Following Jesus' teachings, Grace seeks to educate, lead, and partner with all people through discipleship to worship, service, and faith celebration.

# **Reformation Sunday**

## October 27, 2024 8:30am

Grace Lutheran Church, Davenport, Iowa Pastor Stephanie Wood † Pastor Kirsten Lee

## Welcome! We are so happy you have joined us!

Congregational response in bold.

## Prelude

A Mighty Fortress is Our God	arr. Brant Adams
	Dean Rock <i>Trumpet</i>

## Announcements

## **Call to Worship**

Heart & Voice Choir We are Justified

# Gathering

In worship, our songs of praise, and the time we dwell in the word. **We hear God's story.** 

A story of unending love and grace. **Open our ears, open our minds, open our hearts to listen.** 

In the stories we share, the ways you are active in our lives. We give witness to God's presence in our story.

God's story is **Our story.** 

May we share it without reservation. **May we live it with all our being.** 

## **Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.** 

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing. (Silence for reflection.) Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.** 

## **Opening Hymn**

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ..... ELW 504

 A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious; he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious. The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

- No strength of ours can match his might!
  We would be lost, rejected.
  But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
  You ask who this may be?
  The Lord of hosts is he!
  Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
  God's only Son, adored.
  He holds the field victorious.
- Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us, we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpow'r us.
  Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage!
  His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail!
  One little word subdues him.
- God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it; for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
  Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.
  The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship; Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

# Kyrie

e - lei - son, Ky-ri-e on our world and on our way. Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'rv day. For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the 1 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the all; of for u ni ty poor; that hun gry and the i - ly; friends and fam for wa the word; that you ter and this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise, we may live out . . . . . truth and jus-tice and grace, love, . . . for our life and for work and our play, nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood, Refrain let us pray to the Lord, pray to the Lord. let us

## Kyrie Eleison, On Our World and On Our Way ......ELW p. 184

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord,

we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **Heart & Voice Choir Anthem**

Be Still and Know ...... Traditional, Arr. by Fred Bock

# **Children's Message**

# First Reading | Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous, and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.** 

# Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?..... ELW p. 188 6 Al-le-lu ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia. Al-le-lu - ia,

# Gospel Reading | John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So, if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

## Sermon

## Hymn of the Day

The Church of Christ, in Every Age ..... ELW 729

- 1 The church of Christ, in ev'ry age beset by change, but Spirit-led, must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.
- 2 Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry for shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.

- 3 Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.
- 4 For he alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood, and teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.
- 5 We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord; to care for all, without reserve, and spread his liberating word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000; Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## **Apostles' Creed**

Let us proclaim our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed. I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

# **Prayers of the People**

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **Amen.** 

## The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

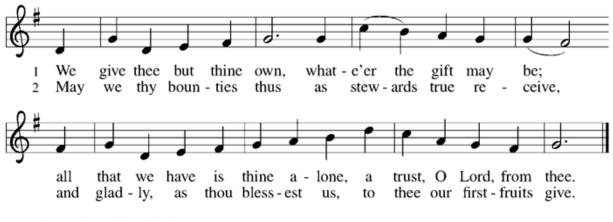
# **Call to Offering**

Generosity begins as a decision from the heart. It reflects care and concern for the needs of the world as well as trust for the abundance and plenty of God's creation. Let us give from the gifts we have been given as a sign and act of faithfulness.

## Stewardship Message: God's Story, Our Story

# **Offering Hymn**

We Give Thee but Thine Own...... ELW 686



Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt. Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

# **Offertory Prayer**

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God,

source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# Anointing with Oil for Healing and Wholeness

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

#### Loving God...

# Your Son Jesus brought healing and wholeness to all. Bring your healing presence now to all who are sick or in pain. Grant hope to all who are discouraged or in despair.

Siblings in Christ, I invite you to come and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

Compassionate God...

The strength of those who suffer, bring hope and peace to all who are in mental, physical, or spiritual distress.

#### All-knowing God...

Source of human knowledge, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all who provide medical care.

#### Loving God...

Our creator and redeemer, give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers of those who suffer.

#### God of great and abundant mercy...

With your presence sustain all for whom we pray. Drive away their suffering, give them firm hope, and strengthen their trust in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## **Blessing**

God all mighty, God most merciful † bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.** 

# **Closing Hymn**

Built on a Rock..... ELW 652

- 1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling; crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling– calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.
- Surely, in temples made with hands God the Most High is not dwelling– high in the heav'ns his temple stands, all earthly temples excelling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n above deigns to abide with us in love, making our bodies his temple.

- Christ builds a house of living stones:
  we are his own habitation;
  he fills our hearts, his humble thrones,
  granting us life and salvation.
  Where two or three will seek his face,
  he in their midst will show his grace,
  blessings upon them bestowing.
- 4 Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing; hither we come to praise his name, faith in our Savior confessing. Jesus to us his Spirit sent, making with us his covenant, granting his children the kingdom.
- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing, many may come to hear your Word, who here this promise is bringing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt. Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Sending

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. Thanks be to God!

## Postlude

Simple Gifts ...... arranged by Russell Schulz-Widmar

#### **Interested in Joining Grace?**

Please contact the church office <u>office@gracewelcomesyou.org</u>, for information about joining Grace Lutheran Church. All are welcome and we would be overjoyed to have you engaged in the worship, ministries, and congregational life at Grace.

#### **Sparkhouse Magazines**

Children's Sparkhouse Magazines are available in the Narthex. We encourage children and families to take home a copy and enjoy the pictures and stories about ways we live as children of God.

### Do You Receive the Weekly Update Email?

Every Thursday we email out the Weekly Update with current announcements, links, birthdays, anniversaries, Synod/ELCA updates, and more. If you would like to be added to our email list, please contact Annie in the church office.

## Junior Bible Study | Today: Two Believing Men

Each week we will hear familiar Bible stories and enjoy the beautiful illustrations from THE STORY for Kids and Little Ones. The Story offers us a fresh perspective and an opportunity to engage Bible stories in a new way. The chapters the kids read and hear will be the same chapters the adults read the same week. *We meet after the children's message at both Sunday services*.

## **Serving in Worship**

Director of Outreach & Youth Minister Assisting Minister	Pastor Kirsten Lee Paul Lewellan
Healing Assistants	Janice Gibbs, Chuck Lehman, Deb Gustafson, Colleen Levsen
Acolyte	Janice Gibbs
Crucifer	
Greeters	Janice Gibbs Matt Levsen Dave & Elizabeth Linde
Ushers	
Sound System	
Jr Bible Study	Pr. Kirsten, Roe Edinger
	Nancy Boehme
Altar Guild	
Heart & Voice Choir Director	Sally Meier
Organist	Susan Senn
Pianist	
Worship Tech & Praise Band Leader	
•	Kathy Shriver, Kathy Miller

## **Grace Lutheran Church**

1140 East High Street, Davenport, IA 52803 563-322-0769 | office@gracewelcomesyou.org **YouTube:** Grace Lutheran Davenport **Follow us on Facebook:** facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou

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# WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### Sunday, October 27

Reformation Sunday8:30amHealing Worship & Livestream9:45amCoffee Hour10:30amHealing Worship

#### Monday, October 28

10:30am	Staff Meeting
4:30pm	Centering Prayer
7:00pm	Council Meeting

#### Tuesday, October 29

10:00am Pastor's Text Study

#### Wednesday, October 30

11:00amTHE STORY - PBH12:00pmMen's Lunch @ Grace1:30pmEndowment Committee Mtg7:00pmChoir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, October 31 🝶



#### Friday, November 1

9:30am PEO (Private Event) - PBH

#### Saturday, November 2

#### Sunday, November 3 All Saints Sunday Food Pantry Collection

Food Faild y Collection		
8:30am	Traditional Worship & Livestream	
9:45am	Coffee Hour	
10:30am	Traditional Worship	

#### Monday, November 4

Polling Location–All Day Fellowship Hall10:30amStaff Meeting1:30pmPersonnel Committee Meeting4:30pmCentering Prayer on Zoom5:00pmProperty Committee Meeting

#### Tuesday, November 5

10:00am Pastor's Text Study - PBH

#### Wednesday, November 6

11:00am	THE STORY Bible Study - PBH
12:00pm	Men's Lunch @ Grace
5:30pm	Grief Support Group - PBH
7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal

#### Thursday, November 7 Pray & Play 8:30am-4pm

7:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm THE STORY Bible Study

#### You Can Watch Us Online and Follow us on Facebook!

YouTube: Grace Lutheran Davenport Facebook: facebook.com/GraceWelcomesYou

Your offerings support and nurture ministries at Grace along with support for local and global organizations. Online giving is available at <u>bit.ly/GraceGivingOnline</u>.

## **Looking Ahead**

- October 31 Trunk or Treat
- November 3 All Saints' Sunday
- November 7 Pray & Play
- November 10 "God's Story Our Story" Sunday
- November 11-15 Pr. Stephanie Continuing Education
- November 24 Service of Thanks & Praise at St. Mark
- November 26-December 1 Pr. Stephanie Vacation
- November 28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday, Office Closed
- December 15 Christmas Program Joint Worship 9:30am
- December 18 Blue Christmas (tentative)
- December 22 Candles & Carols
- December 24 Christmas Eve Worship 5pm & 7pm
- December 25 Christmas Day, Office Closed
- December 29 Christmas Hymn Sing Joint Worship 9:30am

## Trunk or Treat | October 31

Grace members are invited to participate in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Trunk or Treat night on Thursday, October 31. We will decorate our trunks about 5pm (5:30pm start time) and hand out treats and we usually end the evening about 6 or 6:30pm. After that we go to Los Primos for a Mexican meal. If you would like to join the group, please contact Hollie Swain or the church office. To plan for treats, we usually have between 150-200 children.





## **Remembrances for All Saints' Sunday**

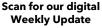
On All Saints Sunday we remember and give thanks for those loved ones who have died and have entered the church triumphant. On All Saints Sunday, November 3, we will read names of our beloved saints who have completed their baptismal journey. **If you have names of loved ones you would like to have remembered, please email or call the church office no later than October 31** (be sure to include pronunciations if necessary). We are indeed surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses!

## **Worship Volunteers Needed**

Would you like to help with worship? We have a variety of duties that support worship here at Grace, some very easy, some with a bit more responsibility, all important to the worship experience - let the office know if you have any questions or if you'd like to be added to the list for any of the following positions:



- Acolyte Light candles before service, extinguish candles after worship (8:30am)
- Crucifer Carry in the Cross during the procession, carry out after worship (8:30am)
- **Ushers** Hand out bulletins, count attendance, be available for anyone needing assistance during the service, excuse pews for communion (both services), pass offering plates (8:30 only)
- Greeters Greet worshippers as they arrive (both services)
- Assisting Ministers Asst the pastor with portions of the service. Your reading parts are sent to you ahead of time, and copies with your parts highlighted in yellow are available Sunday mornings. (both services)
- Communion Asst serve wine or collect cups (both services)
- Communion Bread make communion bread, recipe provided
- Sound System Run the sound system and monitor it during worship (both services)
- Make Coffee keep the coffee flowing on Sunday mornings between services
- Bring Treats or Healthy Snacks supply our coffee hour snacks between services





### **Grace Lutheran Church**

1140 E High St | Davenport IA 52803 563-322-0769 www.gracewelcomesyou.org office@gracewelcomesyou.org



Pastor Stephanie Wood

pastorstephanie@gracewelcomesyou.org

Pastor Kirsten Lee Director of Outreach & Youth Ministry pastorkirsten@gracewelcomesyou.org

Annie Nau, Office Administrator office@gracewelcomesyou.org

Custodial Requests custodian@gracewelcomesyou.org

Claudia Wood, Treasurer treasurer@gracewelcomesyou.org

Vey Rodriguez, Worship Tech & Praise Band Leader worshiptech@gracewelcomesyou.org



**Deb Kirby** President Personnel Committee Chairperson

#### Cindy Lee

Vice President Outreach & Welcome Committee Memorial Committee Grief Support Group Coordinator

> Paul Lewellan Secretary Social Ministry

**Claudia Wood** Treasurer Finance Committee

**Jim Bayles** Property Committee

Jackie Cain Outreach & Welcome Ministry

Janice Gibbs Children, Youth, & Family

> **Deb Gustafson** Finance Committee

**Laura Toland** Worship & Music Ministry

## **Altar Guild Opportunities**

A very important part of our worship experience relies on members to prepare communion, set the altar table, and manage worship supplies like candles and wine. Please consider signing up to help with altar guild in 2025 - you can serve for two weeks or one month at a time. A sign-up sheet is on a clipboard in the narthex. This is a wonderful way to support worship here at Grace and is a great "behind-the-scenes" job if you prefer not to be in the spotlight. Questions? Contact Mike Keller at 563-340-8990.

## THE STORY Bible Study

Mornings - Weekly on Wednesday, 11am in Pat Bell Hall

**Evenings -** Monthly on the first Thursday, 7pm THE STORY Bible Study continues, and anyone who is interested is welcome to join us at anytime during the series. THE STORY helps people understand God's Word and engages with Bible reading like never before. Pr. Stephanie can answer any questions.

## Men's Lunch | Noon Wednesdays

Men's "Lunch & Conversation" meets every Wednesday at Noon - and now that the weather has turned colder, we will meet at Grace. You can bring a lunch from home or pick something up from a local restaurant. Contact Dennis Boehme at 563-320-2661 or **boehmed@aol.com** to be added to the email list.

## Grief Support Group | November 6

The Grief Support Group meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month 5:30pm in Pat Bell Hall. Please join us! Anyone is welcome at anytime, and please be assured our conversations are kept in confidence. Questions? Contact: Cindy Lee 563-370-5386.

## Centering Prayer | Mondays 4:30pm

**Mondays 4:30pm via Zoom** In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be the pure gift of God. It is the opening of mind and heart--our whole being to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words, and emotions. Cheryl Kritsch facilitates the group which meets via Zoom every Monday (except holidays) at 4:30pm (link emailed in the Weekly Update). Please contact Cheryl with any questions at 563-343-0135.

### WELCA at Grace



Here at Grace we have three women's circles open to anyone who is interested. Please consider which one works best for you and feel free to contact the person listed. They'll be happy to answer any questions!

**Deborah Circle** meets the third Monday of the month at 6:30pm in members' homes for Bible study from the Gather Magazine. Contact: Claire Johansen 563-271-1311 or **claire.d.johansen@gmail.com**.



**Naomi Circle** meets the third Tuesday each month, Sept thru May, 9:00am at church for Bible study. Contact Marilyn Schreiber 563-340-0350 or **marilyn.schreiber@icloud.com**.

**Service Day Quilters** meet the second Tuesday & second Wednesday 9am-Noon each month. The quilts made are donated to the community and LWR. In recent years we have made LWR school bags. Contact Gloria Lange **langejg1@msn.com** or 563-271-1542 or Kathy Miller 563-676-0914 or **kathyk1679@aol.com**.

## Listen! God is Calling

**Evenings of Gratitude with Bishop Current** Join Bishop Amy Current for a light dinner and an evening of fellowship, conversation, and gratitude for the ministry we share. All events are 4:30-7:00pm, No RSVP is needed and all are welcome!

- Nov 3 Peace Lutheran Church Pella
- Nov 10 Christ the King Lutheran Church Iowa City
- **Nov 17** Trinity Lutheran Church Pleasant Valley
- Nov 24 Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd -DSM

# GOD'S STORY OUR STORY

STEWARSHIP APPEAL 2025

# Rooted in God

**Joy!** Hearing a child giggling, talented instrumentalists creating art and moving stories of faith.

**Love!** Feeling the embrace of a church member or seeing people pray for one another.

**Forgiveness!** Tasting the bitter wine and savoring the bread made by members and blessed by God. Here we meet Jesus.

"I heard the Lord speaking through you," Linda Clayborne, a participant at the Spiritual Growth Retreat said to guest speaker McCormick Pries. Sharing how important the gathering and her fellow participants were to her.

God speaks through our worship, prayers and community, providing what we need to hear. God's promises change us, nourish us and enable us to live out our faith in our everyday lives.

At Grace we cultivate and celebrate creative worship leaders, caring Grace Visitors and meaningful educational opportunities.

#### We can do more!

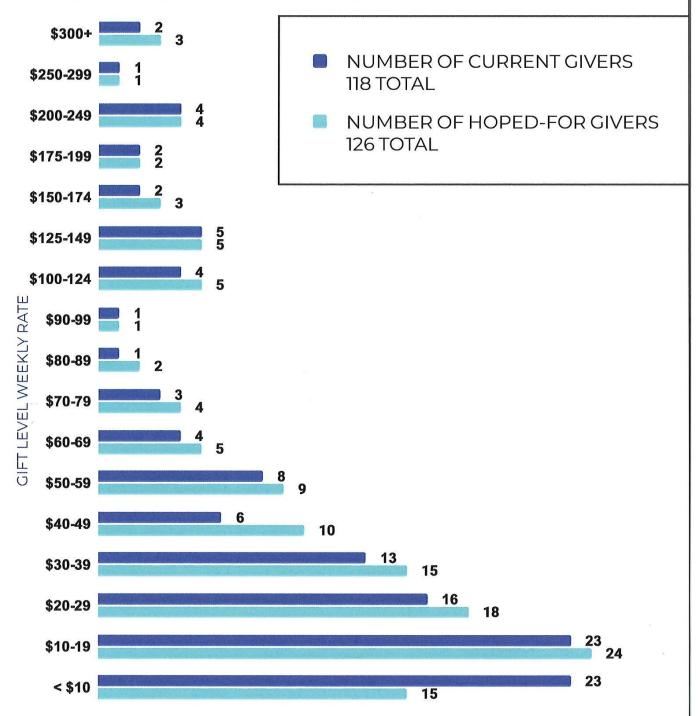
Your support will enable us to update our aging mics and to better financially support our Block Party. We will offer new opportunities and speakers to help us grow in faith. We will connect with our members at home and those in need of spiritual care. We will continue to provide meaningful and creative worship with special music like that of the Jazz Worship service. Together we will proclaim, teach, and offer the comfort of God's grace.

The goal of the **God's Story, Our Story** Stewardship Appeal for 2025 is to increase our gifts and offerings by \$50,000 or \$961 a week. Pray for a generous response to this Stewardship Appeal. Consider increasing your giving as the Spirit leads you. Be ready to share your commitment on God's Story, Our Story Sunday, November 10. Together we will be able to expand and sustain our many opportunities for spiritual renewal.



"You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house." – 1 Peter 2:5 This graph displays two charts of our giving. The first shows how many gifts are currently being given at the indicated weekly amounts to our Building Fund and General Fund. The other shows how many gifts are needed in each level to reach our goal. As you look over the charts, prayerfully ask yourself the following:

- » How does my giving level compare with other ways I use my money?
- » How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I have received?
- » Where would I be if I doubled my offerings? And can I consider doing that?
- » How much more could I give if I really wanted to?



RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN AND HOPED FOR