



**"...to you is born this day in the city of David  
a Savior, who is the Christ, the Lord."**

So the Angels announce to the shepherds the birth of Jesus. We hear it each year...or do we?

"To you" or literally "to y'all". Maybe the Angel's pronouncement is for us as well?! Maybe we need to be reminded again, the Babe of Bethlehem is for us, each of us, and all of us. No one is too humble, too outcast, or too lowly for Jesus to come to them, just as no one is too high, too rich, or too mighty not to need a Savior. God has given to all of us the perfect one size fits all, gift, Jesus.

The words are spoken each year and yet by December 26<sup>th</sup> we are already beginning to put that gift on the shelf and take down our old anxieties, hurts, and grievances both petty and large. Or worse we have already tried to return Jesus and exchange Him for a life run by us and us alone. Our will be done! Considering how poorly that works for us each year it is worse than a pity. It is a bitter shame that we do this.

And yet, God does not weary of giving us the gift. It may be most immediately spoken of each Christmas but indeed Jesus comes to us each day in our Baptism and each week in the Holy Communion. Each time we pick up a Bible or even simply hear it read to us, Jesus is there, born anew to us all.

As the Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed one of God, He brings the love of God directly into our lives. As Lord He shows us God's better way. Yes that way is the way of the cross but it is in service to others that we are best able to find our true selves. Such service can be as humble as giving a drink of water to a thirsty passerby or as grandiose as building a business which gives employment to hundreds. The way to the cross follows both trajectories.

So as you open your packages and plan on how you will spend your gift cards remember first why we have this holiday and the first gift we all received for the Angels speak to us, Jesus has been born to us all!

Glory to God in the Highest heaven!!!!

*Pastor Keith*

*"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*

*JANUARY 2012*

MAKE A  
**JOYFUL**  
Noise  
TO THE LORD,  
ALL THE EARTH;  
BREAK FORTH INTO  
JOYOUS SONG  
AND SING PRAISES.  
PSALM 98:1, NRSV

*Sue* *Linda*  
*Pastor Keith*  
*Maureen* *Jim* *Pastor Jim*

The people of Grace Lutheran Church invite you to join us for our special worship opportunities during Advent/Christmas 2011.

**Midweek Advent Services**

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.  
December 21

**Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24**  
(Candlelight at all Christmas Eve services)

5:00 p.m.  
Family Worship  
*Sermon Title: "Jimmy's Christmas"*

7:30 p.m.  
Holy Communion  
*Sermon Title: "Why Can't Every Day Be Like Christmas?"*

11:00 p.m.  
Holy Communion  
Pre-service Christmas recital begins at 10:30 p.m.  
*Sermon Title: "Why Can't Every Day Be Like Christmas?"*

**Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25**

10:00 a.m.  
Christmas Worship with Holy Communion  
*Sermon Title: "3 Kittens and a Stupid Bird"*

**New Year's Eve - Saturday, December 31**

5:00 p.m.  
Carol Sing

**New Year's Day - Sunday, January 1, 2012**

10:00 a.m.  
Carol Sing

## DON'T MISS THIS...



The annual Sunday School Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 18 at the 10am worship service. All three year olds through sixth graders that participate in Sunday School will be performing.

**REMINDER: There will be no Sunday School classes on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.**

\*\*\*\*\*

All **Little Lutherans** and **Crazy Kids** (grades 1-6) are invited to a "Make Your Own Bubble Bath" event at the church! On **Sunday, January 8**, we will meet in the church dining room after the late worship, from 11:30am—1:30pm, for a pizza party and then we will make our own bubble bath to take home and enjoy!

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't worry, boys...if making your own bubble bath doesn't sound like a fun afternoon to you, there are plans for you on **Friday, January 20!** Come to the church auditorium that evening from 6-8pm for a **GAME NITE!** Bring your favorite board game, non-violent Wii game or ideas of games to play while we are upstairs. This event is open to all **Little Lutherans** and **Crazy Kids** (grades 1-6). Snacks will be served and don't forget to bring a friend!

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**General Fund**

As of November 30, 2011:

Year to date expense budget:	\$ 468,884.54
Year to date actual expenses:	<u>\$ 424,048.04</u>
	\$ (44,836.50) (Under budget)

As shown above, we are under budget year-to-date. This is due to many factors including staffing vacancies throughout the year.

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Year to date receipts:	\$ 354,121.36	\$ 367,996.20
Transfer from Contingency Reserve	\$ 55,000.00	\$ -
Transfer from Building for the Future	\$ 14,881.00	\$ -
Year to date actual expenses:	<u>\$ 424,048.04</u>	<u>\$ 384,890.73</u>
Receipts less expenses:	\$ (45.68) Shortfall	\$ (16,894.53) Shortfall

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Laeng  
Financial Administrator



The Annual Congregational Meeting of Grace Lutheran Church will take place Sunday, January 29, 2012 at 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

=====  
**ENDOWMENT BOARD** is seeking nominations for two positions beginning March, 2012. This is a 2-year term. Please call the church office, 419-332-1558, if interested.



## **BABY BOOMERS ARE COOKIN'!**

On Sunday, January 29, we will be getting together to cook with Chef Keith Mosser. Chef Mosser will demonstrate how to make some appetizers and, of course, there will be sampling! The time is 5:00 to 7:30 in the church dining room. The cost is \$5.00 per person. Please call the church office, 419-332-1558, before January 23 to make your reservation.

---

---

Maureen's Wednesday and Thursday night Bible studies will begin studying the Gospel of Mark. S.L.A.M. resumes on Wednesday January 4 at 6:00pm in the large Sunday School room and Women's Thursday Night Bible Study resumes on January 5 at 6:00pm in the Lounge.

---

---

## **NOAH'S ARK PRE-SCHOOL - 30 Year Celebration!!**



On Sunday, February 12 at the 10:00 service, we will recognize Noah's Ark Pre-school for their 30 years of ministry. The children will sing a couple of songs in worship and there will be a cake and punch reception following. If you have children who are currently attending, or are "graduates" of Noah's Ark, please plan on coming to celebrate with us!

---

---



February 26 will begin our yearly "Strengthening Families Series". This is a 6-week session that will take place each Sunday from 6:00 - 7:30pm. Watch for more details to come.



All 4th - 6th grade girls that attend Spirit Kids' Clubs on Wednesday evenings, will have a special guest speaker on January 4 and 11. Crystal, from Heartbeat of Fremont, leads the program called *iKeep*. This is a program

designed for preteen girls to teach them self-respect, self-esteem, and integrity. All girls in this age range are invited and please, bring a friend! *All Boys and Little Girls' Clubs will meet in the auditorium during those two weeks for church fun and games!*

---



The Student Uniform Exchange program is up and running at Grace! Bring in your child's lightly worn school uniforms to the room across from the church Library and/or take what your child needs from the growing collection already in the room. The room is

always accessible and is entirely self-serve. Check it out...there is already a great selection!

---

**ENCOUNTER** - for anyone in high school! We meet the second Sunday each month from 6-8pm at the church. This is a time for senior high youth, planned by senior high youth.

Come encounter Jesus and see how He is always at work in your life! Bring your friends... and we always have food!

\* \* \* \* \*



**THE ROAD** - for all youth in grades 7 and 8 - meets the fourth Sunday each month from 6-8pm at the church.

Walk the road with Jesus - He knows the way! And... yes, there is always food!



Quotes from the book *Crazy Talk*

**“Communion”** - A ritual meal of bread and wine that is so holy that many believers participate by just going through the motions; the unifying presence of Jesus Christ in, with, and under bread and wine - which Christians have taken as an opportunity for bitter division.

**“Orthodox Church”** - The Eastern half of the Christian church that the Western church usually forgets about completely.

---



**HOST FAMILY NEEDED** for high school exchange student. Marcella is from Germany, is a member of the Evangelical church, loves cats, and being around family. She will be coming to our area to attend school for the second semester and is looking for a loving host family to welcome her during her stay. For more information, please contact Rachel DuFresne at [rdufresne@terralinguausa.com](mailto:rdufresne@terralinguausa.com).

---



**We need your help for 1 day -**  
Tuesday, December 20 - at Share and Care,  
from 9:30am to 1:00pm. Just show up, we  
have plenty to do!

*also...don't forget...*

**THURSDAYS IN JANUARY!**

It's Grace Lutheran's turn to volunteer  
at Share & Care each Thursday in  
January from 11:30am to 3:00pm.  
Just show up and we'll put you to work!



**“CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE”** - (formerly Crafting Day) will begin meeting at the church on Saturdays from 9:30am to 3:30pm. Our first gathering will be January 21 in the church Dining Room (enter at Clover Street, proceed down 12 steps into the Dining Room). Please bring your craft supplies, an optional potluck food dish, your drinks, and any fellow crafters. A \$5.00 donation will be collected for Share and Care. If you would like more information, please call Cheryl Paeth at 402-850-1581 or email her at [cheryl.a.paeth@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.a.paeth@gmail.com).



Thank you to each and every Sunday School student that donated Christmas presents for our “adopted” residents at Luther Home of Mercy!

The presents were wrapped and delivered during the first week of December.

Thank you for your generosity!



**CUB SCOUTS** would like to start a Pack here at Grace. If you are a 1st through 4th grade boy and are interested, Please contact the church office, at 419-332-1558.



***DON'T FORGET:*** If you are heading to a warmer climate for the winter months, please let the church office know your “Winter” address. We want to keep you updated on Grace happenings!

# *Thank You's*

When faced with surgery and hospitalization, one quickly finds out how important it is to have supportive friends. Our Grace Lutheran Church friends helped Dan through the days in the hospital. Prayers, visits, and cards helped and we thank you all. Later, the soup and prayer shawl reminded us how important Grace Lutheran Church is to us. Thanks for your kind concern.

*Dan and Carol Polter*

We would like to thank all the members of Grace Lutheran Church for their prayers and cards during the loss of our brother, Don. Also, thank you to Lyle Smith for the Chicken Noodle soup. God's blessings to all in this blessed Christmas season.

*The family of Donald Klohn*

To Grace Lutheran Church,  
I would like to thank you for all the prayers and cards, and to Pastor Keith, for his visits while I was in the hospital. I am recovering slowly and would appreciate your continued prayers.

*Alan Pump*

We wish to thank our church family and friends for the many prayers for Tracy. We greatly appreciate it. We would also like to thank Pastor Keith for his home visit and prayer with our family. It really helped lift our spirits and hope. A special thank you to the Jess family and the church for the chicken soup. Thank you again. God be with you all.

*Tracy & Kim Jones & family*

To everyone at Grace Lutheran Church,  
Thank you so much for all of the thoughts, prayers, phone calls, and cards that I received after my surgery. Thank you to Maureen for the prayer shawl and visit at my house. All of your support has meant so much to me and has truly helped me on my road to recovery. I am so very blessed to be part of Grace Lutheran Church and to have all of you in my life!

*Jeannie Bilger*



# January Birthdays

January 2	Marv Meyer	1938 Tiffin Rd.
January 3	Patrick O'Brien	1715 S. Buchanan St.
January 5	Avonelle Lotycz	Elmwood Of Fremont 1545 Fangboner Rd.
January 7	Carl Cooley	1840 Morrison Rd.
January 9	Loretta Sieberg	429 Morrison St.
January 9	Evelyn White	609 Whittlesey St.
January 10	Lois Oberst	2104 Elm Dr.
January 12	Irv Klohn	1324 McPherson Blvd.
January 15	Louise Craig	Elmwood Assisted Living,Rm.224 430 N. Broadway Green Springs, OH 44836
January 15	Helen Zilles	131 Berkshire Dr.
January 17	Ron Schmitz	2999 N. ST. Rte. 19
January 21	Margaret Minich	3730 Smith Rd.
January 22	Sharon Kinkaid	209 E. CR 73
January 23	Tillie Hetrick	Valley View Care Ctr.,Rm. 102 825 June St.
January 28	Wayne Druckenmiller	740 CR 212, Lot 71
January 28	Marian Mach	1620 Williams Dr.
January 28	William Sherick	1407 Rosewood
January 29	Ruth Gray	256 E. Bayview Dr. Port Clinton, OH 43452



## ALTAR GUILD FOR JANUARY

Sharon Zilles and Amy Lamson



**DISCHARGED**

Paul Fick  
Joan Sachs  
Grace Clulow  
Kayleen Durell  
Cal Olmstead  
Jeanice Olmstead



December 11, 2011 ~ *Kayden James Havens,  
Karlee Jean Havens,  
and Kinlee Marie Havens*

Children of Anthony Havens & Cheyanne Baumert



*Kari Burmeister & Jeremy Hagemeyer,*  
November 19, 2011



**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 18, 2012**

The newsletter will be assembled  
on Thursday, January 26.

**All end of year donations must be turned in to the church office by  
noon on Thursday, December 29 to be credited for 2011.**

***The Church Office will be closed Monday,  
December 26, 2011 and Monday, January 2, 2012.  
Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and  
a wonderful New Year!***

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

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

**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, 419-332-1558  
E-mail: [gracefremont@yahoo.com](mailto:gracefremont@yahoo.com)  
Web page: [www.gracefremont.org](http://www.gracefremont.org)

Keith A. Hunsinger, Interim Senior Pastor  
[pastorkah@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorkah@hotmail.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 Baumer, Office Administrator  
[billerlinda@yahoo.com](mailto:billerlinda@yahoo.com)

Sue Laeng, Financial Administrator  
[gracefremont@yahoo.com](mailto:gracefremont@yahoo.com)

Stacey Reau, Part-time Youth Minister - Preschool-6th grade  
[stacey.reau@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.reau@gmail.com)

Laurie Buchele, Interim Youth Minister - 7th-12th grades  
[klbuchele@aol.com](mailto:klbuchele@aol.com)

Tricia McElfresh, Director, Noah's Ark Preschool  
[noahs\\_ark\\_fremont@yahoo.com](mailto:noahs_ark_fremont@yahoo.com)

**SUNDAY**

**MONDAY**






**TUESDAY**


**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

 <p>10:00 - Worship/Carol Sing 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p><b>OFFICE CLOSED</b></p>		<p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 5:30 - Kids' Clubs 6:00 - Kids' Choir/Study Hall 6:00 - Adult Groups 6:45 - Catechism 7:30 - Bells 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>11:30 - Soup Kitchen 6:00 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>Epiphany</p>	<p>5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion</p>
<p>7:45 - Worship/Holy Communion 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 11:30-1 - Bubble Bath Event 1st - 6th graders 6-8 - Encounter 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>9:00 - Project Day 9:30 - MOPS 1:00 - Bible Study - Lounge 7:00 - Boy Scouts 7:00 - Church Council Devotions 7:15 - Standing Committees 7:30 - Dartball @ St. Paul's 8:15 - Church Council</p>	<p>1:30 - Daughter's Circle - Lounge</p>	<p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 5:30 - Kids' Clubs 6:00 - Kids' Choir/Study Hall 6:00 - Adult Groups 6:45 - Catechism 7:30 - Bells 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>11:30 - Soup Kitchen  6:00 - Women's Bible Study</p>		<p>5:00 - Worship 6:30 - Dinner Theater</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>1:00 - Bible Study - Lounge</p>	<p>7:15 - Joy Circle @ home of Carol Klohn</p>	<p><b>"G&amp;T" DEADLINE</b> 5:00 - Spirit Meal 5:30 - Kids' Clubs 6:00 - Kids' Choir/Study Hall 6:00 - Adult Groups No Catechism Class Tonight 7:30 - Bells 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>11:30 - Soup Kitchen 6:00 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>6-8 - All Boys' Game Night - Auditorium</p>	 <p>9:30 - 3:30 - Crafting for a Cause - Dining Room 5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion/ Mission Moment</p>
<p>7:45 - Worship/Holy Communion/ Mission Moment 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion/Baptism/ Mission Moment 6-8 - The Road 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>9:00 - Project Day 9:30 - MOPS 1:00 - Bible Study - Lounge 7:00 - Boy Scouts 7:00 - GLCW Board Meeting 7:30 - Dartball @ Hessville</p>		<p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 5:30 - Kids' Clubs 6:00 - Kids' Choir/Study Hall 6:00 - Adult Groups 6:45 - Catechism 7:30 - Bells 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p><b>"G&amp;T" ASSEMBLED</b>  11:30 - Soup Kitchen 6:00 - Women's Bible Study</p>		<p>5:00 - Worship</p>
<p>7:45 - Worship 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion/Baptism <b>11:15 - Annual Meeting</b> 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>1:00 - Bible Study - Lounge</p>					



# January

## 2012

### **GREETERS**

#### January 15 & 29 (No 7:45 Service on Jan. 1)

7:45 - C. Klohn (Front)  
M/M D. Polter (Baptistry)  
D. Burkett(Chapel)

#### January 1, 15, 29

10:00 - M/M D. Cooper (Front)  
R. Gray (Baptistry)  
L. Halm (Chapel)

#### January 8 & 22

7:45 - M/M R. Baumer (Front)  
M/M D. O'Donnell (Baptistry)  
M/M M. Damschroder (Chapel)

10:00 - M/M D. Linder (Front)  
D. Morehart (Baptistry)  
T. McElfresh (Chapel)

### **USHERS**

#### January 8, 15, 22, 29 (No 7:45 Service on Jan. 1)

7:45 - G. Dupey  
R. Schmitz  
D. Zilles  
P. Pelphrey

#### January 1, 15, 29

10:00 - T. Shanahan  
T. Troxel  
B. Williams  
G. Nossaman

#### January 8 & 22

10:00 - D & S Burmeister  
T & P Karle

### **JANUARY 1, 2012 - New Year's Day - 10:00 service only**

ACOLYTES: 10:00 - Mike Muffler, Emily Muffler, Meredith Troxel  
DEACONS: 10:00 - B. Seibert, K. Watkins, W. Lamson, J. Dorr  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The McElfresh Family  
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00) D. Prasuhn(10:00)

### **JANUARY 8**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Dirk Gross, Jonathan Lotycz  
10:00 - Bryce Moreno, Matt Miller, Logan Kessler  
DEACONS: 7:45 - L. Widmer, S. Babione, J. Brock, J. Dupey, J. Dorr, S. Farrell  
10:00 - D. Linder, S. Nossaman, D. Polter, L. Sachs  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - L & J Overmyer, B. Prasuhn, G. Rumball  
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), M. McElfresh(10:00)

### **JANUARY 15**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Jacob Moses, AJ Mehlow  
10:00 - Collin Rieman, Tommy Bousquet, Walker Cooper  
DEACONS: 7:45 - R. House, L. Martin, B. Klohn, B. Seibert  
10:00 - B. Armstrong, M. Bower, E. Chambers, E.. Dabrunz  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Wiersma Family, L. Merrill  
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger (5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Pump (10:00)

### **JANUARY 22**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Kendra Buchele, Meagan Buchele  
10:00 - Carly Wiersma, Kortni Lagrou, Lindsay Lagrou  
DEACONS: 7:45 - K. Watkins, L. Widmer, S. Babione, J. Brock, J. Dorr, J. Dupey  
10:00 - J. Harris, W. Lamson, D. Linder, S. Nossaman  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - S. Brickner, F. Keller, N. Mayer, G. Rumball  
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), E. Muffler(10:00)

### **JANUARY 29**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Hannah Nelson, Morgan Durell  
10:00 - Megan Hawk, Morgan Hawk, Alaina Klingman  
DEACONS: 7:45 - S. Farrell, R. House, L. Martin, B. Klohn  
10:00 - D. Polter, L. Sachs, B. Armstrong, M. Bower  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Gedeon Family  
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Prasuhn(10:00)

### **FEBRUARY 5**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Lexi Johnson, Cody Johnson  
10:00 - Bailey Eishen, Emily Kerns, Kellie Auen  
DEACONS: 7:45 - B. Seibert, K. Watkins, L. Widmer, S. Babione  
10:00 - E. Chambers, E. Dabrunz, J. Harris, W. Lamson  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Jess Family  
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), M. McElfresh(10:00)