



# The Call of Grace

## Grace Lutheran Church

6601 North 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Pensacola, FL 32504  
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**November 2020**

### **From the Pastor's Desk...**

Dear family and friends of Grace,

How has your life changed since March? (wow... what a question, huh?) My guess would be quite a bit in some things, not so much in others.

Between COVID-19, lockdowns, Hurricane Sally, and all that is happening politically we've had quite a year already!

However... as you look back, ***what are you thankful for?*** Stop. Think about that for more than just a quick moment. What has happened (or not happened) that you can give thanks to God for in 2020?

There really is so much to thank Him for, isn't there!

Life has changed. That's for sure. Some of you are not yet feeling comfortable to return to in person worship. That's okay. ***I'm thankful*** that you can participate in worship online.

Perhaps you're wondering how Grace has been affected by the things that God has allowed into our lives so far in 2020. You likely remember that from March 15 through the end of June we had no in person worship services. ***I'm thankful*** (aren't you?) that we remember each week that the Church is not a building, but it is the people of God – *that's you!* – and that we are still united by faith each week whether it's here in our facility, or "virtually" as we worship online through our Live Stream, or recorded via YouTube.

Let me give you a quick snapshot of some of the numbers at Grace thus far in 2020. From January 1<sup>st</sup> until March 15<sup>th</sup> our worship attendance averaged 192 people each Sunday. Since we returned to in-person worship – on July 5<sup>th</sup> – our average attendance has been 109 (plus those watching online).

From January 1<sup>st</sup> through March 15<sup>th</sup>, our Average Weekly Offering for the work of God's Kingdom here at Grace was \$10,702/week. Since July 5<sup>th</sup>, our Weekly Offerings have averaged \$8,562. Many, many of you have been faithful in your gifts! For that we can rejoice and give thanks to God! In fact, for the period when we were only online (March 22 – June 28) the average weekly offering was \$8,149! ***Praise God!***

(continued...)

As you can see by these numbers, we are not in the same place we were before COVID. It's difficult to count attendance, due to the fact that there is virtually no way to accurately tell how many people are streaming live on Sundays, or watching online later in the week. My guess is that the actual number of people "attending" our services is *at least* what it was before COVID, if not higher. For that I'm truly **thankful!**

That being said, it is easy to see the financial impact of COVID on our ministries. Our Offerings for the Lord's work are **down** almost **\$2,200 each week**. Should this trend continue, we will be forced to make some significant cuts to mission and ministry here at Grace in 2021.

If you have been faithfully supporting the ministry of the Gospel at Grace – **I'm thankful!** If you've let your offerings slide off during these difficult days, won't you please consider renewing your support of the Gospel through the Ministries of Grace? And if you've never worshipped God through a thankful, prayerful response to His love and forgiveness with a financial gift to Grace, won't you please consider doing so? **I'm so thankful for your consideration!**

There is MUCH to be thankful for! Yes, it's been quite a year already. But God has been (and always will be) faithful! **Thank Him for that!** No matter what the future may hold – we know Who holds the future!

We've resumed Sunday morning Bible Study and Children's Sunday School. We're gathering safely each week to praise and worship God and receive His gifts. Come, worship and celebrate with us!

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King – His love endures forever!

Joining Jesus on His Mission,

*Pastor Huesmann*



## Flowers & Candles for November



November 8 – Alan Benson  
In Memory of Emey Benson



November 22 – Karin Moore  
In Memory of Husband Jim & Mother Ruthe Lundgren

November 29 – Sharon & Craig D'Ambra  
Altar Flowers in honor of Daughter Jenny's birthday

November 29 – Fisher Family  
Eternal Candle lit in honor of Scott Fisher's birthday

# November Calendar

## Calendar Key:

S=Sanctuary N=Narthex FH=Fellowship Hall  
 WC=Welcome Center CB=Community Building Y=Youth  
 K=Kitchen OC=Office Conference LS=Lord's Supper  
 SC= Sanctuary Conference PK= PreK Room

## Time Change Sunday November 1st

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:00 am Traditional Service 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Service 5:30 AA Mtg. CB	<b>2</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 5:30pm Christian Yoga FH 6:30pm Elders Mtg 6:45pm Women's Bible Study WC 7:00pm AA Mtg CB	<b>3</b> 6:00pm Men's BSF CB	<b>4</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB	<b>5</b> 10:00am Backpack	<b>6</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:00 am Traditional Service 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Service 5:30 AA Mtg. CB	<b>9</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 5:30pm Christian Yoga FH 6:45pm Women's Bible Study WC 7:00pm AA Mtg CB	<b>10</b> 1:15pm Pre-K Board Mtg OC 6:00pm Men's BSF CB	<b>11</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB	<b>12</b> 10:00am Backpack	<b>13</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB	<b>14</b> 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast FH
<b>15</b> 8:00 am Traditional Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Service 5:30 AA Mtg. CB	<b>16</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 5:30pm Christian Yoga FH 6:45pm Women's Bible Study WC 7:00pm AA Meeting CB	<b>17</b> 6:30pm BLL Meeting 6:00pm Men's BSF CB	<b>18</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB	<b>19</b> 10:00am Backpack	<b>20</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB	<b>21</b> 10:00am Prayer Shawl
<b>22</b> 8:00 am Traditional Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Service 5:30 AA Mtg. CB	<b>23</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 10:00am Book Club OC 5:30pm Christian Yoga FH 6:45pm Women's Bible Study WC 7:00pm AA Meeting CB	<b>24</b> 6:00pm Men's BSF CB	<b>25</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB	<b>26</b> 10:00am Backpack	<b>27</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB 2:30pm Book Club CB	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 am ONE "Blended" Service Sunday School 10:45 until 11:45 am NOON POT LUCK LUNCH 5:30 AA Mtg. CB	<b>30</b> 7:00am AA Mtg CB 5:30pm Christian Yoga FH 6:45pm Women's Bible Study WC 7:00pm AA Meeting CB		<b>*Sunday November 29 Plans are "COVID- PERMITTING" WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS</b>			



Don't forget to set your clocks back  
 1-hour Saturday Night October 31  
 Daylight Savings Time Ends  
 November 1st



Women's Bible Study  
Monday Evenings at 6:45  
In the Welcome Center



*Using Fvelyn Christiansen's book, What Happens When Women Pray (and several other resources) we'll be learning the practical and biblical insights about prayer. The study is for everyone, from a new pray-er to experienced pray-er. We'll also discuss teaching others to pray.*

*The book is available on-line, but is not necessary for the class. Hand-outs will be used, so please bring a folder, notebook, and a Bible.*

Megan Holland  
**Welcome!**  
Board Secretary



Hello, my name is Megan Holland and I'm excited to begin serving as the secretary at Grace Lutheran! I'm a 3rd generation Grace Lutheran Church member. I was baptized, confirmed, and married at this church and it means a lot to me! I currently work with kids as a Speech-Language Pathologist and I love helping kids to communicate more effectively!! I've been married to my husband, Johnathan, for 10 years and we have two dogs! I look forward to continuing to help this church grow and to lead more people to Christ!



**MANNA FOOD COLLECTION**

We will be accepting donations for the local Manna Food Bank through the month of November.

*Prayer Shawl Ministry*

The Prayer Shawl Ministry changes its meeting dates each year in November and December, to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of both months, due to the holidays. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us on:

November 21, 2020

December 19, 2020





From Backpack ministry:

We are currently delivering 42 bags of food to the students at Holm Elementary. Although we are unable to deliver to the classrooms, we receive thanks from the staff each week for the dedication that Grace has shown to this program. They were also very appreciative of the classroom supplies that we brought to them. Thanks to your generous support we are within \$500 of our goal to provide food for up to 50 students this school year.

Grace has also been asked if we will be providing Christmas food baskets this year for some of the families of Holm. As in the past we would like to be able to provide at least 12 baskets to identified families for delivery the week of December 14<sup>th</sup>. Any non-perishable food donations (or monetary and the Backpack ministry team will do the shopping) are welcome. We hope to provide a ham to each family as well with your help. Grocery stores usually have some great food sales in November of which we can take advantage. Thrivent members, a reminder that if you apply for Action team gift card's they are a wonderful way to donate to this ministry.

As always please continue to keep the students, teachers and staff of Holm in your prayers.

Thank you,

*Sharon D'Ambra*



**Join us Tuesday  
mornings from  
10:00 until 12:00**

### **November Birthdays**

Brent Wipf 11/1  
Louise Hage 11/1  
Sonia Payne 11/2  
Jenna Keremes 11/3  
Kirsten Hoffman 11/3  
Frank Saunders 11/4  
Bob Richardson 11/5  
Garrett Wales 11/6  
Margeaux McElroy 11/6  
Karen Bowdich 11/7  
Tyler Miller 11/8  
Carl Judson 11/11  
Evan Whitney 11/11  
Carolyn Schmidt 11/13  
Grace Baldwin 11/15  
John Schmidt 11/15  
Sandra Fogg 11/17  
Bernice Forney 11/23  
Alan Benson 11/25  
Ken Busarow 11/25  
Debbie Keremes 11/27  
Dan Dull 11/29  
David Nehring 11/30  
Forest Myers 11/30

### **November Anniversaries**

John & Carolyn Schmidt 11/3  
Phillip & Carol Peterson 11/12  
Walter & Pat Senkow 11/21  
Rob & Jane Krauss 11/24  
Lee & Joanne Weiland 11/27

*Altar  
Flowers  
Dates still available  
November 1 & 15  
December 27*

