

# By His **GRACE**

**December 2023** ——— @ **ECGrace**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

(CLICK ON UNDERLINED EVENT FOR  
MORE INFO & TO SIGNUP)

**DEC. 13TH**

Meet the Body Fellowship Meal

**DEC. 17TH**

Grace Stewardship Meeting

**DEC. 22ND**

Christmas Caroling

**DEC. 24TH**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service/  
Bring Your Gifts to Jesus

**DEC. 30TH**

Church Chili Cook-Off

## Christmas Season!

ECGrace! With this month leading into the Christmas season, there are so many wonderful events to take advantage of as we celebrate the birth of our Lord. As we do, we also encourage you take part in these events, the fellowship and serve with the body, and remember the reason why we celebrate this season. We also look forward to our Christmas series, as well as the conclusion of 'When, Jesus?' as we head in to the new year of 2024!

We love you, and we look forward to a wonderful month of many exciting events!



## The Pastor's Corner



Please click the  
picture to hear a brief  
devotional from  
Pastor Jacob!



Click on the underlined events for more information and to sign up!

# December 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <b>Grace Groups Week</b>	2
3 Grace Embrace	4	5	6 Grace Intercessors & Prayer Meeting	7	8	9 Men of Valor & Women of Joy @9am
10 Grace Outreach	11	12	13 <u>Meet the Body Fellowship Meal</u>	14 Board Meeting	15	16 Women of Joy @9am
17 Grace Stewardship Mtg. Grace Embrace	18	19	20 Grace Intercessors & Prayer Meeting	21 Grace Connection	22 <b>Christmas Caroling</b>	23
24 <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b>	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26	27	28	29	30 <u>Chili Cook-Off</u>
31 New Year's Eve						

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# January 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 New Year's Day!	2	3 Grace Intercessors & Prayer Meeting	4	5	6 Women of Joy @9am
7 Grace Outreach	8	9	10 Grace Intercessors & Prayer Meeting	11 Board Meeting	12	13 Men of Valor & Women of Joy @9am
14 Grace Embrace	15	16 Grace Connection	17 Grace Intercessors & Prayer Meeting	18	19	20 Women of Joy @9am
21 Grace Stewardship Mtg. Grace Outreach	22	23	24 Grace Intercessors & Prayer Meeting	25	26 Perch Praise and Worship Night	27 Women of Joy @9am
28 Grace Embrace Grace for Life	29	30	31 <b>Grace Groups Week</b>			





# Chili COOK OFF

SATURDAY,  
DECEMBER 30TH

5:00 PM AT THE CHURCH

We will be having a church-wide chili cook off! Sign up [here](#) and bring a chili to share. There will be a panel of judges to determine the best chili in the church! Don't miss out! Come to enjoy the fellowship and food.



Make the best chili to win a prize!



# Important Reminders

MEET THE BODY | CAROLING | CHRISTMAS EVE

## MEET THE BODY FELLOWSHIP MEAL

We encourage everyone in the body to come on December 13th at 6:30 for our Meet the Body Meal! This is a time where you will be updated on what is happening at ECGrace and the church leadership wants to hear your ideas concerning the ministries, outreach, and overall betterment of the church as we head into the new year. This will be a time of fun and fellowship as we will have pizza and salad! Click [here](#) to sign up.



## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On Friday, December 22nd, at 6:00 pm, we will be going downtown to go Christmas caroling on the Circle! We will meet at the church at 6:00 and carpool downtown or you can meet us on the Circle at 6:30pm. We will also be serving hot chocolate and inviting people to church! If you are able to come, please sign up by clicking [here](#).

## BRING YOUR GIFTS TO JESUS

There is no gift that is minimal when we give it freely to the Lord. Please come and edify the saints, bring glory to God, and share your gifts at this Christmas Eve Candle Light Service on December 24th at 6pm. Whatever your age & however the Lord has gifted you, your unique strengths are part of the intricate design God has for His church. Click [here](#) to sign up!





# Christmas Traditions at ECGrace

***Here are some Christmas favorites from our ECGrace Family***

Playing Christmas music while decorating the tree with my wife. Also, going to church Christmas Eve, and then watching my family open their presents! - **Bob Cunningham**

I enjoy making family-favorite cookies and treats. Also, being with extended family holds a lot of good memories. - **Sandy Kibbey**

Remembering Jesus throughout December and the reason He came, especially getting saved near Christmas as a kid. - **Nancy Perdew**

I love sending and receiving Christmas cards and baking! - **Alyssa McGathey**

I love celebrating the birth of Christ. I also love going to Christmas Eve service at church, and my family coming together. - **Cathy Porter**

Each year, my family gets each of us a Hallmark Christmas ornament after Christmas. - **Carson Bailey**

My favorite tradition is spending the whole day making cookies with the family. - **Nick Harris**

When I was a kid, I loved setting up the Nativity Set, something I still love doing! - **Tom Ricker**

I love the spirit of the season and looking at various Christmas lights. Also, my Christmas ornaments which each have special significance for me. - **Catherine Allison**

Our family gathering at our house for breakfast and opening gifts on Christmas Eve. - **Debbie Stine**

When I was in Argentina, I loved when we did a live nativity scene with the children. I miss that! - **Alice Peacock**

I love thinking about Jesus being born, having the family all together, having a great meal, the fellowship, and playing Christmas music while watching everyone open up their presents. - **Debbie Wilson**

Going to the Christmas Eve candlelight service and reading Luke 2:1-20 on Christmas morning. - **Jennifer Nutter**

I love going to Christmas Eve service. I also love making and decorating cookies with my family! - **Rachel Bush**

I love watching Christmas movies and having the homecooked meal. - **Jackson Daupert**

Opening gifts on Christmas Eve! - **Dylan Stai**



# Why We Love Prayer Meeting



HEAR REASONS BELOW WHY  
YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS  
LOVE WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
PRAYER. PLEASE JOIN US EACH  
WEDNESDAY AT 7PM!

## Phil Ping

I love listening to the praises and testimonies of how God is moving in the lives of different people that come to the Wednesday Grace Intercessors meeting. There is always a sweet presence of the Lord, and just an intimate time of sharing with one another. I am always encouraged and lifted up.

## Elizabeth DeFauw

I love to go because I believe that God is present and hears our prayers. Jesus said if two or more gather in my name, there I will be. Prayer is a powerful way of communication. If one person with faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains, how much greater a whole church with faith! It also is such a bonding moment in the church. The closer we get to Christ and to each other, the more connected as a body (of Christ as the head) we are. Our church pours out love for Christ and is so intentional and caring for each other. Not just each other, but the community and world God gave us. That is just the surface.

## Dustin Porter

I have a few, but one is getting to know everyone better. Also, I like being around my church family.

## Rhonda Cannon

I love that we can come together on Wednesday evenings as brothers and sisters in Christ to share our burdens and then lift each other up in prayer to the our Lord and Savior. Having a church family that truly loves and cares for one another is a huge blessing that I am grateful to have! I really appreciate the importance our church leadership puts on prayer!



# I Love My Church!



*"I love everything about our church! From the very first day that I came, I realized that my place was not only in Jesus Christ, but also in our church."*  
- Vilgens Laroque

## "THE NUTTER BUTTER"



"Why did the turkey join the band? Because he had drumsticks."

## OFFERING REPORT

2023 Weekly Need: \$4,939.92

Weekly Goal Need: \$576.92

11/5

Budget Received: \$9,085.10

Goal Received: \$45.00

11/12

Budget Received: \$2,317.26

Goal Received: \$40.00

11/19

Budget Received: \$7,081.25

Goal Received: \$195.00

11/26

Budget Received: \$2,686.50

Goal Received: \$40.00

Year to Date Goal: \$5,311.00

# THINGS TO KNOW!

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETING

Join us each Wednesday (except for the 13th and 27th) from 6-7 in Grace Intercessors and 7-8 in our Prayer Meeting and Devotional. Click [here](#) to join through Zoom.

## SUNDAY MORNINGS

Every Sunday morning, Grace Intercessors meets from 9:00-9:15 to pray for the worship service that morning. We invite you to join us in prayer during this time!

## LEADING INTO THE NEW YEAR

December is the month where everything gets finalized for 2024! This includes the annual calendar, nominations, the budget, and more! Please be praying for wisdom and guidance throughout this month as these decisions are made. We are looking forward to how the Lord will work here at ECGrace in 2024.

# Did You Know?



(Click on the picture to watch the video)



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# *Last Month in Pictures*

