

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Today	8:15 a.m.	Worship and Communion
	9:25 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee & Holiday Cookies
	10:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Basic/Advanced Youth Handbells
	4:00 p.m.	Kokomo Symphony - Handel's Messiah
	6:00 p.m.	Jr./Sr. High UMYF
	8:00 p.m.	Chamber Ensemble Rehearsals
Mon., Dec 10	7:00 p.m.	Staff/Parish Committee, UMM Officers Meeting
Tues., Dec 11	8:00 a.m.	Grace Prayer Group
	9:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Exercise
	10:00 a.m.	Newcomers
	4:45 p.m.	Master Teacher Tutoring
Wed., Dec 12	9:00 a.m.	Caring & Calling
	9:30 a.m.	Kokomo Morning Musical
	10:00 a.m.	Added Grace Christmas Trip
	12:00 p.m.	Huddle
	1:30 p.m.	Staff Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	TOPS, Vesper Handbell Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Altar Choir, Trustees
Thurs., Dec 13	9:30 a.m.	Exercise
	4:15 p.m.	GUMBY Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Disciple 5, Disciple 1
Fri., Dec 14	12:00 p.m.	Fourth Day Luncheon
	6:00 p.m.	Young Adult Christmas Party
Sat., Dec 15	1:00 a.m.	Youth Holiday Babysitting
	6:00 p.m.	Music Dept. Christmas Party
	6:00 p.m.	Youth Holiday Babysitting

*If you are in need of a pastor outside office hours the week of Dec 9-Dec 15,
please call Pastor Chris Roberts at 765-457-2841 or 765-480-8393.*

WELCOME to worship at Grace United Methodist Church. We are happy that you are worshipping with us today and invite you to become a part of our fellowship. This is a holy place for worship, prayer, and celebration of what Jesus Christ is doing in our lives.

CHILDREN are always welcome in our worship services. Ask an usher for a special children's activity worksheet. First-time guests under age 12 are invited to inquire at the Welcome Center for a special gift. As a courtesy to parents, childcare (nursery thru 4 years) is available across from the sanctuary in Rooms 201 & 203.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH, for children preschool through Grade 2, is a time for worshipping the Lord in a more relaxed and interactive manner. We ask that parents please come and pick up your child(ren) from the Multi-Purpose Room at the conclusion of the service. There is no Children's Church the first Sunday of each month.

WORSHIPERS WHO ARE HEARING-IMPAIRED, are encouraged to ask an usher for an individual sound receiver to assist in hearing the worship service.

WORSHIPERS WHO ARE VISUALLY IMPAIRED, are welcome to ask an usher for a large print worship bulletin.

COFFEE AND HOLIDAY COOKIES is a social time offered following our 9:25 worship service. We invite everyone to go to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

PLEASE PASS THE RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP PADS—Guests and members are requested to fill out the attendance pads found in the pews. Please take time to read the names as the pads are passed back so you may become familiar with the names of those around you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SNOW BIRDS, BEFORE YOU FLY OFF...Please make sure the church office has your winter address, phone and dates you plan to be gone. You may call the office at (765) 457-5329; mail the info to 212 W. Walnut, Kokomo, IN 46901; or e-mail us at: kokomograce@kokomograce.org

GRACE'S UM MEN'S - Tribune Columnist, Ed Vasicek, is to speak at UM Men Mon, December 17. Rev. Ed Vasicek has pastored the Highland Park Church on West Sycamore since 1983. Since 1999, Ed has authored a weekly editorial, which appears on the "Opinion Page" of the *Kokomo Tribune* and is mostly secular in nature. Women are always welcome to attend Grace's UM Men's meetings. Reservations are needed only for the meal. Reservations for the 6:00 p.m. catered meal may be given to Val Harris at 453-6952.

LAST SUNDAY TO ORDER POINSETTIAS! It's time again to order poinsettias for the church altar. The cost this year is \$15.00. You may place your order by filling out the envelope in the church bulletin and placing it in the offering plate. You may order a poinsettia or make a memorial contribution in memory or honor of someone. Order your poinsettias TODAY! Orders will be turned in on Fri., December 14th.

THERE IS STILL TIME - If you have forgotten to bring your "Bountiful Blessings" Commitment Card, please see the ushers. You may also get a copy from the office, Monday thru Friday or you can download it from our website at www.kokomograce.org. Thank you for your faithfulness and generous response to our most generous Lord and Savior!

SPECIAL ADVENT SERVICE on Sat., December 22 at 7:00 pm: Grace UMC will offer "**The Longest Night Service**", which is a worship experience geared for those who have lost loved ones/family members and find themselves alone during the Holidays. This service will assist you in finding comfort and peace in your aloneness and loss.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES: We will be offering two services on Christmas Eve this year. Our traditional Christmas Eve Service will begin with pre-festival music at 5:00 pm, and then at 11:00 pm our Candlelight Service will bring in Christmas with Communion.

THE MISSION TREE - The Mission Tree is sitting empty on the Mulberry Street landing. Grace's Mission Ministry Team would like to challenge the congregation to fill the empty tree with a lot of Christmas cheer. Last year, Grace Church graciously gave almost \$1300 to local missions and our missionaries. What a wonderful way to celebrate the giving spirit of Christmas! As you purchase a gold ball for \$20, you can hang it on our Mission's Christmas tree. Special envelopes are available by the tree to donate money as a gift to Mission organizations. You can put the envelopes in the offering plate or make sure our Cindy, church secretary gets it in the office. Let's fill the Mission Tree and turn an empty tree into a beautifully decorated golden tree shining with Grace's love and compassion for others!

NEED A NIGHT OUT? If you want to go get some Christmas shopping done, a night out, or just to relax the youth will be offering childcare for any adult that would like to bring their children to the church on **December 15th from 1-4 pm and 6-9 pm**. This is a free will donation event.

WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT? The youth's culture is rapidly changing! December 16th from 6:30-8pm TJ will be having "**Youth Culture Sessions**" to help inform people on culture topics that are huge in today's world for the youth. The topic for December will be "The World of Facebook." These sessions will continue in the New Year and will be on every **4th Sunday** from 6:30-8pm. This is a time where you can also bring people from outside the Grace community. See you there!

FOR YOUR SAFETY! Last year during an early service at St. Luke's UMC cars were broken into. Please remember during the holiday season, especially during our special Christmas Services, not to leave purses, holiday packages or any other valuables in your vehicles.

2007 CONTRIBUTIONS - For contributions to be counted as a gift in 2007, it must either be in the church office by December 31st or it must be mailed to the church with a **postmark of December 31st** or before. There is no "grace period" on this with the IRS!

DOWNTOWN DECORATING CONTEST - STAR Financial won the People's Choice Award with 68 votes. Staffing Resources was second with 62 votes, and Grace United Methodist Church was third with 61 votes. We would like to thank those of you who voted for Grace UMC. You helped us and those who participated bring the spirit of the season to downtown Kokomo.

YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY - Friday, December 14 at 6 PM, the Young Adult's will be meeting at the home of Jason and Amanda Kelly (4400 S. 580 W., Russiaville) for a Christmas party. Please bring a snack to share and each household should bring a wrapped present (worth around \$10.00) for a gift exchange. Chili will be served and soda will be provided. There will be several games to play. This should be a festive, relaxing, laid-back evening for all the adults (leave the kids with a sitter for this event). Call the Kelly's at 883-0605 to RSVP or to get directions.