

DECEMBER 2023

# GRACE NOTES

No. 12 [pekingrace.org](http://pekingrace.org)



## highlights

DECEMBER 2023

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# PASTOR'S CORNER

*Thoughts, dreams, and ramblings of someone who just wants to connect you to Jesus*



“Christmas is coming, the...”

All of us have had our fill of turkey and so as if it were required by people everywhere, Christmas is in the air. Even as the world around us continues to become more secular, the tradition of Christmas and the inward knowledge that we have received a great gift of life in the midst of winter is a powerful message of hope that we all seem to yearn for.

This Christmas at Grace we are going to be having a few different offerings to share with everyone.

- In Advent, the season of preparation for Christmas, I have been creating a short devotional video for each day of Advent (aside from Sundays). We will focus on the theme of the week (Hope, Peace, Joy, Love). Each day these will be scheduled to release through our Church App & on our Social Media streams. They are brief, but grounding moments for all of us to share in as we prepare for the Christmas season.

- We will have our special musical offerings at Christmas. The traditional Cantata, the Evening by the Fire with the Praise Team, and the re-imagined Breakfast with Santa are all going to be building us up to our Two Days of Christmas Eve with Saturday the 23rd offering our first Christmas Eve worship during our traditional Chapel Worship time at 5:30 p.m. Then on Christmas Eve Sunday, services at 10 a.m., 4 p.m. and 11 p.m. will give us ample opportunities to share in the celebration of Jesus' birth.

- We will once again meet the needs of our community through the generosity of our Angel Tree giving. We can see our own blessings as opportunities to share abundantly with those in our community who are in need. We can elevate Christmas for the children in our community and give support to their families by taking some of the burden of expectations that they may not be able to support and meeting them with our generosity.

As Christmas draws near, we will also be leaning into the growth that we are already seeing this year at Grace. We celebrate that we have nearly 30 more people in average weekly attendance this calendar year over last, but we know that there is still so much more room for us to reach people with the hope of Jesus. For that reason, we are going to take that natural draw of the season that we spoke about at the start of this message and add the intentionality of our invitation for each major church event and especially for Christmas Eve itself.

We all have an opportunity to invite the broader Pekin Community into fellowship with us. We will have invitation cards available at the church for you to take and share. They will be convenient ways for you to begin a conversation that may very well lead to the gift of life that we celebrate at Grace.

I love the Christmas season. I love what it offers us and what we can offer to the community through it. Please join me in the season of Christmas as we offer the message of Jesus at Grace.

Pastor Eric

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

*Isaiah 9:6-7 (KJV)*

YOU ARE INVITED TO

# A CHRISTMAS AT GRACE

Christmas Breakfast with Santa - Dec. 16th 9:00-10:30am

Traditional Cantata Worship - Dec. 17th 11:00am

Evening By the Fire - Dec. 17th 7:00pm

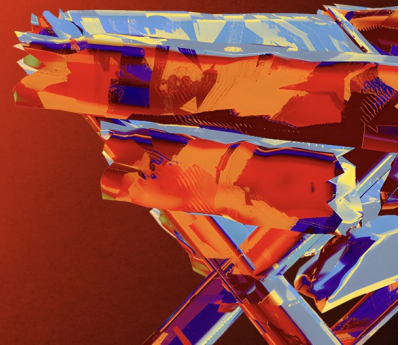
Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday Dec. 23rd 5:30pm

Sunday Dec. 24th 10am

Sunday Dec. 24th 4pm

Sunday Dec. 24th 11pm





# Santa's Prayer Breakfast



Saturday, Dec 16

9-10:30 AM

Grace UMC, 601 N. 4th St.



Bring the family for a delicious breakfast with Santa. Food, music, prayer, and the big guy in red – all pointing back to the reason for Christmas – JESUS!

This month is busy, busy, busy – so let's center our kids and ourselves on Jesus! Please register to join us for Santa's Prayer Breakfast, an event that will point everyone to Jesus through fun, food, music, story, and yeah, even Santa!

Reminder: if your children are performing Christmas songs at the breakfast, they have one rehearsal on Saturday, Dec 2nd at 11:00 AM in the gym at Grace.

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Monday Bible Buddies will meet Dec 4th, 11th, and 18th Resumes January 8

Wednesday Bible Buddies will meet Dec 6th and 13th Resumes January 3rd

Wednesday UNITEkids will meet Dec 6th and 13th Resumes January 3rd



Bible Buddies journaling questions to God (left) and UNITEkids learning Christmas songs to perform at Santa's Prayer Breakfast (right)



Family Game Night hosted by Children's Ministry was a blast! The adults might have had even more fun playing games than the kids. Keep a lookout for more Family Nights in the winter, the kids have requested a crafting night!





# RADICAL YOUTH MINISTRY

**Jill Stoner-Crouch and Brionna Goodin**  
Co-Director's of Youth Ministries

## Radical Youth Group DECEMBER



Youth Group Helping With  
Our Angel Tree

When we approach life and others with an attitude of thankfulness, we see what is best in the world. We start to realize people offer wonderful gifts that can't be bought or wrapped nicely under a tree. God gives everyone gifts through the presence of other people; that's why we can be thankful for each other.

In His Name, Jill & Brionna

### Pray for Youth

The youth who did not have Bibles at home were presented with their own Bible at the 9:00 a.m. service. Please pray for these youth and their leaders as together they learn and grow and develop a relationship with God.

**Tuesday, 12/5 at 4:00 p.m.**

Arrive at Grace to help with Ladies Christmas Dinner Fundraiser

**Wednesday, 12/6**

NO RADICAL YOUTH GROUP!  
TAKE THE NIGHT OFF

**Wednesday, 12/13 at 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

Radical Youth Group

**Sunday, 12/17 at 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.**

Join us for the Christmas Cantata Service in the Sanctuary

**Wednesday 12/20 at 6:00 p.m. -7:30 p.m.**

Northwoods Christmas Show in Peoria. Meet in church parking lot at 5:45 p.m.

**Wednesday 12/27**

NO RADICAL YOUTH GROUP

*Radical resumes regular schedule January 3, after Christmas break*



### Advent Devotions

To help us through this Advent Season, we produced a series of daily devotionals to help everyone move through the season of Advent and towards the wonder of Christmas. Each day on Facebook and in our Church app, we will publish a brief video devotion that you can follow as we journey towards Jesus together.

### Women's Christmas Dinner

The dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 5 at 5:30 p.m. Some of the church ladies are busy planning how they will decorate the tables for this event. Tickets are \$15.00 for one person. All proceeds will go to the Youth fund for their activities and Mission Trip costs. Donations may also be made. There are still some tickets and tables left. Contact Jill Crouch, 309-241-2917 for tickets.

### Santa's Prayer Breakfast

This will be Saturday, December 16 from 9:00-10:30 a.m. Bring the family to Grace for a delicious breakfast with Santa. Food, music, prayer, and of course the big guy in red—all pointing back to the reason for Christmas—Jesus! RSVP to Emmy at [ethies@pekingrace.org](mailto:ethies@pekingrace.org) to reserve your family's spot at this returning Grace UMC tradition.

### Angel Tree Gifts

We have been blessed as all the angels have been taken from the angel. The time is short as the gifts need to be back to the church by December 10. Place the gifts under the wire angel tree. Gifts will be delivered to the children's families on December 17 in the afternoon from 2:00–4:00 p.m. Let Lisa McKenzie know if you would be interested in helping to deliver gifts.

### Sanctuary Christmas Cantata

The Sanctuary Choir Christmas Cantata will be Sunday, December 17 in the sanctuary at the 11:00 a.m. service.

### Contemporary Christmas Worship

The Evening by the Fire Christmas Cantata will be December 17 at 7p.m. in the Gary Ford Family Life Center.

### Christmas Eve Services

December 23 Chapel at 5:30pm

December 24 Services

10:00 a.m. Combined morning Service  
*with Christmas Eve focus*

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service, GFFLC

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service, Sanctuary

### United Women in Faith *General Meeting*

All the Women of the church are invited to a Christmas Celebration at Grace. The program will be The Story of Christmas. It will be a delightful afternoon of fellowship. The meeting will be December 7 in the hospitality area at 1 p.m.

### Saturday Servants

The next Saturday Servants will meet December 9th from 9 a.m. -12 noon. All are welcome to come help. Pastor Eric will have various projects around the church. This ministry will continue through the winter months on the second Saturday of the month.

### Book Club

December meeting will be Tuesday, December 12th at 10:00 a.m. in the library at Pekin Estates. For our December meeting, we will not be discussing one book. Instead, each member reads a Christmas story, book, or article of their choice and summarizes it at our meeting. As one lady put it, "a book report." Questions should be addressed to Sandy Isenburg 309-241-1411.

### Grace has a brand new Team!

A Community Outreach Event Team is being created, and you're invited to get involved! The team will focus on providing events that reach out to the community. The team's main goal will be connecting the Grace UMC community to new people. Annual events will include a Trunk-or-Treat and the Santa Prayer Breakfast. Other creative ideas for events may be discussed and implemented throughout the year. If you enjoy planning fun, festive, food-filled faith events, join us by reaching out to Emmy at [ethies@pekingrace.org](mailto:ethies@pekingrace.org).

Team Leader: Melanie Tennell  
Team Members: Shannon Dault,  
Brionna Goodin, Emmy Thies

### Praying for the North District

At Charge Conference, we prayed together one of the prayers that I have been praying for the North District and for the churches. It is based on Ephesians 3:16-21.

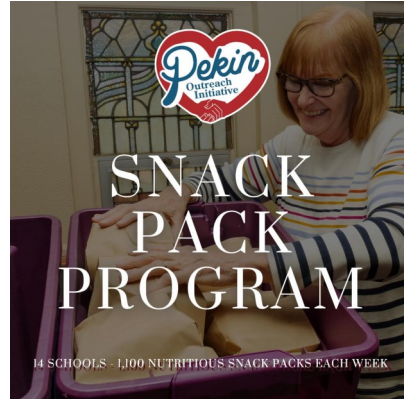
*Holy Spirit, work in us  
that we may be indwelt by Christ,  
established in love, and serving in power  
in ways that exceed our wildest dreams,  
all to the glory of God. Amen.*

I invite you to join me in praying this regularly. I'd even encourage you to establish a daily practice of doing so.

Serving with you,  
Mike  
Rev. Mike Crawford  
Conference Superintendent  
North District  
(309)688-9027 (Office)

### Food Pantry

The food pantry is looking for donations of unused 2024 calendars and gently used devotional books. Place in the bin in the hospitality area.



### Snack Packs

Much of the items included in the snack packs come from Midwest Food Bank. We are so thankful we are able to not only supply people with supplemental food to help alleviate the burden on their finances, but also use some for the Snack Packs. The Snack Pack program was created to offer children who are living in poverty a chance to still receive food on the weekend. Some of the food items included in this program are pop-tarts, cereal bowls with powdered milk in them so all the child has to do is add water and granola bars. If you would like to help with the snack pack ministry or donate money for supplies, talk with Gloria Ranney about what you can do to help!

### The Challenge

We challenge you to invite 10 people to one of our Christmas programs this year at Grace as we seek to connect with the greater Pekin Community. Personal invites are key. We have invitation cards listing services dates and times in the office. You can hand out these cards to people as you make these connections.

### Holiday Hours

The office will be closed on December 25 and January 1 so the staff can celebrate the holidays with their families. The office hours over the holiday between Christmas and New Years will be flex hours. Please call ahead or email your questions during this time as office hours will vary. The office phone is 309-347-7131.



### 175th Campaign Commitment-Pens

We have a campaign goal of \$175,000 (above and beyond our Operating Fund Campaign) for the remainder of 2023 and throughout 2024. We want to honor our past by upgrading and improving our facility, growing our congregation, and adding a cushion to our operating fund. Commitments may be made weekly, monthly or in a lump sum.

A member of Grace, Roy Johnson offered his talents to make ballpoint pens from a 'retired' pew that had been purchased in 1912. The pew was retired after a fire destroyed the original church building. The pews were originally purchased by Grace United Methodist Church from the proceeds of the 'Star Cookbook' sales. The hand-crafted pens will be given to people donating \$1,000 or more to the 175th Campaign.

Roy has made 25 pens and will be making more if needed as commitments are made. We are thankful that 16 congregants have already pledged and/or paid \$1,000 or more toward our goal. The pens are available in the office if you'd like to look at them. Please prayerfully consider your gift to this important commitment to 175 more years!

### Thank you!

Thank you to McDaniels Marketing and the McDaniels family for helping out with the directory. We value their expertise and attention to detail.



### Welcome new members!

We were so thankful to be able to welcome the whole Tennell family into our Grace Church family in November. If you would like to partner with us and join the church or be baptized, please let Pastor Eric or the office know.

- Todd & Laurie Tennell
- Mason & Chelsea Tennell
- Trey & Melanie Tennell



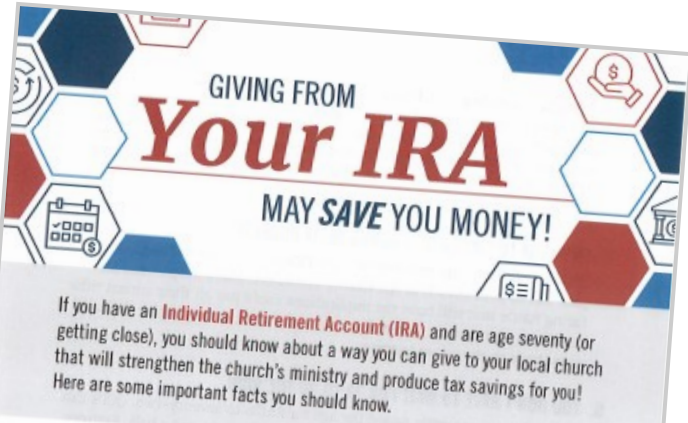
### Email and Grace Notes now in app

Check out some additions to the Grace App. We are now posting the Grace Notes and the weekly email into the app itself. To find it, look under the "Connect" at the bottom of the home page. Touch the notes to see the document.

If you would like to be removed from the weekly email list in favor of checking out the app, please call the church and we can remove you from that list. We do use the email list to send out communications when things arise i.e. winter cancellation or emergencies. If you unsubscribe we can no longer communicate with you through our program in any way.

### Shut-Ins

Remember our shut-ins during the season of Christmas. Send them a letter, take cookies, or just stop by for a visit. Call the office for more information.



If you have an **Individual Retirement Account (IRA)** and are age seventy (or getting close), you should know about a way you can give to your local church that will strengthen the church's ministry and produce tax savings for you! Here are some important facts you should know.

**1. INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS HAVE COME OF AGE (MIDDLE-AGE).**

IRAs have been around since 1974, though in the beginning, they were only for folks who didn't have any other pension coverage. A bill in 1981 made all workers and their spouses eligible for these accounts. That's a solid forty-plus years that people have been putting money away without having to pay federal taxes on it. (That part is important.)

**2. YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU OR LEAVE YOUR MONEY THERE FOREVER.**

The understanding was that those folks could access that money without a penalty as early as when they turned fifty-nine and a half, but when they reached seventy and a half, they were required to start taking at least a minimum amount out each year—"required minimum distributions" or RMDs. At the outset of the coronavirus pandemic, the age for these RMDs was raised to seventy-two. Since participants didn't pay tax on the money when they put it in their IRAs, they are required to pay tax on it when money comes out. RMDs can push some people into a higher tax bracket. That can be avoided...

**3. GIVE IT TO THE CHURCH; AVOID PAYING THE TAXES.**

In 2006, pension protection legislation allowed for tax-free use of RMDs for charitable contributions, saving the tax that people would have had to pay when they took this money out of their IRA accounts. These are called "qualified charitable distributions" or QCDs. Here's an important distinction: these are NOT tax deductions. They do not provide a charitable deduction regardless of whether you itemize deductions. The tax benefit is

the ability to exclude the donated distribution from taxable income! Here's an example: If you were planning to give \$1000 per month to your church, you don't qualify for more than the standard deduction amount, and you are at the 12% tax bracket—giving that amount from your IRA (as a QCD) will save you \$1440 in taxes! If you are in the 22% tax bracket, the savings will be \$2640!

**4. FROM IRA TO "MY UMC"—NEVER IN MY POCKET!**

With a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), a check goes directly from your IRA to your church or the charity you select. Many people who are facing RMDs that will have tax implications could pay all their annual tithe or offering at one time, hopefully early in the year, through their QCD and never have to show it as income.

**5. YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT FOR 72 TO DO THE QCD!**

While Congress recently raised the age for RMDs to seventy-two, QCDs can happen for anyone who has reached the age of seventy and a half. Retirees who are over that age and want to continue to be generous to their local church should consider a qualified charitable distribution.

**6. MOST TAXPAYERS NO LONGER GET A TAX BREAK FOR CHARITABLE GIVING.**

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that went into effect in 2019 and 2020 included an increase in the standard deduction—it nearly doubled. That standard deduction is the threshold that your itemized deductions have to exceed to make itemizing worthwhile. It left many people better off, but with 90% of taxpayers taking the standard deduction (which does not require any evidence of charitable giving), it eliminated a tax-incentive regarding charitable donations for most of us (not to say that this is the main reason people give to the church). Inviting retirees in the seventy-plus group (who use the standard deduction) to consider using the qualifying charitable distribution may reduce or eliminate the tax that they might have to pay on RMDs. Yet many will not know of this option unless your church makes the invitation!

We encourage everyone to discuss this with a financial planner, tax consultant, or attorney—and be sure to let your family know! It could be a savings for you and a blessing to your local church!

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MINISTRIES

**YEAR-END IS A Time for Giving**

**CASH GIFTS**  
A cash gift in any amount is a convenient and popular way to show your faithful support for the church or other ministries. If you itemize, the full amount of your gift qualifies for a 2023 charitable income tax deduction. Make certain your check is dated 2023 and received or postmarked no later than December 31, 2023, to receive a deduction this year.

**GIVING APPRECIATED PROPERTY**  
If you own investments that have increased in value (stocks, bonds, real estate, or mutual funds), you can donate them to a church or charity and take a charitable income tax deduction for the full fair market value and avoid declaring the capital gain of the assets as income. Many people consider this the equivalent of a "double deduction."

SALE & GIFT	1000	DIRECT GIFT	1000
Stock with Fair Market Value (Cost Basis \$200)	\$800	Stock with Fair Market Value (Cost Basis \$200)	\$0
Taxable Gain on Sale	\$120	Taxable Gain on Sale	\$0
Capital Gain Tax at 15%	\$880	Capital Gain Tax at 15%	\$1000
Net Sales after Tax	\$880	Net Gift to Charity	\$1000
Charitable Tax Deduction	\$193	Charitable Tax Deduction	\$220
Tax Savings at 22%		Tax Savings at 22%	

Notice how the Direct Gift option can result in the church or charity receiving \$120 more while costing you \$27 less! To receive this special tax treatment, you must have owned the property for at least one year.

**GIVING & RETAINING INCOME FOR LIFE**  
Did you know you can give to a charity while retaining income from the gift for the rest of your life? A charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust enables you to receive flexible or guaranteed income. Plus, there are significant tax advantages. Let's assume you are 70 years old, single, and wish to make a \$10,000 gift to the church when you are gone but need to receive income until then. You can make the gift now and receive several attractive benefits. First, you could receive income that exceeds what you are currently earning on the \$10,000. At age 70 with an annuity rate of 4.7%\* of the \$10,000 each year through a gift annuity (\$470)—greater than most bonds or C.D.s. Next, a portion of the \$470 annual annuity may be tax-free over your life expectancy.

Finally, you could receive a 2023 charitable income tax deduction for the remainder portion of your gift. This deduction can save you a sizable amount in federal income taxes. Making a life-income gift now offers all these advantages and provides the satisfaction of knowing you have helped your church or charitable organization in a significant way. The United Methodist Foundation that serves your conference can help you with these types of gifts. Visit [www.umf.org/locations](http://www.umf.org/locations) to find contact information for your UM Foundation.

**GIVING UNNEEDED LIFE INSURANCE**  
Do you own an old life insurance policy that is no longer needed? Perhaps the purpose for the policy no longer exists (your children are grown, or your mortgage is paid off) or your financial situation has changed and mitigates the need for the insurance. Consider giving the policy to the church or a charity and receive a charitable income tax deduction for the lesser of your cost basis or the replacement value.

This is a great way to benefit a cause you support without reducing your checking account. If the value is more than you wish to donate, consider cashing in the policy and giving a lesser portion. Your gift may sufficiently reduce or eliminate any potential taxes due from the sale.

**MEMORIAL GIFTS**  
As you think of those special persons (a teacher, pastor, relative or other loved one) who have touched your life, you may want to do something "just right" to demonstrate that they are remembered. A memorial tribute can be a satisfying way to salute those whose memories continue to enrich our lives.

**WISE TAX PLANNING**  
Making extra gifts or accelerating future gifts into the 2023 tax year can enable an itemized income tax deduction. The standard deduction threshold for 2023 is \$27,700 for joint filers, \$20,800 for heads of households and \$13,850 for singles (\$1850/person 65+, \$3000 if joint return, \$1,850 if unmarried). If your total deductions are less than those amounts, you won't be able to deduct any charitable gifts. An extra year-end gift may add just enough to allow you to take advantage of your full itemized deduction. Many tax-wise donors accelerate contributions for the coming year to enable itemization at least every other year.

**EXPRESSING YOUR FAITH**  
Year-end is also the Christmas season. For many Christians this is an occasion to give in gratitude for God's greatest gift to us, Jesus Christ. In all our giving, let us never forget these familiar words, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son..." Why not make a special effort to honor Him in your giving this Christmas season—perhaps the most important gift you give? May God bless you as you make this expression of your faith.

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DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES  
The United Methodist Church



### Giving and Envelopes

Grace Church survives and runs off of the generosity of its members. We thank each of you who have given contributions this past year. Together, the donations have helped to spread the love of Christ. We encourage you to save time by electronically transferring your monthly gift to Grace United Methodist Church. Your gift will appear on your bank statement and Grace United Methodist Church will e-mail you quarterly giving statements. If you prefer the act of giving in person, we do offer privacy envelopes. 2024 giving envelopes are available to be picked up. This will save us some postage. If you aren't able to pick up your envelopes by the end of the year, please call the office and we will mail yours to you. Pick up the envelopes with your name at the counter top of the hospitality area. If you do not currently get giving envelopes, please call Nanette in the office. If you would like to sign up for the ACH giving, please go to, <https://pekingrace.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Financial-Form.pdf>, print the form, fill out the information, and give to the office. The ACH giving is taken out once a month.

### Christmas Prayer

O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give to them. Help them to know one another better and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness, and purity. Awaken in their hearts, love and gratitude for your infinite goodness. Join them all together in your love. And give us your heavenly peace. Amen.

- Pope John XXIII

### Volunteer Opportunities

**Van Drivers for Wednesday**-We are looking for a couple volunteers willing to drive the church van to pick up youth for Radical.

**Youth Group**-The youth group needs a few more adult volunteers coming alongside the group to help connect with the junior high students.

**Food Donations**- Looking for someone to buy and donate food that can be put in the freezer for times when the hospitality snack bar needs some last minute filler items. Generally, this is purchasing pastries or donuts that are stored in the freezer until needed.

**UNITEkids/Bible Buddies Volunteers**-Emmy is always looking for adults to help with the UNITEkids. Emmy needs 10 more people willing to volunteer for Bible buddies, UNITEkids and various events.

**YouTube editor**-Looking for someone to edit past YouTube posts. If interested, let the office know. This could be a monthly or yearly service.

### Networking

We are always looking for ways in which we can reduce the cost of maintaining our building or ways we can listen to God to create ministries and ways to further his kingdom. Some of the things we always need are the set-up and tear down crews, sound booth operators, and musicians.

Let the office know if you have a skill that you would be willing to use at Grace! Sometimes we are hesitant to ask people to help when we do not know what they are interested in or where their skills lie. Discuss with the leaders around you and make known what God has laid upon your heart.

### Merry Christmas

The staff of Grace would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas! We are praying for you and your families that you may experience moments of peace as you remember God and the plan that he had for this world.





## December Birthdays

Theresa Wicker	1
Jerry Potts	1
Marianne Oltmann	1
Tyler Kennemer	2
Linda Garman	2
Connie Disney	2
Randy McDaniels	2
Edgar Sandoval	2
Jack Wyman	3
Karen Hohimer	5
Brittany Cox	7
Morgan McDaniels	7
Sarah Hunter	8
Danielle Towne	9
Kelly Orrick	13
Kenny Wiggins	14
Chris Booher	16
Mike Williamson	16

Jessica Kennemer	17
Jerry Dunbar	18
Patrick Burks	18
Mason Tennell	18
Patricia Knight	19
Jane Smith	20
Gary Heiser	22
Jodi Trombini	23
Gene Horton	23
Tom Booth	24
Jill Powell	24
Francine Ghitalla	25
Ory Patterson	27
Janet Ray	27
Carla Jacobson	29
Barbara Faichney	29
Shirley Purkel	30
Mike Burks	31
Christina Lenox	31
Emily Ranney	31

# Connect!

601 N. 4th St.

Pekin, IL

309-347-7131

secretary@pekingrace.org

pekingrace.org

## Worship Times

Saturdays 5:30pm

Sundays 9:00am & 11:00am

## Office Hours

M-TH 8:30am-4:30pm

Closed 12pm-1pm

## Prayer Concerns

Carla Terry

Dean Albertson

Les Seman

Margarete Hall

Ron Garman

*Names are kept on the prayer list for four weeks. If you would like to be kept on longer please call the office, 309-347-7131.*

## December 2

Santa Breakfast Rehearsal, 11:00a.m. -1:00 p.m.

## December 5

UWF Executive Meeting, 1:00 p.m.

Ladies Christmas Dinner, 5:30 p.m. -9:00 p.m.

(Radical arrives at 4:00 p.m.)

## December 6

Pekin Estates Communion, Pekin Estates Library, 2:00 p.m.

Radical Cancelled (UNITEkids and Bible Buddies will meet)

## December 7

United Women in Faith-General Meeting, 1 p.m.

## December 9

Grace Drive-Thru Food Pantry, 11:00 a.m.

Saturday Servants, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

## December 10

Return all Angel Tree Gifts to the Church

## December 12

Book Club, Pekin Estates Library, 10:00 a.m.

## December 16

Breakfast with Santa, GFFLC, 9:00a.m. -10:30 a.m.

Christmas Cantata Rehearsal, 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 pm.

## December 17

Christmas Cantata, Sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.

Evening by the Fire Contemporary Cantata, 7:00 p.m.

## December 19

Grace Notes Articles Due

## December 20

Bible Buddies and UNITEkids cancelled

Radical to Northwoods Christmas Show

## December 23

Christmas Eve Chapel Service, 5:30 pm.

## December 24

One combined Morning Service at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service, 4 p.m.

Christmas Eve Service, 11 p.m.

## December 30

Grace Drive-Thru Food Pantry, 11:00 a.m.