

#### 209 Lacey Spring Rd. Rockingham, VA 22802 540-442-6235 gracemennofellowship@gmail.com

## **November 23, 2025**

Sunday School 9am Worship Service 10am Office hours: Tues & Thurs. 10-2 (may be subject to change)

Pastor Joshua Cox/919-616-7782/revjoshcox@gmail.com

## Welcome to Grace Mennonite Fellowship!

We are glad you are here today to worship with us. Here at Grace, we strive to learn more about Jesus through the scriptures, song & each other. We want to walk alongside you on your faith journey!

Our hope is that you will feel at home here at Grace.

The Grace family is made up of people from all walks of life and all ages. We pray that you will find where you fit in and let your gifts shine.

Pastor Josh is available to meet you over coffee, in his office or your home.

Today's Message:
Pastor Joshua Cox
"Out of the Woods"
Isaiah 9

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8, NIV

# Order of Service

Prelude Welcome & Opening Prayer

Brian Bly, Worship Leader

Responsive Reading

Worship leader: Lift up your hearts

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Worship leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Lighting of the Peace Candle** 

**Announcements** 

Music

Offering

Dismiss Children for Children's Church

Sermon: Pastor Josh

Hymn Sharing Time Benediction

#### **Worship Schedule**

worship senedure			
		Nov 30	
	Nov 23	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of	
		Advent	
PREACHING	Pastor Josh	Brian Bly	
WORSHIP LEADER	Brian Bly	Mike Oswald	
Music Team	Enciende Una Luz	Davis Team	
CHILDREN'S CHURCH	Doreen Roes &	Cody Arbogast &	
PreK-3rd Grade	Sharon Nesselrodt	<b>Richard Early</b>	
Jr. Church			
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday's			
TODDLER ROOM	Welsh family	Mathias Family	
Secure Church	Jake Buchanan	Kay Kibler	

# **Announcements**

- \*We welcome Iglesia Enciende una Luz to Grace this morning! We are worshipping and having a fellowship meal together after the service. All are welcome to join us!
- \*Next Sunday, Cristina Tlaxcala will be getting baptized!
- \*MDS is still working on finishing small projects in western VA and is looking for local volunteers. Contact Woody Driver at 540-820-9676.
- \*Please join Good Company for their Album Release & Christmas Concert this evening Sun, Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 pm at Park View Mennonite Church. Admission is by donation. Many songs from their new album, "Happy Together," and several Christmas songs will be sung as they usher in the holiday season. For more information please visit www.goodcompanyacappella.com.
- \*We are decorating the sanctuary again this Christmas season with poinsettias! Only \$10 each. Forms are in your bulletin. Deadline to order is TODAY! Please give your order forms to Beth Crites.
- \*Operation Christmas Child: Boxes are in the hallway near the bulletin boards. Talk to Sallie Crowl for more information.
- \*Grace Christmas Program is Sun, Dec 7th during the worship service.
- \*Dec 13 Highland Retreat woodcutting day. Help stock the woodsheds at Highland. Come alone or bring family, friends, Sunday School class, neighbors... Work the morning (9am-noon) and/or the afternoon (1-4pm) and enjoy a warm and tasty lunch on them! More details and RSVP at highlandretreat.org/get-involved/work-days.
- \*There will NOT be a Thanksgiving meal here at Grace this year. Please share with your circle of people so we can get the word out. Plans for 2026 are in the works. This could be a great opportunity to invite someone you know that doesn't have family close by to your home for Thanksgiving this year! Start planning!
- \*Leadership Teams...SAVE THE DATE: Leadership Retreat, Feb 20-22, 2026. Worship Retreat, Feb 27-Mar 1, 2026. More details to come.

#### Blue Ridge District News

\*Weavers Mennonite Church: Dec 13 & 14 (Sat & Sun) 5:30-7pm - "Walk Through Bethlehem" live nativity at Weavers (2501 Rawley Pike). All are welcome! Bring your neighbors!

**Also at Weavers Mennonite Church:** Christmas Eve, 6pm - Service of Lessons and Carols in Shady Oak at Weavers; Scripture reading, traditional hymns, and candle lighting.

#### **YOUTH NEWS**

Lots of good stuff coming up in the near future! The youth will be having a bake sale today to help us get ready for Thanksgiving!

Talk to Cristina & Austin for all the details!



#### **GIVING...**

<u> Attendance</u>

Last Sunday: 140 One year ago: 142

All Giving Last Sunday:

\$2546

**Breakdown of Last Sunday** 

General Fund: \$2446

Cookbook FR: Philippines: \$100

EASY TITHE	July	Aug	Sept
General	3958	3015	3140
Pantry	405	385	425
VCM	45	55	45
Philippines	50	60	1050
Compassion	90	130	100
Totals	4548	3645	4760

### **This Week's Calendar**

Sun, Nov 23 Fellowship Meal w/Enciende una Luz

Mon, Nov 24 Food Pantry, VCM Tues, Nov 25 CC, Church Cleaning

Wed, Nov 26 -----

Thur, Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day

Please remember to schedule events or other activities thru the church office.



<u>Upcoming Birthdays</u> <u>Nov 25</u> Andrea Crawford Nov 26 Nancy Callahan

Please turn your cell phones off or silence them during the service. Wifi Network: Connect to Graceguest Password JesusSaves

## Mission Statement

We will endeavor to faithfully give ourselves to prayer, worship, and study of the Bible. We acknowledge that God invites us to practice love, forgiveness, and hospitality to all humanity. We commit ourselves to invite others to faith in Jesus and to seek God's peace in our homes, work, neighborhoods, & the world.

#### **Vision Statement**

God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as a witnessing community of love, grace, joy and peace; so that God's healing and hope flowthrough us to the world.

#### **Prayer List**

Pray for our church and those that lead us; pray for those that are homebound; pray for our country and our leaders. Specific prayers: Palmers, Sallie Crowl's mom Shirley, Passing of Earl Taylor, Cindy Flores, Shelly Jorgensen, Sherwin Tusing, Pastor Josh & Rudy, Stephanie Thomas.

Praises: Derrick Cash, Margie Clement, Larry & Doris Davis

#### Please remember our elderly by sending them a card...

Dan Benner Liz Landis Frances Showalter Paul Mishler Virginia Saylor Millie Early

Butch Delp Roy & Margaret Palmer

<u>Important Contacts</u>

Mike Oswald, Elder Chair Kent Armentrout, Council Chair Larry Davis, Head Trustee Tamra Puffenbarger, Care Team Lead Kay Kibler, Administrative Assistant Jacob Armentrout, Sound Tech Bekah Mongold, Visuals