

# The Means of Grace

February 2, 2025



***“Psalm 116:12, 17-19 - What shall I render to the LORD for all His benefits to me? ... I will offer You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the Name of the LORD. I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!”***

A Spanish scholar and man of letters tells an interesting story about an old Roman aqueduct at Segovia, Spain. The aqueduct was built in the year 109 of our era. For 18 centuries it carried cool water from the mountains down to the thirsting city. Then aqueducts went out of style. Modern pipelines were laid, and the old aqueduct was retired. It was no longer to do any work, but was merely to be preserved as an historic landmark of interest to future generations. Almost immediately the aqueduct began to fall apart. The sun shone on the dry mortar, and it crumbled; stones were loosened and began to fail. A few years of idleness ruined what 18 centuries of service could not destroy.

As the ancient psalmist thought of God's bountiful goodness and of all the blessings God had showered upon him, he expressed a desire to make a sacrifice for God. He asks, "What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?" As we think of the goodness of God and of all the spiritual blessings that are ours in Christ the Savior—faith, courage, and hope; forgiveness of sins, and life everlasting—we, too, will want to bring a sacrifice for Christ.

There are so many things each of us has to offer others in the service of Christ and the church. We may bring major skills like career expertise or our ability to put things together—and these are wonderful ways in which to serve. Or we have simpler—but no less significant things—like our ears to listen to someone's pain, our words to console a worried and anxious heart, or our hand to reach out and put on someone's shoulder. These are vital connections. These are things we can all do—just as Jesus did for us.

Look at what Christ did for us—because He loved us—long before we learned to love Him. As the hymn, "Christ's Dying Love," written by Isaac Watts, says, "How condescending and how kind was God's eternal Son! Our misery reached His heavenly mind, and our pity brought Him down."

Jesus came, not to be served, but to serve. He came, not to get, but to give. He sacrificed His life so that in Him we might have eternal life. Think of it! God Himself suffered and died in shame and disgrace for our eternal salvation, before we had ever been born! Indeed, what shall we render to the Lord?

**Sunday February 2, 2025 – Epiphany 4**

Flowers:

Ushers: Gillespie

Ware

Curry

Hafner

9:30 AM Worship

10:30 AM Fellowship

11:00 AM Call Meeting



**Monday February 3, 2025**

**Tuesday February 4, 2025**

**Wednesday February 5, 2025**

-- Worship Committee Meeting – 3:30PM

-- Chapel – 8:30AM

-- Grace Girls - Lunchtime

**Thursday February 6, 2025**

**Friday February 7, 2025**

**Saturday February 8, 2025**

-- Grades 5-8 Spelling Bee

-- Sisters in Christ – 9:30AM

-- Board of Education Meeting – 12:00PM

**Sunday February 9, 2025 – Epiphany 5**

Flowers:

Comm. Prep: Hafner

Ushers: Gillespie

Ware

Curry

Hafner

9:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 AM Fellowship

11:00 AM Sunday School and Bible Class

**PRAYERS**

# What's Happening @Grace



## Mowing & Church Property

**THANK YOU** to **Roger Schrab** for faithfully maintaining the grounds at Grace Church and making it beautiful! Please consider signing up and helping him with lawn care.

## Church Weekly Cleaning!

The church building needs to be cleaned each week and we could use your help! **THANK YOU** to those who have been so faithful in cleaning the Lord's house and making it ready for worship! You are doing a wonderful job!



## Altar Flowers

Please consider signing up for bringing altar flowers for our Sunday Worship. We need flowers every week! Signup sheet is located in the Fellowship Hall on the north facing wall.

## Usher Sign-Ups

Please consider signing up to be an Usher. Sign up sheets are located by the fellowship hall and entryway door. Currently we have availability through the rest of the year.



## Fellowship Hosting Sign Up

Cathie and Virginia have been outstanding doing our fellowship goodies. It is time we, as a congregation, start taking on some of this work so they can have a break. They will continue doing goodies on the first week of the month. Please sign up to take over a week of fellowship goodies! Sign up with a friend or two! Help will be available in the kitchen if you'd like it. There will be a sign up sheet on the board located by the fellowship hall and entryway door. It has been suggested that we do a potluck once a month to help getting more people involved.





## Free Firewood!

Do you need or want firewood? We have wood taken from the trees that fell a year ago at the school. The wood is in rounds that would need to be split. Splitting can be done for those not able to. The wood is free, but any donations will go to the operation of the school and church. Contact Ed Gillespie for questions.

\*Text to 360-619-2380 or call and leave a message (avoiding spam calls). Thanks!

## 2024 Giving Statements

Calendar year 2024 annual Giving Statements will be issued via email starting this coming week and should be completed by next Sunday, January 26th. Any questions or requests concerning Giving Statements should be directed to [accounting@grace-wels.net](mailto:accounting@grace-wels.net), including if you've updated your email address in the last year. When reaching out, please include your name, envelope number, and if relevant, what your previous email of record was. If you have not received your Statement by 1/26/25, please reach out to [accounting@grace-wels.net](mailto:accounting@grace-wels.net). Thank you!!



## Sisters In Christ

Sisters in Christ will be meeting on Saturday, February 8 at 9:30AM at the school. We hope the ladies in the church and school will join us while we continue learning about the Fruits of the Spirit.

## Hiking Group

The next hiking date will be Saturday, February 22. More details will be coming soon.



## **NEW ENTRANCE AND SANCTUARY DOORS PROTOCOL**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Beginning this Sunday, January 12, and continuing until further notice, we will be locking the front and side doors as the chimes signal the start of our worship service. Once the doors are closed, our ushers will be ready to welcome latecomers inside. This measure is being taken to prevent potential risks.

Furthermore, we will be closing the doors leading from the narthex to the sanctuary at the start of the Bible readings. This will minimize distractions, allowing us to fully immerse ourselves in and appreciate God's word together. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## **WELS SYNOD CONVENTION DELEGATE NEEDED**

The bi-annual WELS Synod Convention will be held at Martin Luther College from July 21 to July 24, 2025. As a district, we need to provide 7 male lay delegates, 1 teacher called worker, and 4 pastors. Grace congregation is currently scheduled to represent the district this year. If you are able to attend and represent the district, please speak with Juan Garcia. We will need to provide a response by January 31.

I had the blessing of participating in one of these conventions, and it was a truly uplifting experience. Approximately 500 pastors, teachers, and lay delegates will gather to discuss synod business. Delegates are assigned to various committees to work on resolutions presented at the event. The most impactful and memorable moments for me were during the opening and closing services, where everyone sang with such passion.

Once we have a delegate from Grace, the convention planning committee will reach out directly to the delegate with further information.

Thank you for considering participating.

## Financial Giving to the Lord at Grace FY24-25

<u>Giving</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>Week Avg</u>
\$ 8,463.00	7/7/2024	<b>Actual</b>	\$ 214,018.82	\$ 7,133.96
\$ 4,841.63	7/14/2024	<b>Budget</b>	\$ 524,524.34	\$ 302,610.20
\$ 3,084.00	7/21/2024	<b>Diff</b>	\$ (88,591.38)	\$ (2,953.05)
\$ 4,079.00	7/28/2024			
\$ 11,698.15	8/4/2024		Weeks Complete	30
\$ 12,975.92	8/11/2024		Weeks Remaining	22
\$ 3,875.00	8/18/2024		Needed per Week to make Budget	\$ 14,113.89
\$ 5,899.00	8/25/2024			
\$ 12,107.42	9/1/2024			
\$ 2,436.00	9/8/2024			
\$ 3,580.00	9/15/2024		Report Date	1/29/2025
\$ 2,919.00	9/22/2024			
\$ 3,566.00	9/29/2024			
\$ 7,583.00	10/6/2024			
\$ 3,524.00	10/13/2024			
\$ 7,714.00	10/20/2024			
\$ 4,584.00	10/27/2024			
\$ 5,960.00	11/3/2024			
\$ 5,382.00	11/10/2024			
\$ 2,257.00	11/17/2024			
\$ 4,402.00	11/24/2024			
\$ 29,058.00	12/1/2024			
\$ 2,438.00	12/8/2024			
\$ 12,940.00	12/15/2024			
\$ 2,828.00	12/22/2024			
\$ 27,160.70	12/29/2024			
\$ 8,386.00	1/5/2025			
\$ 5,060.00	1/12/2025			
\$ 2,687.00	1/19/2025			
\$ 2,531.00	1/26/2025			
\$ -	2/2/2025			
\$ -	2/9/2025			
\$ -	2/16/2025			
\$ -	2/23/2025			
\$ -	3/2/2025			
\$ -	3/9/2025			
\$ -	3/16/2025			
\$ -	3/23/2025			
\$ -	3/30/2025			
\$ -	4/6/2025			
		<u>Giving</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	
		\$ -	4/13/2025	
		\$ -	4/20/2025	
		\$ -	4/27/2025	
		\$ -	5/4/2025	
		\$ -	5/11/2025	
		\$ -	5/18/2025	
		\$ -	5/25/2025	
		\$ -	6/1/2025	
		\$ -	6/8/2025	
		\$ -	6/15/2025	
		\$ -	6/22/2025	
		\$ -	6/29/2025	

*Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7*

*Bring the complete tithe to the storehouse so that there may be food in my house. Just test me in this, says the Lord of Armies. See whether I do not open for you the windows of heaven and pour down blessing on you, until there is more than enough. Malachi 3:10*





# The Eagle Message

## Grace Lutheran School

### *Shining Together* Matthew 5:16

January 28, 2025

#### Chapel Service at 8:30

We will have our weekly school-wide Chapel Service, usually on Wednesday mornings at **8:30**. Pastor Janisch will lead our worship this week. An offering envelope is **attached** for your child's mission offering. We will be supporting the ministry at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Hillsboro in the **Second Semester**. Our students sang at Beautiful Savior last year and Pastor Mews leads our weekly Chapel services once a month. We have gathered \$37.10 so far.



#### Students sing Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>

Students in K-8<sup>th</sup> grades are scheduled to sing at **Peace Lutheran Church in Vancouver on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>** for their **10:30** worship service. All are welcome to attend Bible Class and Sunday School at 9:15, before the service.

#### A-Team Boys Basketball

**Wed. Jan. 29 - 4:00 Game @ Portland Christian (12425 NE San Rafael St, Portland)**

#### Brightwheel tax information

2024 tax statements will become available to parents in their Brightwheel accounts, this week.



**Report cards** are being sent home **TODAY Tuesday, January 28**.



#### 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade Spelling Bee FRIDAY February 7<sup>th</sup>

There will be a Spelling Bee for 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on **Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**, starting at 2:00 PM. Spectators are welcome to attend!

The **February calendar** is **attached**. Please refer to it for activities in the coming month.

#### ♥ Grace Lutheran School GIVING WEEK ♥

We can thank God for our faith and for our school that shares the **love of Jesus** with others. During Giving Week (**February 14-21**) show your **love of Christian education** at Grace Lutheran School by choosing to help provide a quality Christ-centered education for students here in the Portland metro area. **Details about this event are attached.**

#### Spirit Day Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup>

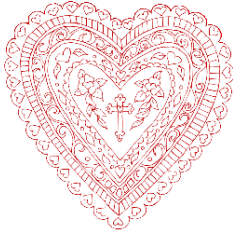
In connection with Giving Week, we will be having a **Spirit Day** on **Wednesday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>**. Students are asked to wear **Red, White and Pink** to show their school spirit and love for GLS! *Students are not required to participate.*



#### Parent Appreciation Night





The school staff wants to show our thanks for the families of Grace and Precious Lambs Preschool by having a **Parent Appreciation Night** on **Friday, February 28 starting at 5:30 PM**. Join us for dinner and a fun activity. Childcare for ages 3-12 will be provided at the school. Please look for additional information in the coming weeks!

Phone: 503-777-8628 Fax / Second line: 503-230-1354  
glsoffice@grace-wels.net www.gracepdx.com



# Grace Lutheran School

## February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
2	3 Piano Lessons	4	5 Chapel Mr. Eternick <i>Grace Girls devotion</i> Piano Lessons	6	7  5th—8th grades Spelling Bee 2:00	8
9 K-8th grade students sing at Peace Lutheran Church, Vancouver 10:30	10 Piano Lessons	11	12 Chapel Pastor Mews <b>Red, White &amp; Pink Day</b> Piano Lessons	13	14 <b>Early Release</b> 11:45 dismissal Staff Meeting <div>♥ Giving Week February 14-21 ♥</div>	15
16	17 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>President's Day</b>	18	19 Chapel Pastor Bourman <i>Grace Girls devotion</i> Piano Lessons	20	21 <b>HOT LUNCH</b>	22
<div>♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ Giving Week February 14-21 ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥</div>						
23	24 Piano Lessons	25	26 Chapel Pastor Janisch Piano Lessons	27	28 <b>Early Release</b> 11:45 dismissal Staff Meeting Parent Appreciation Night 5:30-7:00	



# Grace Giving Week

Friday, Feb. 14, 2025- Friday, Feb. 21, 2025



HAPPY GIVING WEEK, EAGLES!

It's time to show our school some love! Our Second Annual Giving Week will take place Friday, February 14, 2025- Friday, February 21, 2025. During Giving Week, you have the unique opportunity to support Grace Lutheran School in continuing to provide an environment devoted to preparing young hearts and minds for the world that awaits.

At Grace, we are dedicated to offering a Christ-Centered education, enriched with Christian teachings and morals for children aged Pre-K through 8th grade. Thank you for supporting our school and helping us meet our goal!

Here are three ways you can show our school some **LOVE**:  
**Donate**- Lock in your gift by scanning the QR Code below or cash/checks may be made out to Working Eagles and can be given to the office or with Mrs. Leitzke or Mr. Eternick. This year's goal is to raise **\$2,000!**

**Share**- Spread the message to your family and friends and encourage them to support a Christ-Centered Education at Grace!

**Follow**- Follow us at Grace Lutheran School, Portland on Facebook or visit us on our website at [gracepdx.com](http://gracepdx.com)

**DONATE HERE**



## Grace Lutheran Church – Portland, OR

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON THAT  
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE -  
JOHN 3:16

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# MILITARY SUPPORT & RESOURCES

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SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE US



GLC Website - <http://www.grace-wels.net/>

GLC Facebook Website - <https://www.facebook.com/GraceWELS/>

Bible Gateway Website: <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

WELS Synod resources for US Military members - <https://wels.net/serving-you/christian-life/special-ministries/military-services/>

Dear Sons, Daughters, and Friends of Grace Lutheran Church in Portland Oregon,

Your church wants you to know how much we love you and appreciate the Service that you give to our loving and merciful gracious savior Jesus Christ and our nation. Our salvation was paid for by Jesus, our freedom is allowed by God, it takes servants of all our U.S. Military branch members to ensure our way of life of freedom. Thanks be to God for each and every one of you!

We would like to be of service to you. Listed above is weblinks to attend GLC worship service both live. The Facebook link will allow you to see our archived services if time doesn't allow for you to join us live. Need access to a bible? See the link to Bible Gateway, we recommend the EHV and NIV versions.



### Supporting Our Neighborhood Foodbank – January & February 2025

As we begin a New Year, I want to thank you for your faithful support of Mainspring Foodbank. Our donation in December of 47 pounds consisted of Christmas gifts and clothing. In 2024 our total donations to Main Spring were:

- Food -- 358 pounds
- Clothing -- 115 pounds
- Other (hygiene items, gifts, etc.) -- 60 pounds (plus one tent)

The grand total for 2024 was 543 pounds! Thank you, thank you!!!

For **January & February**, please continue to donate basic food items focusing on:

- **Peanut butter & jelly**
- **Canned protein** (tuna, chicken, & beef)

With winter still here, Mainspring could also use the following items:

1. **Blankets** (in good condition & clean)
2. **Sleeping bags**
3. **Coats & jackets** (all sizes, clean & in good condition)
4. **Men's clothing**

You may bring your donations anytime. Mary & Martha will then deliver the donated items by February 28th. There are baskets in the fellowship hall to place your food donations as well as clothing items. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or text Leann Breza, (360) 921-6673.

Mainspring Foodbank most-needed foods: (please **no expired items or opened packages**):

Gracelutheranchurch7610@gmail.com

- Canned proteins like tuna, chili, salmon, ham
- Soup
- Rice
- Cooking oil
- Peanut butter
- Cup of noodles
- Canned vegetables
- Canned stew
- Canned fish
- Canned beans
- Pasta (all varieties)
- Pasta sauce
- Instant oatmeal
- Instant potatoes
- Shelf stable milk
- Juice
- Condiments
- Fruit snacks
- Crackers
- Sugar free snacks
- Snacks for highschoolers

**February & March Items:**

- Coats, all sizes in good condition
- Men's clothing
- Blankets in good condition
- Sleeping bags



# BOARDS & COMMITTEES AT GRACE

## Church Council

Juan Garcia – President  
Josh Luplow – 1 VP & BOE Chair  
Jon Cohrs - 2 VP & Secretary  
Larry Glasheen – Ministry CFO  
Dan Paschke – GLS Finance  
Justin Eternick – Principal



## Board of Education

Josh Luplow – Chair  
Dave House  
Dan Paschke  
Tamm Godish - Preschool  
Justin Eternick – Principal



## Board of Elders

Craig Baker – Head Elder  
Len Stadler  
Josh Luplow  
Jacob Meyer



## Worship Committee

Marilyn Baer  
Sue Hartwig  
Melissa Baker  
Olivia Baker  
Jacob Meyer



## Mary & Martha

Sara Hehr – President  
Elke Werner – Vice President  
Linda Bern – Secretary  
Cathie Gillespie - Treasure  
Leann Breza – LWMS



## Trustees

Ed Gillespie  
Matt Ginnow  
Kyle Leitzke  
Tyler Hafner – GLS Custodian

