



- ✦ Sharing God's Grace
- ✦ Living His Word
- ✦ Making Disciples

Sunday School – 9:10 am
 Sunday Divine Worship – 10:30 am

Grace in Action

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For the Week Beginning January 19, 2025

Communion: We celebrate Holy Communion today. **Please read carefully the statement concerning Holy Communion** provided in the worship folder. In faithfulness to God's Word, we practice close communion. It is our privilege and responsibility to prepare for this sacred meal. You are encouraged to use pages 329-330 in the Lutheran Service Book to aid in your preparation for this sacred meal. **Common Cup and Individual Cup are offered this morning as well as gluten-free wafers.**

Jesus and His Church is the theme for our 2025 Discipleship Series. Commitment Sunday is January 26th. You should have received your letter. If not. Please call Victoria.

Pastor Ramey began a new Bible class entitled *The Way of the Kingdom*, a study of Matthew 5-7 known as Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount." The class will run January-February 2025 on Sunday mornings (9:15 – 10:15 am). Booklets will be made available.

Financial Support for So. Cal. Fire Victims: There are organizations listed everywhere you look who are accepting donations for these victims. Some good, some not so good. If you'd like to donate, here are some verified organizations where all donations will go directly to those in need.

LCMS Disaster Response
www.lcms.org/givenow/wildfire

LCMS Pacific SW District
www.psd-lcms.org/donate

Your donation of any size will be greatly appreciated by those affected by this disaster.

2025 Contribution Envelopes are laid out alphabetically for you in the east hallway next to the Community Room. Please make sure to take yours today.

Upcoming Youth Events:

Jr. High Focal Point: will go bowling on January **TODAY** from 6:00 – 7:30pm at Bowlero.

HS Focal Point: will have a movie and game night in the Youth Room on January 26th from 6:00 – 8:00pm.

January is Life Month: Today, after the divine service families are asked to place "God's Gift is Life from Womb to Tomb" signs in the grass along Golf Course Rd. Take a sign for each member of your family. **The Baby Bottle Drive for Midland Life Center will also begin today.** We will end the drive on February 9th. Grace members, including children, are asked to contribute coins, currency or checks **made to Grace Lutheran with the notation "Life Center, Midland"**. There will be one large Baby Bottle on the table in the Entryway to collect the contributions. Children may take and keep one of the small baby bottles to collect coins and empty them into the large bottle at church. Our ECP will join us the week of February 3-7. A large Baby Bottle in the Entrance where the ECP kids come in every morning will be in clear sight

as the teachers deposit the coins and paper bills every morning. The kids will be able to see the collection grow, day by day!

Bibleville: "The Matthew Matter" was the title of today's lesson. Jesus encountered Matthew sitting at his tax booth. He told Matthew to follow Him, and Matthew responded immediately, inviting Jesus to his home. There, Jesus and His disciples dine with other tax collectors and sinners despite the criticism of the Pharisees. When Jesus hears their comments, He reminds them that only those who recognize the sickness of their sin rejoice in the healing He alone can provide.

This Week's Bible Verse



Donuts: Are you willing to pick up donuts for a month? It's super easy! You go to the drive-up window, say "Grace Lutheran" and they'll give you 3-4 bags. That's It! They need to be at the church no later than 8:45 each Sunday. T & T Donuts at the Wadley and Garfield. Please see Margie Norton if you have questions. Sign up on the **PINK SHEET** if you can help out.



Mission Agape Servants: We serve this Tuesday, 2:30-3:30pm.

Midweek Meals: The January 22nd meal is **Breakfast**. Please fill out the **PINK SHEET** and let us know how many will attend from your family. Your free-will offering to help offset expenses is greatly appreciated.

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 are on a table near the Community Room next to the 2025 contribution envelopes.** 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.

VBS Team: The VBS team will be comprised of Team “Mates.” Each Team “Mate” will be responsible for planning, organizing and recruiting servants to help on his/her team. Talk to Ms. Carol if you have questions. Team “Mates” are needed for the following areas:

Decorations – Sanctuary, Main Hallway, Fellowship Hall, Bible Story Room and Entryway. Workshops can be scheduled to help with cutting out or whatever needs to be done with decorations. We can decorate the week before VBS.

Games – Three Days of Games / Activities for (30 min.) outdoors or in the gym that go along with the day’s Bible Story or VBS Theme. (Age appropriate) Make a list of any supplies that will be needed.

Snacks – Choosing snacks for 3 days to go along with the story or theme. Make a list of anything needed.

Crafts – Choosing crafts for kids to make – and alternate crafts for PreK – Kinder. Also, make a list of any supplies needed.

Science – Find 2-3 Science experiments for each day to go with the day’s lesson. Make a list of supplies needed. Please sign up on the **PINK SHEET**.

Grace Quilters: The Quilters continue to meet on Thursdays (excluding holidays) from **1 – 3pm** in the Community Room. Contact Gina Zimmerman at 432-553-2263 or Margaret Cloyd at 432-638-3358 with any questions. Come join us!

Women of Grace: This casual, yet meaningful gathering encourages the women of Grace to bring a lunch or snack. Whether you have a little lunch break, are in between appointments or simply want to come and enjoy each other’s company, please join us on **Thursdays from 1 – 2pm in the Parlor**. For more information, please contact Gwen McWhorter (903) 641-1966 or Rachel Schimank (979) 595-3095.

2025 Flower Chart: is up and on the wall across from the Community Room. Please help keep expenses down for our Altar Guild by signing up today for your special dates. Each vase is \$50. Complete an envelope next to the flower chart and **make sure to include your dedication**. Also, let us know if you want to keep your flowers or not by checking “yes” or “no” at the bottom the envelope. Flowers need to be picked up by Tuesday morning. **Make your checks payable to Grace Altar Guild.**

Living in the Light of the Lord: John 2:3 – “When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to Him, ‘They have no wine.’” Behold the faith of Mary: she sees a problem and simply lays it before her Son and Lord: “They have no wine.” She does not offer a proposed solution, she does not demand, she simply states her need and waits for the Lord’s response. She trusts that the Lord is a giver, and she knows that He always provides. May such a faith be ours!

Life Quotes: “No amount of scientific progress can defeat death. No political ruler can promise eternal life. Only Jesus can make and keep that promise. The promise of hope and life is ours to proclaim. It is the promise that a world without hope needs to hear. In Jesus we have hope for the future, the living hope of life in His presence forever.” *Dr. Carol Geisler, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

The Lutheran Hour: "He Made Me a Believer" Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#). God makes us believers and the more we believe, the more we become involved in the institutions God made-church, marriage, family, and work. (*John 2:11*)

Family Shield Ministries: "Lies I Taught in Medical School"
Guest: Dr. Robert Lufkin. Guest Host: Rev. Mark Femmel. Airt at 8:00am on KWEL AM 1070 & 107.1 FM. Airt at 8:00am on KWEL AM 1070 & 107.1 FM.

2025 Tellers Needed: Servants are needed to assist Jim Raven in counting the tithes collected after Sunday services. March through October & December are currently open. So, please sign up on the **PINK SHEET** indicating which month(s) you are available.

Father-Daughter Dance: “Sock Hop” is the theme for this year’s dance! Save the date, February 7th 6:00 – 7:30, for this special evening. Please sign up on the **PINK SHEET** so the Family Life Team can get an accurate count.

Last Week at Grace

Sunday Divine Service (01/12).....	150
Sunday School Attendance (01/12)	84
Adults	55
Bibleville	22
Youth.....	7
First Fruit Giving (01/12)	\$6,061.00

Sunday Morning Sunday School

Adult	Fellowship Hall
.....	<i>Pastor Mike Ramey</i>
Adult	Parlor
<i>Bible Stories</i>	<i>Josh/Kelli Jones</i>
Grades 7-8	Youth Room
.....	<i>Ryan & Tiffani Hamilton</i>
Grades 9-12	Youth Room
.....	<i>Chad & Lisa Dalager</i>
Adventure Zones in Bibleville	
.....	<i>Ages 3 years – 6th Grade</i>

Graceful Living This Week

This Sunday	01.19.25
7:30.....	<i>The Lutheran Hour</i> KWEL AM
.....	1070 & 107.1 FM
8:00.....	<i>Family Shield</i> KWEL AM
.....	AM 1070 & 107.1 FM
9:15.....	Sunday School
10:30.....	Divine Service w/Communion
6:00.....	JH Focal Point Bowling

Tuesday
2:30.....Mission Agape

Wednesday
5:00.....Meal – Breakfast
6:00.....Joyful Chorus
6:00.....Midweek Ministry

Thursday
1:00.....Quilters

Next Sunday	Commitment Sunday	01.26.25
7:30.....	<i>The Lutheran Hour</i> KWEL AM	
.....	1070 & 107.1 FM	
8:00.....	<i>Family Shield</i> KWEL AM	
.....	AM 1070 & 107.1 FM	
9:15.....	Sunday School	
10:30.....	Divine Service w/Communion	
6:00.....	HS Movie & Games	

*ECP 2024-2025: Continue to GROW
Parable of the Good Samaritan
Love your neighbor as yourself.
Matthew 22:39
GROW in Mercy!*