

*"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."*

John 1:14

Grace & Truth

Grace Lutheran Church, Fremont, OH

February 2011



"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

Psalm 119:105

I am a big fan of the Bible. That's probably not a surprise to you! The Bible is God's Word for our lives, teaching us about God's love, about God's saving power in Jesus' death and resurrection, and about how the people of Jesus are called to live. And our congregation is making a strong statement about the importance of God's word in our life together.

"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever."

Isaiah 40:8

We are getting new Bibles for our worship space! Every week, we hear the Word of God during our worship – and we have the chance to pick up the Bible and read along, as an act of worship. Our current pew Bibles have served well, but they've served us for a very long time and it is definitely time to get new ones.

"All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."

2 Timothy 3:16

The new Bibles have now arrived! We have a little prep work yet, to include in each Bible the name of one of our many donors. The Bibles will be dedicated during our worship services on the weekend of February 26-27. Thanks to the gifts of many, many people, these Bibles are already fully paid for! I give thanks to God for people who care so deeply about the Word of God, and for their congregation!

(Pastor's page continued.)

"Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop – thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times what was sown."
Mark 4:20

We are blessed by God, to hold the precious treasure of his own Word in our hands. What a privilege! But of course, God is inviting us to go deeper. Hear the Word. Read the Word. Study the Word. Celebrate the good news of the Word. And – most important – live by the Word of God.

Pastor Paul



The invitations have been sent, and excitement is building! First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, March 13, at the 10:00 a.m. service. This year's celebration will include young people from second grade and up, who have not yet received their first communion.

A series of one-day training retreats will be held on the Saturdays of February, to help students prepare to receive communion. Each student will need to attend one of these retreats. Each Saturday will have a particular grade level as its primary target (although parents are free to rearrange as necessary, either to keep siblings together or to schedule with custody arrangements). Each training retreat will last from 9:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., concluding with a "celebration lunch" at approximately 12:15 p.m. Full details of these events will be mailed to families in January.

February 5	5 th grade
February 12	4 th grade
February 19	3 rd grade
February 26	2 nd grade

The one "pre-requisite" in the church for receiving communion is baptism. If you have a young person who wants to receive communion, but who is not yet baptized, contact Pastor Paul .



MY BROTHER’S KEEPER:


Thank you to everyone who continues to support My Brother’s Keeper. We have been so blessed by all of you. Because of your generous support we have been able to help many of our members over the past year with financial needs. But, financial help is not the only way we are prepared to assist. If counseling is needed we will help find an agency. If you could use some help setting up a budget, we can help. And, if you just don’t know where to go to find help, we will do our best to point you in the right direction. We are here to help so don’t hesitate to contact Pastor Paul or Maureen if help is needed.

CALLING ALL MARRIED COUPLES: Mark your calendars for Sunday evenings during Lent. We will, once again, focus on marriage and family relationships. The first night of the series is March 6. Watch for more to come!

IS YOUR NEST EMPTY? Many of the Baby Boomers are now finding their “nest” is empty. The children have flown the coop and there is time to socialize with fellow Boomers! If you are interested in the idea of forming a group that meets every couple of months, let Maureen know at maureenpump@yahoo.com.

God’s Peace and Power,
Maureen Pump
Director of Ministries

Super Bowl Party



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH are invited to Pastor Paul's house, (708 Birchard) on Sunday, February 6, for a Super Bowl Party! Party begins at 6:00 p.m. And lasts until the football game is over.

Please bring a beverage or snack to share.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund

As of Dec. 31, 2010:

Year to date expense budget:	\$ 429,300.00
Year to date actual expenses:	<u>\$ 428,779.95</u>
	\$ (520.05) (Underbudget)

As shown above, we came in at budget for the year 2010..

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Year to date receipts:	\$ 425,457.67	\$ 425,828.32
Transfer from Contingency Reserve	\$ -	\$ 24,496.50
Year to date actual expenses:	<u>\$ 428,779.95</u>	<u>\$ 443,590.60</u>
Receipts less expenses:	\$ (3,322.28) Shortfall	\$ 6,734.22

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Laeng
Financial Administrator



Mardi Gras and Masquerade 9th Annual Youth Auction Saturday, March 5, 2011

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this fun-filled evening! This event helps raise money for our youth to attend the National Lutheran Youth Gathering, which will take place July 2012 in New Orleans. We are now collecting items for the auction - gift baskets, sporting event tickets/packages, vacation packages, merchandise coupons, etc. (Please, no used items.) Donations can be dropped off at the church office during business hours. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa Long, 419-332-1558.



CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES
from January 10, 2011

- Annual Meeting - the staff will be recognized and the Budget will be presented for approval. Three separate resolutions pertaining to amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws will also be presented for approval.
- Walt Lamson, Sarah Babione, and Norb Mayer - volunteered to be delegates for Synod Assembly, May 2011.
- Approved employment of Jim Post as the Custodian, Duane Pump as Assistant Custodian. (**Editorial Note — A Sunday/ Special Events Custodian was also hired, but has since resigned.**)
- Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 30, 2011 at 11:20 in the Sanctuary. Cookies will be served after the late service.

Christian Missions -

- \$1500 was given to the missionary in Mexico.

Christian Worship -

- New pew Bibles will be dedicated at all services the weekend of February 26/27
- Looking for ministries that may use the old Bibles.

Christian Outreach -

- Retreat scheduled for February 19.
- Love in Action has contacted 12-15 people/families per month. So far, 5 people/families that were previously active in the church, but absent for sometime, have started coming back to church.

Youth and Growth -

- Youth Dinner/Auction scheduled for March 5; accepting donations for this event.



WORLD HUNGER APPEAL

Included in this mailing is an envelope for ELCA World Hunger. During the month of February, we lift up hunger around the world. Please use this envelope for your gift to World Hunger.

ELCA World Hunger responds to neighbors around the corner and around the world.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF Donations are being requested for Sewing Kits—3 yards of 44” or 45” cotton or cotton blend fabrics, one spool of matching thread, one card of 6 or more 1/2” or 5/8” matching buttons and one package of needles. If you can help with any of the above items, we thank you! Collection boxes are located at all doors.



Volunteers are needed to do house cleaning for our shut-ins. If you have a couple hours once or twice a month, please contact Christine Schneider Smith at 419-680-3303. You will be put in contact with a shut-in who needs you, and the two of you will decide on a convenient schedule.



Enjoy family story time with Ruth Bell Graham's book entitled **One Wintry Night**, beautifully illustrated by Richard Jesse Watson.

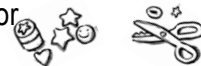
When a young mountain boy is caught alone in a sudden snowstorm, he's rescued by a woman living in a cabin. She tells him the story of Christmas beginning with Creation and ending with the Resurrection.

Also recommended are the following books which have mission themes:

- * **Listen to the Wind** by Greg Mortenson
- * **Little Things Make Big Differences**
- A story about Malaria in Africa
- * **Think Fair Trade First** by Ingrid Hess
- * **Left to Tell, Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust** by Immaculee Ilibagiza, who miraculously survived.

All of these books are now on display in the Library. Stop in and check out these and many other selections!

CRAFTING DAY—Friday, February 11 from 4-10pm. Gather for any portion of time to socialize and be crafty at Grace Lutheran Church in the dining room—Clover St. entrance and down 15 steps. Bring your own craft supplies (crocheting, knitting, beading, sewing, needlepoint, scrapbooking, card making, quilting, etc.), a potluck dish, and your favorite drink. A \$5 donation to Liberty Center is all it will cost you for space. Friday night childcare is available from 6-10pm by donation (call in reservations, 332-1558, by Thursday, February 10). Questions? Call or e-mail Cheryl at 402-850-1581 or cherylpaeth@vzw.blackberry.net.



Thank You's

*Friends of Grace,
Thank you for your well wishes, prayers, and cards.
Thank you to Maureen and Pastor Paul. Also, for the
prayer shawl and chicken noodle soup, it really gives one
strength to know so many care.*

Larry Overmyer

+ + + + + + + +

*Happy New Year Partners in Christ,
Your caring words and prayers lifted Dick's spirits. The
chicken soup ministry is a blessing - thank you Pat
Waggoner for your pleasant visit with us and the delicious
chicken noodle soup. God bless our fellowship in Christ.*

Dick & Sandy Houghtaling

+ + + + + + + +

*I want to say thank you for the kindness shown during the
passing of my brother. The prayer shawl and the soup
were indeed warming for body and soul and very much
appreciated.*

Vickie Lamb

+ + + + + + + +

*Thank you to Pastor Paul for hospital visits and prayers.
Pastor Jim for home visits with prayers and communion,
Esther Chambers for the soup and nice afternoon visit.
Thanks to everyone for their prayers while I was ill!*

Jeanice Olmstead

+ + + + + + + +

*Thank you for all the Anniversary cards and to those who
weathered the storm to help celebrate at our home!*

Cal & Jeanice Olmstead

Thank You's

I wish to thank members of Grace Church, Maureen, and Pastor Paul for their prayers and cards. Special thanks to Pastor Paul for his visit while I was in the hospital and to Maureen for her visit when I came home. It meant so much! God Bless!

Vince Koebel

+ + + + +

Thank you to everyone that presented me with gifts, sent me cards, told me "Best Wishes" and gave me gift cards in honor of my retirement. Also, a big thank you to those that helped me through the 10 1/2 years I was custodian. I bless all the good friends I've made and will cherish those friendships the rest of my life. See you in church.

Bob Wickert

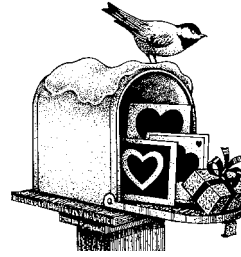
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To our Grace Lutheran Church family, Thanks to the entire pastoral staff for helping us honor Mom/Mary/Grandma! To Pastor Paul (special prayers and meaningful words at the funeral service), Peggy Dorr (beautiful organ music), the funeral luncheon ministry (delicious food for the fellowship dinner), Pastor Jim Avers (visiting mom over the years at Countryside), the many members who remembered mom with your prayers, visitation, donations, and cards, the Prayer Shawl Ministry (comforting, cozy, uplifting shawls), and the Chicken Soup Ministry (yummy!). It's because of God's promises that we know mom is at peace now with our Savior in Heaven where we look forward to joining her in God's perfect timing. May God continue to Bless all of you.


In Christian love,

The family of Mary (Rodenhauser) Gibson

February Birthdays



February 6	Dorothy Dierksheide	16 Linda Dr.
February 6	Amos Druckenmiller	Bethesda Care Center 600 N. Brush St.-Rm.411
February 8	Doris O'Brien	1715 S. Buchanan St.
February 10	Doris Haubert	1214 Tucker rd.
February 10	Grant Shriver	1457 Alger St.
February 11	Norma Stotz	Bethesda Care Center 600 N. Brush St.-Rm.207
February 13	Donna Cooley	1611 Ell Dr.
February 18	Fannie Engler	196 Co. Rd. 73
February 18	Robert Hartman	3883 N.E. Catawba Rd. Pt. Clinton, OH 43452
February 22	George Dabrunz	2017 Port Clinton Rd.
February 22	Joanne Druckenmiller	4300 Co. Rd. 230
February 24	Paula Christensen	224 yacht Club Dr.
February 24	Ardella Posey	Summerville at Mentor 5700 Emerald Ct.-Apt.146 Mentor, OH 44060
February 26	Marie Lieske	147 Briarwood Circle

 <p>Altar Guild</p>	<p>for FEBRUARY Lois Oberst, Sherry Clevenger, Ben & Donna Cooley, Pat Bristley (7:45 Communion Only)</p>
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HOSPITALIZED

Bill Stuckey - Bellevue Hospital

DISCHARGED

John Baum
Marge Tanvas
Larry Overmyer
Avonelle Lotycz
Jason Kinn
Jacob Moses
Allison Schrader
Del Rauch
Amaryllis Van Allen
Destany Higgins & baby girl



Kase Joseph Myers, December 24, 2010
son of Kyle and Ashley (Peters) Myers

Sophia Marie Higgins, January 21, 2011
daughter of Destany Higgins



Allen Guhn
Samuel C. Schepflin
Mary F. (Rodenhauser) Gibson



**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 18.**

The newsletter will be assembled on
Thursday, February 24.

Grace Lutheran Church
705 West State Street
Fremont, OH 43420

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Paid
Fremont, OH
Permit #133

Worship Services:

Saturday 5:00pm - Traditional Worship
Sunday 7:45am - Liturgical Worship
9:00am - Christian Education
10:00am - Celebration Worship/Holy Communion

Office Hours – 8:30am-4:30pm, M-F

E-mail: gracefremont@yahoo.com

Web page: www.gracefremont.org

Paul Gruetter, Senior Pastor

paulgruetter@yahoo.com

James Avers, Visitation Pastor

pastorjim777@sbcglobal.net

Maureen Pump, Director of Ministries

MaureenPump@yahoo.com

Theresa Long, Youth Director

Theresa_glyd@yahoo.com

Linda Biller, Office Administrator

billerlinda@yahoo.com

Sue Laeng, Financial Administrator

gracefremont@yahoo.com

Tricia McElfresh, Director, Noah's Ark Preschool

noahs_ark_fremont@yahoo.com



February

GREETERS

February 6 & 20

7:45 - M/M I. Klohn (Front)
M/M D. O'Donnell (Baptistry)
M/M J. Lajti (Chapel)

10:00 - T. McElfresh (Front)
M/M B. Auxter (Baptistry)
R. Gray (Chapel)

February 13 & 27

7:45 - M/M L. Garner (Front)
M/M B. Smith (Baptistry)
J. Sachs (Chapel)

10:00 - S. Clevenger (Front)
K. Burmeister (Baptistry)
J. Overmyer (Chapel)

USHERS

February 6, 13, 20, 27

7:45 - B. Schrader
K. Klohn
B. Zilles
J. Dupey

February 6 & 20

10:00 - G. Hinsch
T & P Karle
L. McElfresh

February 13 & 27

10:00 - M. Mullholand
G. Nossaman
S & L Nossaman

FEBRUARY 6

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Toni Laird, Trenton Laird
10:00 - Nick Auen, Andy Burmeister
DEACONS: 7:45 - S. Rakay, B. Seibert, L. Widmer, S. Babione
10:00 - C. Waggoner, E. Chambers, C. Amor, B. Armstrong
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Jess Family
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), E. Muffler (10:00)

FEBRUARY 13

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Morgan Durell, Hannah Nelson
10:00 - Jack Gedeon, Mike Muffler
DEACONS: 7:45 - J. Brock, D. Burmeister, R. House, P. Karle, S. Farrell, B. Klohn
10:00 - M. Bower, E. Dabrunz, R. Foreman, G. Gray
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - F. Keller, N. Mayer, B. Prasuhn, G. Rumball
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), D. Prasuhn (10:00)

FEBRUARY 20

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Corey Wise, Josh Oliver
10:00 - Grant Root, Ben Root
DEACONS: 7:45 - C. Klohn, S. Babione, S. Rakay, B. Seibert
10:00 - J. Harris, S. Laird, W. Lamson, F. Lawrence
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Troxel Family, L. Smith
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Pump(10:00)

FEBRUARY 27

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Cody Johnson, Alexis Johnson
10:00 - Kellie Auen, Kennedy Weltin
DEACONS: 7:45 - L. Widmer, J. Brock, D. Burmeister, R. House, B. Klohn, C. Klohn
10:00 - D. Linder, L. Polter, L. Sachs, L. Smith
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - S & C Wiersma, L. Merrill, B. Eishen
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger (5:00), L. Garner (7:45), E. Muffler (10:00)

MARCH 6

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Tyler Kinkaid, Alex House
10:00 - Emily Muffler, Alexis Gedeon
DEACONS: 7:45 - P. Karle, S. Rakay, S. Babione, S. Farrell
10:00 - C. Waggoner, E. Chambers, C. Amor, B. Armstrong
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - S. Brickner, J. Harris, L & J Overmyer
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Prasuhn (10:00)

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY









WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY

			<p>2</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choirs 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 - R Life Meeting 8:30 - Praise Team</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>11:00 - Soup Kitchen </p> <p>6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30-1 - First Communion Training 5:00 - Worship</p>
<p>6</p> <p>7:45 - Worship 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 6-8 - The Gathering 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>7</p> <p>1:00 - Beth Moore Bible Study 7:00 - Boy/Cub Scouts 7:30 - Dartball @ Home</p>	<p>8</p> <p>1:30 - Daughter's Circle - Lounge</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choirs 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 - R Life Meeting 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 - Soup Kitchen 6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4-10 - Craft Day - Dining Room </p> <p>6-10 - Babysitting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30-1 - First Communion Training 10-11 - Little Lutheran Valentine Party 5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion</p>
<p>13</p> <p>7:45 - Worship/Holy Communion 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion/Baptism 11:15-Youth Auction Mtg.- Lounge 6-8 - Encouter 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 - Project Day 9:30 - MOPS 1:00 - Beth Moore Bible Study 7:00 - Boy/Cub Scouts 7:00 - Church Council Devotions 7:15 - Standing Committees 7:30 - Dartball @ Faith 8:15 - Church Council</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>7:15 - Joy Circle at home of Becky Seibert</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choirs 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 - R Life Meeting 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:00 - Soup Kitchen </p> <p>6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>"G&T" DEADLINE</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30-1 - First Communion Training 5:00 - Worship</p>
<p>20</p> <p>7:45 - Worship 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00 - Boy/Cub Scouts</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5:00 - Soup Kitchen </p>	<p>23</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choirs 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 - R Life Meeting 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>24</p> <p>"G&T" ASSEMBLED</p> <p>11:00 - Soup Kitchen 6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30-1 - First Communion Training 5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion/ Bible Dedication 7:00 - Family Night - Walleye Hockey</p>
<p>27</p> <p> Bible Dedication - at all Services</p> <p>7:45 - Worship/Holy Communion 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00 - Project Day 9:30 - MOPS 7:00 - Boy/Cub Scouts</p>					<p>2011</p>

February 2011

Grace & Youth



Upcoming Events

Gathering- For Jr High- Is every first Sunday of the month from 6-8. Bring your friends!

Encounter- For High School- Every second Sunday of the month from 6:00-8:00. Bring your friends!

Jr and Sr LYO - Souper Bowl of Caring- Feb 5th. Watch for more info!

Parents Night Out- Feb 11th. The Jr and Sr LYO will be babysitting from 6:00-10:00PM for monetary donations. All proceeds will go toward the youth attending the National Lutheran Youth Gathering in 2012.

Little Lutheran's Valentines Party- Saturday, Feb. 12th from 10:00-11:00AM.

Family Day at the Toledo Walleye Hockey- Saturday, Feb. 26th at 7:00PM. Tickets are \$15. Please sign up and pay in the church office by Feb 17th.

Mardi Gras and Masquerade 9th Annual Youth Auction



The Youth Auction will be held on Saturday, March 5th!

We are now excepting donations of items of interest to be auctioned off. (Please no used items)

Please bring the items to the Church Office.

If you have any questions please contact Theresa Long (419)332-1558.

January's Highlights

Crazy Kids Ice Skating- On Jan 8th we had a great time at the Rec ice skating! 10 youth attended.

Jr LYO Lock-In – We stayed up all night at the church on Jan 14th. 20 youth attended and had a great time! Six adults were able to help throughout the night.

Sr LYO Bowling at Plaza Lanes. We will be bowling Jan 29th from 1:00-3:00.