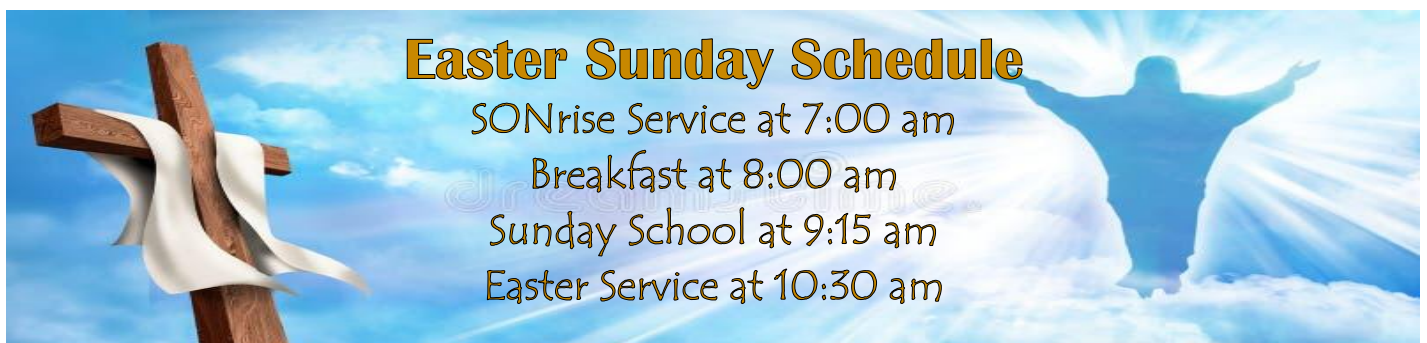
Looking for people good with Social Media!

Been to our Web Site or Facebook lately? If you have, you may have noticed that they're not what we'd really like them to be! **Sunday, April 6, following the worship service**, Pr. Ramey invites anyone (and everyone) who is interested in forming a "Social Media" outreach team to meet with him in the Community Room. At this meeting, our major objective is to lay the groundwork for what we want to see happening with our Website and Facebook page as well as consider other alternatives to developing our online presence.



Midweek Bible Study – Wednesdays at 10:30am!

Pr. Ramey will begin a Wednesday morning Bible study series on **April 23 in the Community Room**. We will begin an in-depth study of the Gospel of St. John. Our first session will also include planning on whether or not we continue through the summer months, occasional "other" events, and whether we go for an hour or an hour-plus.



Easter Sunday Schedule

SONrise Service at 7:00 am

Breakfast at 8:00 am

Sunday School at 9:15 am

Easter Service at 10:30 am



Thoughts from Ms. Carol

Dear Family of Grace,

The countdown has begun . . . 75 days to Camp Lone Star! This year we have **12** Jr High/High School campers and **12** Elementary Campers, and EVERYONE is registered!!! Cindy Hilton and I will once again be going as the Pioneer leaders for this awesome group of kids! The only difference, is that this year we will be going in style . . . golf cart style. Looking forward to “driving” around the camp taking pictures of all the fun!

We will have an informational meeting on May 4th in the Fellowship Hall right after the Divine Service. At this time your Camp costs will be due and we will have all those forms for you to complete. Your cost this year is \$350 which includes camp registration and bus transportation. Please plan to attend so I can get everything checked off my list!

God's Blessings,
Ms. Carol



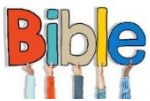


Upcoming Important Dates:

April 2nd & 3rd Puppet Chapel
 April 7th - 10th BOGO Scholastic Book Fair
 April 18 No School Good Friday
 April 21 No School Bad Weather Day



Dr. Seuss Week was a blast! It is fun to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday as well as his love for word play, silliness and imagination. All wonderful qualities in preschool!!



Apr. 7 – 11

Palm Sunday
 Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Matthew 21:9
 GROW in praise!

Apr. 14 – 17

Holy Week
 Christ died for our sins. 1 Corinthians 15:3
 GROW in prayer!

Apr. 22 – 25

Easter
 He is risen. He is risen, indeed. Halleluiah! Matthew 28:6
 GROW while celebrating!

Apr. 28 – May 2

Road to Emmaus. Continue in what you have learned. 2 Timothy 3:14
 Continue GROWing!

Midweek Ministry

6:00 – 6:50 Started on 3/5 (Lenten Services begin at 7:00)

Bible Bunch through K – 2nd Sharon Burks, Carol Massie
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 – Ryan Hamilton
Adult Bible Study, All Ages – Library



**Regular Midweek Ministry Schedule is back April 9th.
Hope to see everybody then!**



Wednesday Meals for April

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.

April 02 Sloppy Joe's
April 09 Pizza
April 16 Regular Spaghetti
April 23 Mississippi Pot Roast

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



Thank you EVERYONE for filling in the **NEW 2025 Flower Chart**. It 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, Jodie Hawkins,
For serving in April**

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 still 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



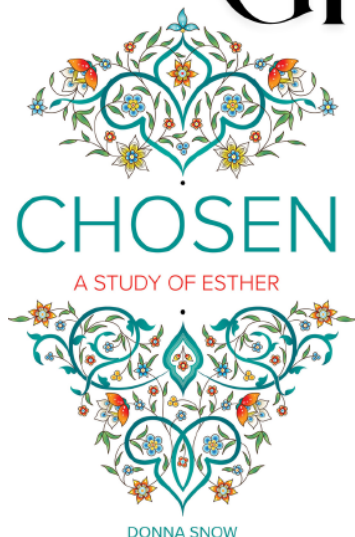
Grace Quilters have been busy lately! New quilts will be on display May 11th – 25th Prices are \$65 for full quilts & \$45 for lap quilts. We hope you enjoy our handiwork! As always, Grace Quilters invite you to join us on **Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00pm** in the Community Room. There are always refreshments and entertaining fellowship! Contact Margaret Cloyd 432-638-3358 or Gina Zimmerman 432-553-2263 if you have any questions.

The prayer focus for April is the Congregational Life Team

*Vicki Byars - Chair
Michelle Boyles & Margie Norton*



Women of GRACE



NEW!

Women's Conference will be held on May 16th from 6-8pm & May 17th from 9am -12pm.

We will have games, give aways, fellowship and time for growing together in Scripture. More information to come!

Our content will be based on the Chosen Bible Study by Donna Snow.

Contact Gwen McWhorter at 903-641-1966, if you have any questions.

EASTER EGG HUNT



**APRIL 23
CHILDREN AGES 1 YR. - 2 YRS
ARE WELCOME TO JOIN
THE BIBLEVILLE KIDS @ 9:45**

**BIBLEVILLE KIDS WILL COME AT
THE REGULAR TIME @ 9:15**

**WE HAVE SPECIAL EASTER BAGS
SO YOU DON'T NEED BASKETS**



WEDDING MOMENT



Blessed



Mark *and* Diane

Congratulations on your
marriage. Enjoy your new life!

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

Stephan Parsley	04/01
Gina Zimmerman	04/02
Lauren Schwalbach	04/03
Paul Hayden	04/04
Brooke Logan	04/11
Shana Price	04/13
Jodie Hawkins	04/16
Jenny Powell	04/16
Eli Hale	04/17
Tyler Powell	04/19
Corey Nichols	04/21
Harper Diaz	04/21
Marion Hritz	04/22
Bernice Weinkauf	04/22
James Powell	04/24
Zachary Hayden	04/26
Luke Stansell	04/28



Baptismal Birthdays

Caren Stephens	04/03
Cheryl Werner	04/06
Londyn McWhorter	04/09
Claudia Chaney	04/10
Allison Gray	04/10
William Wolfmueller	04/11
Jonathan McCann	04/11
Mason Pokky	04/13
Marilyn Richmond	04/16
Jacob Gray	04/19



Anniversaries

Paul & Michele Hayden	04/10
21 Yrs.	
Donna & Doug Hartman	04/13
51 Yrs.	
Matthew & Rachel Schimank	04/16
9 Yrs.	
Tim & Nicol Benton	04/23
31 Yrs.	
Brent & Lea Keesee	04/24
32 Yrs.	



Our 2025 Sunday School Offering will go to Rays of Hope.
Check the display in the Social Hall by the Coffee Machine to see how we're doing throughout the year and don't forget your Sunday School Offering each Sunday!



HopeWorks



HopeWorks is a peer support group whose aim is to guide children through the various stages of grief. This program meets weekly for ten consecutive weeks. Participants are placed in groups of similar ages and circumstance.

Tools of Expression (TOE)



Through the use of the creative arts, these classes focus on peer support, expression of feelings and acquiring new coping skills. TOE classes are held April through August of each year and the artistic theme rotates monthly.

Creative Wednesdays



Creative Wednesdays are a great way for the family to spend time together in a relaxed setting and explore the creative offerings at Rays of Hope. Every Wednesday from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. our building is open for making crafts, playing music and other fun activities. This is an open house time and no pre-registration is required.

Family Workshop



Special events for families to come together and enjoy Back-to-School festivities, Holiday celebrations, Summer Fun Nights and other special occasions.

Fostering Hope



Fostering Hope is a peer support group specifically for children who are currently in or have previously been involved in the foster care system. This program meets for six consecutive weeks.

MAD (Music Art & Drama) Camp



MAD Camp utilizes the expressive arts of Music, Art and Drama as tools of exploration and coping. Each day of camp includes opening and closing activities, discussion time and snacks.

Journey Camp



Journey Camp is exclusively for children and teens who have previously attended the Hope Works course. This camp is designed as the next level in their grief work. This week of exploration introduces campers to the Forest of Fear, Challenge Mountain, the Ocean of Emotion, the City of Change, the Jungle of Anger and the Island of Hope.

Teen Camp



Teen Camp is a special time, just for our teens. Adolescents who are rising 7th through 12th graders are invited to attend. We have designed this camp to navigate the work of grief as the participants are also navigating puberty and the rituals of growing up.

Learn more - Watch the Video



Volunteers are vital to the success of Rays of Hope. We always welcome those who have a love and a heart for children. If you wish to make a tremendous difference in the lives of children of the Permian Basin, then make the decision to join us. Please call (432) 684-KIDS today to learn about volunteer opportunities.

MARCH YOUTH EVENTS

Our JH and HS groups tried their hand painting! Artists in the making!



The S.W.A.T. preteen youth group made jars of lotion for our homebound members. Pastor will deliver them on his next visit.




Focal Point



S.W.A.T.



April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:45 Men's Breakfast Comm. 10:00 Puppet Chapel Noon Lenten Service 5:00 Meal - Sherry Lee's 6:00 Joyful Chorus 7:00 Midweek Ministry	2 6:45 Men's Breakfast Comm. 10:00 Puppet Chapel Noon Lenten Service 5:00 Meal - Sherry Lee's 6:00 Joyful Chorus 7:00 Midweek Ministry	3 10:00 Puppet Chapel 1:00 Quilters 7:00 Elders' Mtg.	4	5
6 ⁵ th Sunday of Lent 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Divine Service w/Communion 11:45 Social Media Team	7	8 2:30 Mission Appge	9 Noon Lenten Service 5:00 Meal - Pizza 6:00 Joyful Chorus 6:00 Midweek Ministry 6:15 CYFLM Board Mtg. 7:00 Lenten Service	10 1:00 Quilters 5:30 Governance Mtg. 6:30 Church Council Mtg.	11 2:00 pm 	12
13 Palm Sunday 8:15 Elders' Meeting 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Divine Service 11:45 Easter Planning Meeting	14	15	16 5:00 Meal - Regular Spaghetti 6:00 Joyful Chorus 6:00 Midweek Ministry	17 Maundy Thursday 7:00 Service w/Communion	18 Good Friday No ECP 7:00 Good Friday Service	19
20 Easter Sunday 7:00 Easter Sunrise Service 8:00 Easter Breakfast 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Divine Service w/Communion	21 Easter Monday No ECP Church Office Closed	22 2:30 Mission Appge	23 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 Meal - Regular Spaghetti 6:00 Joyful Chorus 6:00 Midweek Ministry	24 1:00 Quilters	25	26 9:00 Spiritual DNA Workshop Pt. 1
27 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Divine Service	28	29	30 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study 5:00 Meal - Regular Spaghetti 6:00 Joyful Chorus 6:00 Midweek Ministry		Elders Todd Byars Thomas Wolfmueller Ushiers Steve DeShaw Jerry Gilmore Jeremy Grabow Mark Zimmerman	Altar Guild Carol Massie Mangie Norton Teller Jodie Hawkins

Grace Lutheran Church

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APRIL

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

TEACHING THE FAITH — APRIL 1-15

This month, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod celebrates the many ways that God's children are instructed, encouraged and strengthened in the faith. By teaching the faith, we nurture the faithful and reach the lost.

Remember how God works to strengthen the faith of His people as you pray:

1. *with thanksgiving for the gift of faith received at Baptism.* Ask the Lord to continue to strengthen that faith — and the budding faith of our children — until we depart this life and are united with the Lord.
2. *with thanksgiving to God for the gift of His holy and inspired Word, the Sacred Scriptures;* and for the Book of Concord and the many teaching aids that help us understand that Word aright and rejoice in its consolation.

3. *for Christian families,* that the Lord would provide the assistance and tools necessary to overcome every challenge — big or small — that might drive them apart.

4. *for strong Christian marriages,* that husbands and wives would cling to each other in the Lord, despite life's challenges, and raise their children to walk in the way of the Lord.

5. *for Christian parents,* that they would make teaching the faith to their children a priority. Pray that they set aside time to worship together, talk about faith issues, study the Bible and have family devotions.

6. *that family members* would treat each other with kindness and patience, so that each member might be built up in the family of God.

7. *for our children and young people,* who face daily assaults on their Christian beliefs, that God would strengthen and encourage them to stand firm while sharing the Gospel.

8. *for our churches,* that they would provide useful education and programs to help equip people at every stage of life — teens, husbands and wives, parents, caretakers of aging parents and more.

9. *that God would continue to provide faithful church workers to serve as role models and teach people about their identity as a baptized child of God.*

10. *that church members* would eagerly volunteer their time and talents to support the congregation's educational programs, such as vacation Bible school, Sunday school and groups for young families.

11. *that LCMS members* would eagerly participate in Bible studies, small-group discussions and private study.

12. *with thanksgiving for faithful parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and other role models* who help to "train up a child in the way he should go" (Prov. 22:6).

13. *for the Concordia University System and the Synod's two seminaries,* that the Lord would bless their work in training new generations of workers to serve the Church.

14. *for the Synod's directors of Family Life Ministry,* that God would bless their efforts to support healthy relationships in the families of our congregations.

15. *that we might have hearts that are willing and eager to serve the Lord in every way.*

PHOTO: LCMS COMMUNICATIONS/ERNI M. LUNSFORD

APRIL Pray For Us Calendar

MINISTRY TO THE ARMED FORCES — APRIL 16-30

Since the Civil War, LCMS pastors have served as military chaplains. Today, the Synod's Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) supports active duty, reserves, National Guard and Civil Air Patrol chaplains. MAF recruits, interviews and endorses all military chaplains and supports them throughout their careers. MAF also provides a network of care for our nation's military members, families and veterans through Operation Barnabas.

Remember God's work through LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces (MAF) as you pray:

16. that God would bless and guide the work of the MAF director and assistant director.

17. for the President of the United States. Ask God to guide our commander in chief to lead with wisdom for the protection of the innocent against evil.

18. for LCMS military chaplains serving on active duty for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

19. for our LCMS Reserve and National Guard chaplains, especially those who have been mobilized stateside or overseas and taken from their parishes to extended active duty assignments, for those deployed, their families and their home parishes.

20. for Operation Barnabas, which is designed to meet the needs of congregations in the event their pastor/chaplain is mobilized. Operation Barnabas also seeks to assist veterans and military families during and after deployment.

21. for all congregations that reach out to members of our military through Operation Barnabas, that they would uphold them in prayer as they help to meet their physical, psychological and spiritual needs through the training they have received and the Lord's provision.

22. for increasing opportunities for LCMS chaplains to spread Christ's message of salvation, hope and restoration to those they serve.

23. for all chaplains returning home, that they would receive a hero's welcome for their

sacrifice to this country so that in freedom we can continue to openly worship the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

24. for those who suffer from battle stress and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Pray that God would bring healing and renewal to those who have served or who are currently serving.

25. for all chaplains who are sick or have sick family members, that the Father of all mercies and the God of all comfort would look with favor upon them, and as it pleases Him, restore them to health or give them the grace to accept this tribulation with courage and hope.

26. for all chaplains in harm's way, that God would not let their hearts despair nor their faith fail them, but sustain, guide and comfort them.

27. for all members of the military who were disabled during their duty, that our heavenly Father would mercifully guide, aid and strengthen all

those with physical disabilities, enabling them to find fulfillment in their lives and encouragement for all their endeavors.

28. with thanksgiving to God for providing LCMS chaplains to serve members of the armed forces. Please pray that military chaplains would have every opportunity to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with members of the military and anyone with whom they work and live.

29. for all military chaplains upon their return, that they would be reunited with their families, find gainful employment and receive all the care they need to heal their minds, bodies and souls. Grant that they would always look to Christ as their rock and their redeemer.

30. for those who minister to the armed forces, that by God's gracious working, they may honor Christ and advance the good of those committed to their care, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-6267 to request a copy.



CHATTER

TEXAS DISTRICT CEF NEWSLETTER

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



March 2025



Celebrating in Leander!

On Sunday, February 2, Texas Church Extension Fund (Texas CEF) celebrated alongside ACTS Church Lakeway and ACTS Church Hays at the dedication of a new building for ACTS Church Leander.



“It's hard to overstate the ministry potential of this space. Block parties on the front lawn, partnerships with the library across the street, hosting our partner school Bagdad Elementary for continued education offsite and teacher appreciation events, as well as more space to help the current and next generation learn about a Savior and Lord who died for us so that we may live for Him! We expect, and in fact are already seeing, to grow rapidly in this new space.

The extra acreage also ensures we have near limitless ability to expand and grow as God wills it for decades to come. While Jesus did not die for any brick-and-mortar building, facilities and property are powerful tools to share His gospel, and this opportunity will grant us more resources for His mission.

~Pastor Josh Miller



Follow us on Facebook - facebook.com/texasdistrictcef



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

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. ~ Proverbs 3:5-6

Serving With Heart



Texas CEF Operations Supervisor, Cheryl Springer; Financial Controller, Ruby Cruz; Executive Director, Becca Jones

February
3-5,
2025

2025 Texas District Spiritual Renewal Retreat



Members of the Texas CEF staff prepared and served breakfast at the 2025 Texas District Spiritual Renewal Retreat at Camp Lone Star Pines in Tomball.

What a blessing it was to serve a group of workers who spend so much time serving others!

Their role in the Texas District is deeply impactful, and the spiritual growth of many is a testament to their commitment.



MARCH 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

Grace Prays~~~~~2025

We continue to pray for the following:

- Wisdom for our nation's leaders.
- Strength and commitment in tending our baptismal journey.
- For the ministry of our ECP and the families it blesses.
- For our congregation's leaders, the Spirit would guide their work.
- For our congregation, each member would see that he/she is a vital element for our mission and ministry as a church.
- For the victims of the wildfires in Southern California and the safety of all the emergency responders serving and protecting them.

*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 Dillenburg

ILL OR RECOVERING

- ✝ Linda (Rhonda Shutts' sister) who is battling cancer; and Marvin (Rhonda's brother) who is dealing with heart failure.
- ✝ Kristen Reik Haynes (Margaret Cloyd's granddaughter is still receiving chemo treatments.
- ✝ Mary Morgan, who is undergoing a new chemotherapy.
- ✝ Diane Richey (Carol Massie's sister) who is under daily hospice care at home.
- ✝ Brian Traughber's surgery was successful, and he is home resting.
- ✝ Kathy Cox (Gwen McWhorter's mother) is recovering at home.
- ✝ Peter Lufholm, undergoing therapy after successful hip surgery.
- ✝ Bill Hartzoge will have more tests done before surgery will be scheduled.
- ✝ Jeff Allemand (Michele Hayden's uncle) had a follow up throat biopsy on 3/21.

PRAYERS OF MOURNING

- ✝ Teresa Green (Nikki Loya's mother) died on 3/16 in the early morning hours.



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Our Website Address is:
www.gracelutheranmidland.org**



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