

*“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*

*July 31, 2008*

## **Confirmation Ministry: The Love of Jesus Shines!**

The main point of our church’s confirmation ministry is to help young people experience the love of Jesus in their lives. You might have had a different notion about that, as some believe the main point of confirmation is to get these kids to “graduate”, finish the requirements and go through the Rite of Confirmation. That part is important, but knowing and receiving the love of Jesus is even more important!

Middle school youth need to know that Jesus is real, and that Jesus loves them. The middle school years are a challenging time, and it is a blessing from God that we as the church are able to serve the youth during these years. God brings these young people to us, and gives us the privilege of teaching and sharing and listening and loving.

Confirmation is a ministry of the whole church! While I am the main teacher, other Christians are also present as examples of faith acting in love. Our typical confirmation Wednesday includes large group teaching time, and small group sharing and review. If you have a love of Jesus and middle school youth, you can be a small group leader! Please contact me, and I’ll be happy to tell you what is involved. *NEW THIS YEAR:* we’re inviting high school youth to serve as assistant group leaders. They will bring their unique perspective to the group discussions. And like all of our group leaders, they will be growing in faith even as we help younger people grow.

Students entering seventh grade this year will receive information about confirmation in the mail (if you don’t get this, please contact the church office!). We’ll be starting up our exciting new year on Wednesday, September 10, with a parent orientation meeting the Wednesday before that. Eighth-graders returning for their second year will also be getting information in the mail.

Confirmation has brought me some of the greatest joys in my ministry. It is a treasure from God to watch young people grow up and grow in faith. It is a blessing to watch God love them, through the church and through each other. What a joy!

Confirmation is about Jesus, and it’s about middle-school youth. When the church brings those two things, we get to watch as God changes the world!

**Pastor Paul**



## Youth News

Grace Lutheran Church is a place where youth experience the love of Christ, are **empowered** by that love to become living disciples who **exalt** Jesus Christ, **engage** in community with other believers, and **extend** that love to the world around them.

Dear Members of Grace,

Thank you SO much to everyone who supported our Spoke Folk journey through prayer and financial donations. It was a life changing experience that none of us will soon forget. Thank you for making this journey possible and allowing us the opportunity to participate in such a wonderful ministry.

*Laura Burmeister, Christa Hasselbach, Stephanie Billings,  
Lisa Billings, JC Minich, Corey Wise, David Gipe,  
Whitney Laird, Erin Satterlee*

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Dear Members of Grace Lutheran Church,

I could not have asked for a better congregation in which to spend the past year. I love you all very much, and I love this church very much. You have all truly affected who I am and how I understand what ministry really is. However, on July 27th I will be taking a giant leap of faith as I move back to Cleveland to pursue seminary and a ministry opportunity in that area. I will continue to pray for this congregation as you minister to the people of this community, and I look forward to the day when we see each other again. I pray for God's blessings in all you do.

In His Service,  
*Erin Satterlee*



**CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**  
**July 14, 2008**

- **Prior to the meeting, Church Council met for supper in the Dining Room followed by an orientation conducted by all staff members and Rev. Cathy Schibler, Assistant to the Bishop.**
- **Erin Satterlee resigned as Youth Director, effective July 27, 2008.**
- **Membership - Tamara Fry, transfer in from Trinity Lutheran, Sandusky, Ohio**
- **Report of Reredos Committee - Fabric backing is disintegrating. Committee will meet with carpenter on July 22 to discuss suggestions and report at next Council meeting. Rather than move the marble altar, it was suggested that possibly a portable small wooden altar could be built to use for communion instead of a table at the 5pm Saturday service and 10am Sunday service.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**General Fund**

As of June 30, 2008:

Year to date expense budget:	\$251,203.19
Year to date actual expenses:	<u>231,558.71</u>
	\$ 19,644.48 (Under budget)

The above numbers show that we are making every effort to be financially responsible in our decision making to stay within our budget. Spending is 8% below what we expected our expenses would be for the year.

As shown below, giving is up by 3% from this time last year. Going forward, we ask for your continued support as we do God’s work.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Year to date receipts:	\$206,447.17	\$199,539.47
Year to date actual expenses:	<u>231,558.71</u>	<u>229,010.71</u>
Receipts less expenses:	-\$ 25,111.54 (Shortfall)	-\$ 29,471.24 (Shortfall)

**Capital Campaign**

As of June 30, 2008:

Grace Lutheran Church Investments	
- Boiler Fund	\$ 239,917.58
- Accessibility Fund	5,865.96
Endowment Investments	<u>\$ 230,458.09</u>
<b>Total Funds Available:</b>	<b>\$ 476,241.63</b>
Total Pledges over 5 Years:	\$ 198,700.00
Pledges Received to Date:	<u>21,725.00</u>
<b>Pledges Yet to be Received:</b>	<b>\$ 176,975.00</b>

**Funds Available Plus Total Pledges Outstanding: \$ 653,216.63**

On Tuesday, August 12, at 7:30 p.m., Grace Fellowship will tour the North Coast Veterans Memorial Museum in Gibsonburg. We will meet at Williams Park in Gibsonburg where the Memorial Wall is located at the corner of State Route 300 (Main St.) and Stone St. From there, we will tour the museum which is close to the Wall/Park. This will be an interesting and informative program for everyone. Dutch treat will complete the evening (location to be decided). All, whether singles or couples, are invited to attend this meeting, as well as any of the Grace Fellowship meetings which are held on the second Tuesday of each month, April through December.



Please join us!



**Bottled Water  
Needed**

Outreach Committee is collecting bottled water which will be handed out during the Labor Day Parade as a gift from Grace to anyone needing a cool drink. If you are able to donate a pack or two, you may drop it off at the church office, Monday through Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm.



***A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.***

Proverbs 22:9

The Christian Mission Committee is challenging the members of Grace Church to be the “generous man” from Proverbs 22:9. We are asking the members of Grace to give generously to the Sandusky County Food Pantry. A goal of 1000 pounds of food per month has been set through the end of 2008.

You will notice new “collection carts” at the entrances to the Sanctuary. Currently, the second Sunday of the month has been designated as Food Pantry Sunday. Why wait? You can give generously any Sunday by dropping off your donation of nonperishable food items in the new collection carts. The items will be weighed and delivered to the Food Pantry by diligent volunteers. We know you can beat the challenge! So, think of those less fortunate when you shop each week and intentionally purchase some items that you plan to donate! A box of cereal = 1.5 lbs., a jar of peanut butter = 1.5 lbs., 3 cans of vegetables = 2.5 lbs. ... You’ve already donated over 5 pounds of food to those less fortunate than yourself! Amen!!

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**Two for One!** Serve your community and your God by working at Share and Care for a few hours. Grace’s service times are from 10am - 12noon every Tuesday during August. Just show up at Share and Care (206 Lynn St.) and someone will be there to show you what to do.





## Beth Moore Bible Study

Ever wonder about the prophecy in the Book of Daniel and how it relates to the Book of Revelation? Think we are in the end times now? Would you like to understand the symbolism in these two books of the Bible? Please join the discussion group of the Beth Moore Bible Study “The Ancient of Days and the End of Times” beginning on August 11, at 2:15 pm in the Conference Room.

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**BORNING CRY HYMNALS** are available to anyone who wishes to have a copy in their home. These songbooks can be picked up in the church office during the week and in the back of the Sanctuary on Sundays.



## KIDS CLUBS

**KIDS CLUBS** have been a big hit with our kids every Wednesday night at Spirit. We are in need of leaders for the Boy's and Girl's clubs for the upcoming year. Please consider giving your time to have some fun with our kids each Wednesday night. Contact Maureen at 419-332-1558 or by email at [maureenpump@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenpump@yahoo.com).



**on Mike McElfresh**



Michael recently returned from a mission into Kenya where he helped evaluate under developed schools. Part of his job is to help these school systems apply for and receive funds available to them for buildings, supplies, teachers, books, and other materials. He is currently back in Djibouti, working in Administration and covering duties while soldiers take their leaves. By the end of August, the Company will be moving its base of operations into Kenya for the remainder of the tour.

July 18 marked the 200th day of the deployment, half-way there! Michael's address will be changing once the move is complete, so please watch the bulletin for his new address once it is established.

Thanks to all of you for your support in mailing the packages to the troupes. This month, I sent 13 more boxes! Michael is doing well, and in good spirits. He said to be thankful for 90 degrees and humid, because in Djibouti, it can reach 115 degrees and humid!

Love and Peace,  
*Tricia, Casey, and Gracie*

**PLEASE NOTE:** Anyone wishing to help with the cost of mailing the boxes to Michael and his men are encouraged to get your donations to the church office. Postage to mail 1 box is \$10.95.



Noah's Ark is still accepting applications for the 2008-2009 school year, for children 2 1/2 years - 5 years. Open House will be Thursday, August 28 at 6:30pm. The first day of school is September 2. For more information, please contact the Director, Tricia McElfresh, at [mcelfreshfamily@verizon.net](mailto:mcelfreshfamily@verizon.net) or call the church office, 419-332-1558.

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## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Women of the church continue to collect for Lutheran World Relief. For the month of August, we still need notebooks of ruled paper, 150-200 sheets, crayons, blunt scissors, rulers with inches and centimeters, erasers, wide tooth combs, receiving blankets, hand towels, and washcloths. Any donations of money are welcome and can be taken to the church office. Thank you for any help you can give!

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Do you like to rock babies in a rocking chair? Do you like to play with toddlers? The Bridges program at Heartbeat needs volunteers to rock and play with babies on the first and third Tuesday nights of each month during their meetings. For more information,

call Nancy Burmeister, 419-334-2727, or Heartbeat, 419-334-9079.



## *Coming Home!*

After much prayer and conversation with those we serve, we are coming home in September after twelve years of serving as ELCA missionaries in Kenya. Our time here has gone by so fast and has been filled with so many wonderful blessings...being able to be a part of the rapidly growing Church in Africa...participating in meaningful opportunities to help the world's poor...serving as God has gifted us as Pastor and nurse...being part of a Church family with members from around the world...experiencing good health and safety for our entire family...living in an exciting cross-cultural environment...becoming more mature in Christ while growing through the many challenges of missionary life...working with the Kenya Mission Team, the World Mission Prayer League, ELCA Global Mission and in Kenya, the ELCK and the KELC.

Pastor Balozi Mruttu has been working with Bob and will now serve as the Pastor of the Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation. The outreach programs and ministries of the Congregation, as well as the nearly-completed Church building project, will continue under his leadership.

After we return home, we plan to take a few months off to get used to living in the States again. We believe that we are being called to Congregational ministry and are open to considering wherever the Lord may lead us. Thank you so much for your love, support, and prayers over these past twelve years. It has been our great joy to be together with you in Christ's mission in Africa. Please keep in touch! Our new email: [schmalzle@yahoo.com](mailto:schmalzle@yahoo.com)

God be with you,  
*Bob and Denise Schmalzle*



*We would like to thank Pastor Paul and Maureen Pump for their prayers and visits during the past months. It was greatly appreciated. Also, thanks for the beautiful prayer shawl and delicious chicken soup.*

*God's blessing to all of you.  
Ruth Druckenmiller  
Ron Druckenmiller*

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*Dear Grace Lutheran Church, Prayer Shawl Ministry,  
Thank you so much for the prayer shawl and the chicken noodle soup. The shawl brings so much comfort to me at this very difficult time. The soup was delicious and very warming for the body. Thank you to Mr. & Mrs. Shimer for delivering and for their visit. Thank you for caring.*

*Sincerely,  
Robert & Martha Lantz*

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*Members of Grace -*

*We would like to thank everyone for your prayers, card, beautiful blue prayer shawl, and delicious soup. We feel blessed to have found a church that cares so much for its congregation. We look forward to becoming members and to Brandon's baptism.*

*Thanks again,  
Jeremy, Tamara, & Brandon Fry*

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*I am so grateful for the delicious noodle soup and comforting prayer shawl. Your thoughts and prayers are helping me through my confinement.*

*Pat O'Brien*



*Again, I must thank you for the wonderful chicken soup you sent to me. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. It's so nice to know that people are thinking and praying for you. Also, thanks to Jim Zilles for delivering it to us.*

*Thanks again,  
Joan Ginnever*

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*I would like to thank the members and pastors of Grace church for their prayers, visits, and chicken soup while I was recovering from knee surgery.*

*Thank you again,  
Jeanice Olmstead*

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*A very special thank you to Mark and Jeanette Damschroder for washing my windows. I greatly appreciate your time and effort!*

*God bless you,  
Martha Huss*

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You can now view the monthly Grace and Truth newsletter on our web page at [www.gracefremont.org](http://www.gracefremont.org)



## Birthdays

August 2	Warren Moellman	1455 Co. Rd. 65
August 4	Martha Fisher	203 Briarwood Drive
August 5	Dorothy Michael	562 Crestwood Dr.
August 7	Mary Lou Kinsey	2019 Elm Dr.
August 10	Eileen Hazlett	711 Rice St.
August 11	Willis Posey	900 Upton Rd.
August 13	Kenneth Ackerman	2825 W. State St.
August 13	Aggie Stokes	1634 Williams Dr.
August 16	Erika Slayter	416 Oaklawn Ave.
August 17	Joan Sachs	1521 Sunrise Blvd.
August 19	Dottie Borden	2108 Buckland Ave.
August 19	Norma Butscher	Countryside Cont. Care Ctr. 1865 Countryside Dr.
August 19	Jack Druckenmiller	1061 Co. Rd. 193
August 22	Paul Zilles	131 Berkshire Dr.
August 23	Betty Koebel	1116 Luckey St.
August 23	Al Stokes, Jr.	1634 Williams Dr.
August 24	Rita Shafer	421 N. Co. Rd. 198
August 25	Richard Bower	1369 S. St. Rte. 19
August 25	Lucy Deno	c/o 2375 McGormley Rd.
August 26	Eleanor Berlekamp	2595 Co. Rd. 99
August 27	Evelyn Taylor	1203 Kentucky Ave.
August 28	Martha Huss	213 N. Columbus Ave.
August 29	Evelyn Frontz	1607 Co. Rd. 222
August 29	Julia Snyder	Good Shepherd Home 725 Columbus Ave., Rm.301 Fostoria, OH 44830



**DISCHARGED**

Mary Stuckey  
Nancy Balsizer  
Lois Monahan  
Stella Binkley  
Irv Burmeister  
Chris McArthur  
Louise Craig  
Oma Pump

**ALTAR GUILD FOR AUGUST**

Ruth Druckenmiller, Chairman  
Judy Koebel, Ruth Kennedy,  
Sandy Houghtaling



Newsletter  
Deadline

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES  
IS FRIDAY, AUGUST 22.**

**The newsletter will be  
assembled on  
Thursday, August 28.**

Baptized  
with  
the  
Holy  
Spirit



*Adam Eugene Dierksheide*, July 5, 2008  
son of Brian and Nicole

*Boe Alan Mominee*, July 6, 2008  
son of Scott and Kyleigh

*Brandon David Fry*, July 13, 2008  
son of Jeremy and Tamara

*Jennifer Sieberg and Erik Humburg*,  
July 18, 2008



*Kelly Shonborn and Michael Roach, Jr.*, July 26, 2008



*Marilyn J. Engler*

*Marjorie P. Young*

*James A. 'Jamie' Ross*

**Grace Lutheran Church  
705 West State Street  
Fremont, OH 43420**

**Return Service Requested**

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](mailto:gracefremont@yahoo.com)

Web page: [www.gracefremont.org](http://www.gracefremont.org)

Paul Gruetter, Senior Pastor

[paulgruetter@yahoo.com](mailto:paulgruetter@yahoo.com)

James Avers, Visitation Pastor

[pastorjim777@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastorjim777@sbcglobal.net)

Maureen Pump, Director of Ministries

[MaureenPump@yahoo.com](mailto:MaureenPump@yahoo.com)

Linda Biller, Office Administrator

[billerlinda@yahoo.com](mailto:billerlinda@yahoo.com)

Sue Laeng, Financial Administrator





[gracefremont@yahoo.com](mailto:gracefremont@yahoo.com)

Our Missionaries:

Pastor Bob & Denise Schmalzle

[schmalzle@maf.or.ke](mailto:schmalzle@maf.or.ke)

**Non-Profit  
Paid  
Fremont, OH  
Permit #133**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 7:45 - Worship 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 8:00 - DAA	4 2:15 - Beth Moore Bible Study	5	6 7:00 - Praise Team 8:00 - Continued Recovery Team	7	1 8 5:00 - Worship 5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion	2 9 5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion
10 7:45 - Worship/Holy Communion 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 8:00 - DAA	11 2:15 - Beth Moore Bible Study 7:00 - Church Council Devotions 7:15 - Standing Committees 8:15 - Church Council	12 7:30 - Grace Fellowship	13 7:00 - Praise Team 8:00 - Continued Recovery Team	14 8:00 - Kitchen Clean-Up 5:00 - Cancer Support Group	15	16 5:00 - Worship
17 7:45 - Worship 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion/Baptism 8:00 - DAA	18 2:15 - Beth Moore Bible Study 7:30 - Grieving Hearts Support Group	19	20 7:00 - Praise Team 8:00 - Continued Recovery Team	21 11:00 - Soup Kitchen Opens 	22 "G&T" DEADLINE	23 2:30 - Frontz/Folk Wedding 5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion
24 7:45 - Worship/Holy Communion 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 8:00 - DAA	25 2:15 - Beth Moore Bible Study 7:00 - GLCW Board Meeting	26 5:00 - Soup Kitchen 	27 7:00 - Praise Team 8:00 - Continued Recovery Team	28 "G&T" MAILED 11:00 - Soup Kitchen 6:30 - Noah's Ark Open House 	29	30 3:00 - Bodard/Roach Wedding 5:00 - Worship
31 7:45 - Worship 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 8:00 - DAA						<b>August 2008</b>



### **GREETERS**

#### **August 3, 17, 31**

7:45 - M/M Dick O'Donnell (Front)  
Kate Linder (Baptistry)  
Jerry Letzring (Chapel)

10:00 - M/M Bill Auxter (Front)  
Sally Chase (Baptistry)  
Cori Eishen, Nick Kreilick (Chapel)

#### **August 10 & 24**

7:45 - Linda Biller (Front)  
M/M Mark Damschroder (Baptistry)  
Joan Sachs (Chapel)

10:00 - Sherry Clevenger (Front)  
Martha Fisher (Baptistry)  
Sue Laeng (Chapel)

### **USHERS**

#### **August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

7:45 - Carl Cooley  
Bob Guthrie  
Roger Haynes  
Clarence Weickert

#### **August 3, 17, 31**

10:00 - Joe Havens  
Gordon Hinsch  
Larry McElfresh  
Ron Neill

#### **August 10 & 24**

10:00 - Terry Clevenger  
Dave Cooper  
Dennis Curliss  
Ryk Foreman

### **AUGUST 3**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Alexa Urban, Allison Schrader, Mariah Girand  
10:00 - Morgan Carmel, Meagan Buchele  
DEACONS: 7:45 - L. Widmer, A. Fisher, D. Blue, S. Bradford  
10:00 - M. Wood, F. Lawrence, S. Auen, E. Foreman  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - L. Oberst, L & J Overmyer, B. Prasuhn  
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Prasuhn(10:00)

### **AUGUST 10**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Kyle Damman, Andrew & Alex House  
10:00 - Brooke Baumann, Rachel Laeng  
DEACONS: 7:45 - K. Burmeister, L. Overmyer, D. Hakes, C. Klohn, T. Lytle, L. Martin  
10:00 - T. Joseph, J. Koebel, N. Kreilick, A. Lamson  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - S. Bruckner, M. Fisher, J. Harris, F. Keller  
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), D. Pump(10:00)

### **AUGUST 17**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Tyler Kinkaid, JC Minich, Zach Beckman  
10:00 - Laura Burmeister, Taylor Waggoner  
DEACONS: 7:45 - D. Durbin, L. Garner, R. Haynes, D. Polter  
10:00 - D. Linder, J. Linder, M. Nossaman, L. Rapp  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - N. Kreilick, S. Laeng, B & M Muffler  
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Prasuhn(10:00)

### **AUGUST 24**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Alex Swope, Trenton Laird, Matt Guthrie  
10:00 - Alexis Gedeon, Megan Joseph  
DEACONS: 7:45 - C. Miller, D. Zilles, L. Widmer, D. Blue, S. Bradford, K. Burmeister  
10:00 - C. Miller, L. Smith, C. Troxel, C. Waggoner  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - R & P Neill, L. Oberst, L & J Overmyer  
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), D. Pump(10:00)

### **AUGUST 31**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Mariah Girand, Briana Thoss, Kelsey Rosenberger  
10:00 - Kalob & Cody Andrews  
DEACONS: 7:45 - B. Siebert, D. Durbin, A. Fisher, L. Garner  
10:00 - D. Willey, S. Auen, E. Foreman, T. Joseph  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - B. Prasuhn, G. Rumball, L. Smith, S. Brickner  
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Prasuhn(10:00)

### **SEPTEMBER 7**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - AJ Mehlow, Austin Jess, Jacob Moses  
10:00 - Corey Wise, JC Minich  
DEACONS: 7:45 - D. Hakes, R. Haynes, C. Klohn, T. Lytle  
10:00 - J. Koebel, N. Kreilick, A. Lamson, F. Lawrence  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - C & T Troxel, T & S Wiersma  
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Pump(10:00)