

*"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

JUNE 2013

Grace Lutheran Church, Fremont, OH



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2013

It's a backyard Bible Bash!!

Monday, June 17th- Friday, June 21st from 9am-Noon

**Celebration Program on Thursday, June 20th
at 7:00pm at St. John's Lutheran**

Grace Lutheran Church will be transformed into a lively camp for Vacation Bible School this year! Kids from Grace and St. John's Lutheran will grab their camping gear and their friends as they are inspired to serve together. Serve those in their home, their community and their world!

During the five morning sessions, children will rotate through learning stations in "crews", lead by an adult or responsible teen. "Clothesline Creations" will be a station where kids can make items to serve orphans in Tanzania. With large-group music, skits, and activities, kids will be introduced to a new Bible story and service theme each morning. There will even be a celebration program on Thursday evening at St. John's Lutheran Church! So, grab your sunscreen and your gear because it will be one exciting week!



THE CATS ON MY PORCH



Well I don't know if many of you know, but Jeff and I used to care for many cats. At our last congregation in Cole Camp, MO, we kind of inherited them from a family who lived near the church. We knew from the start that there were only three choices we could make. First we could let them starve...and if anyone knows us well they know that we could never do that. Secondly we could have them put down. However that has never been an option for us either! And so we decided to care and love those animals that were left behind without a home.

We started out with just a few, but unfortunately we ended up with a few more, 13 of them! If we could have just caught that one female cat, we could have stopped all that foolishness!

They were mostly all wild. We were not able to touch most of them. They were afraid of us and ran when they saw us. They would have liked to be petted, but it seemed that this would have been too big a risk for them. They were however very enjoyable to watch. They would run and play. They would hunt. They would dart around, sometimes in circles, without any care in the world. They were just hilarious to watch.

We fell in love with one kitten...one we saved from sure death. It seemed to know of our love because he would let us pet him and baby him. As a matter of fact, we brought him with us to Ohio. We call him Baby.

These beautiful creatures always reminded me of people. We too often like to play and hunt. We often wander about without a care in the world. However when things become risky, we can be skittish and afraid at times. We don't want to take too many chances. The Good News is that we have a God who cares for us. No matter what we do or how far we wander off, God is always there since God loves us!

This love is called **Grace**. Grace is a beautiful word. It is truly a great Biblical truth. It is a word and concept without which man's salvation would be impossible. It is an undeserved free gift, undeserved favor and undeserved love. Only through Jesus Christ we are offered **grace**. May you always embrace the love of God!

And Old Irish Blessing:

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Pr. Jody Rice

Upcoming Activities



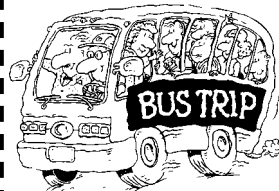
GRACE
FELLOWSHIP

GRACE FELLOWSHIP will welcome a speaker from Youth for Christ of Northern Ohio for the June 11 meeting. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the lounge. Please join us for a very interesting program!



**Ladies
Retreat**

All women are invited to a one-day retreat at the home of Becky Seibert from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, July 16. The morning Bible study session will begin at 9 a.m. Lunch will conclude the morning session. The afternoon Bible study will begin at 1 p.m. Participants are invited to stay the whole day or for as long as their schedule allows. Lunch and study materials will be provided. To make a reservation please call Yvonne Vogel at 419-332-3544 or 419-307-1774 or Jan Serwin at 419-334-8289.



AN AMISH BUS TOUR of Lancaster, PA is scheduled for August 6 & 7. The cost of the trip is \$275 per person/double occupancy, \$260/triple occupancy, \$250/quadruple occupancy, and \$325 single occupancy. A deposit of \$100 is due by **June 10** and the balance by July 1. The cost of the trip includes: 1 night's lodging, 3 meals, 2 shows, attractions, and tips. For more information or to register call Marion Bower at 419-332-3259. Please mail registration and payment to Marion Bower, 2951 E. State St., Fremont. Please make checks payable to R & R Tours, sorry no credit cards.

FOUR LUTHERAN AGENCY GOLF OUTINGS is scheduled for Friday, July 12. The event will start at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start and will take place at Stone Ridge Golf Club, 1553 Muirfield Dr., Bowling Green. The cost is \$85 per golfer and the deadline to sign up is July 5. For more information contact Joyce Miller at 419-726-8653 or 419-350-4809.





Crafting for a Cause will meet on Saturday, June 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the dining room. A freewill donation will be collected for the use of your space to benefit My Brother's Keeper. This event is open to crafters of all ages and abilities.

For more information contact Cheryl Paeth by email at cheryl.a.paeth@gmail.com or by phone at 402-850-1581.



We will be starting our **FIFTH SUNDAYS** on June 30th. We will be gathering as the One Body of Christ on that day! What that means is that we will have one service on Sunday at 9 am to celebrate together. We will have a tribute to July 4th and even hot dogs and ice cream in the courtyard after service. So mark your calendar now!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! On Sunday, September 29, we will be having a Family Reunion out at Misty Meadows. We would like every member to join us for worship, a chicken BBQ, and fun and games. We will also be with our brothers and sisters from Faith, St. John's, St. Mark's, and Trinity. We will be asking everyone to bring a dish to share. Watch for more details! This will be a glorious day for the Lord!

29th Annual Summer Music Series Tuesdays at Trinity 2013

Tuesday, June 4 - Raise Choir, directed by Raymond Wise, will perform at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 11 - Brass Band of Columbus, directed by Brian Stevens, will perform at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 18 - Jazz Concert by Tom Battenberg & Friends, will perform at 7:30 p.m.

Performances will be held at the Gloria Dei Worship Center at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2199 E. Main St., Columbus.

Parking is free and a freewill offering will be collected.

For more information call 614-235-4136.

We welcomed the following new members into our church family on Sunday, May 5.

Tammy Baer, lives in Fremont and attends MACC. Tammy likes to be with people.



Richard and Annette Gray, live in Fremont. They have three children and are raising their grandchildren, McKenzie, Jabari and Emmanuel. Richard is a former employee of Green Bay. Annette is a former employee of Ludlow Composite. Annette enjoys flower gardening, motorcycle riding, and spending time with their grandchildren.

Stephanie Moore, lives in Clyde with her parents and brother. She is a member of Key Club and Science Club, and she also helps with Bingo at the Arbors Nursing Home. She plays basketball, softball, cross country, and soccer.

Anthony and Christina Raifsnider, live in Fremont and are parents to seven children: Ashlei, Adrian, Chasity, Chase, Chelsie, Blake, and Anthony. Tony works for Revere Plastic and Christina works for the Catawba Island Club. Christina enjoys singing, spending time with her family, and scrapbooking. Tony enjoys playing games and taking care of their lawn.

Thomas Savage, lives in Fremont with his wife Marlene. Tom is a retired general manager at a wall paper factory. He enjoys playing golf and walking.

Joshua and Heather Tullis, live in Fremont with their daughter Lanie. Joshua works for Artiflex Manufacturing and Heather is a Nursery Minister at Grace and also works in housekeeping at two area hotels. Joshua is a member of the Praise Team and he enjoys watching sports.

Rita (Lehman Merrill) White, is a former member of Grace and is now returning "home." Rita is retired as manager of the local VFW. Her daughter-in-law is Linda Merrill. She enjoys gardening and completing crossword puzzles.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund
As of April, 2013

	<u>2013 Actual</u>	<u>2013 Budget</u>	<u>2012 Actual</u>
Year to date receipts:	\$ 147,840.29	\$ 145,785.99	\$ 137,503.46
Year to date expenses:	\$ 142,112.49	\$ 148,212.77	\$ 132,264.61
Receipts less expenses:	\$ 5,727.80	\$ (2,426.78)	\$ 5,238.85

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Baumer
Office Administrator

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES from May 13, 2013

- Mutual Ministry Committee will meet June 12.
- Constitution Revision Task Force has finished with Revisions for the Constitution and Bylaws and will begin review of the employee handbook.
- Love Your Neighbor Day was April 27; 35 volunteers were from Grace and many projects were completed.
- New members were received April 28 and May 5.
- Membership Updates:
 - Affirmation of Faith: Tammy Baer, Richard & Annette Gray, Stephanie Moore, Anthony & Christina Raifsnider, Thomas Savage, Joshua & Heather Tullis, Rita White
 - Adult Baptism: Christina Raifsnider, Heather Tullis
 - Baptism: Chasity Gilbert, Chase Gilbert, Chelsie Gilbert, Anthony C. Raifsnider, Emmanuel Heidelberg, Grayson Ortmann
 - Transfer Out: William & Leah Stines to First United Methodist Church, Clyde
- Technology update - Web page updating continues and an updated phone system will be installed.
- Confirmation, May 19 - 8 youth will be confirmed.
- Graduation Recognition of high school & college grads - June 2
- President Jim Scranton thanked the Nominating Committee for all their hard work. Election Results: Dave Cooper, Jan Harris, Roger Haynes, Cheryl Paeth, Tanya Schling, Cindy Waggoner, and Bob Williams



(Council Notes continued.)

CHRISTIAN MISSION/OUTREACH

- Mission Moment on 3rd Sunday - Hospice of Memorial Hospital
- June 15 - first Farmer's Market
- Gave out 5 soups and 2 prayer shawls
- Collected \$500 for the Soup Kitchen from Mission Sunday
- 50 ladies attended Women's Spring Brunch on May 11
- Special Events Committee Meeting, May 20.

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

- Working with Stewardship Committee on new pictorial directory. Will be meeting with 2 companies.
- Will award Acolyte gifts on June 2 at Senior Recognition breakfast.

CHRISTIAN PROPERTY

- Altar area tiles to be cleaned end of May, into June.
- New Grace sign being designed to incorporate Noah's Ark and MOPS
- 2 parking lots to be sealed and striped
- Replaced 6 fire extinguishers
- Two trees were removed

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

- Will meet with Pr. Jody and Maureen to review draft of stewardship brochure.

CHRISTIAN YOUTH

- Vacation Bible School to be held at Grace, June 17-21 along with St. John's. There will be no Sunday program, but a Thursday evening program will be held at St. John's at 7pm.
- May 19 - Confirmation Breakfast
- June 2 - Senior Graduates recognition - congregation is invited; RSVP's needed.
- Middle School kids - trip to Mohican State Park, July 24-25. Information meeting, June 2.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following people elected to serve on Church Council, 2013 - 2016:

Dave Cooper, Jan Harris, Roger Haynes, Cheryl Paeth,
Tanya Schling, Cindy Waggoner, and Bob Williams.

LIFT – Lutherans Involved in Fremont Together

Last month 80 members from five local Lutheran Churches met at the first L.I.F.T retreat. Participants shared and dreamed about a vision for the future and where God was leading us. As the meeting came to a close we created a recap for each small group. Below is the recap for the “Children, Youth, and Family” group.

From the Children, Youth and Family Team, here are their comments:

STRENGTHS OF SMALL GROUP 1

- All areas are supporting our mission
- Local Mission Walk
- Buck a Chick for ELCA World Hunger Appeal
- School Supply Giveaway
- School Uniform Giveaways

IMPROVEMENTS FOR SMALL GROUP 1

- Better Communication
- Reach High School Age Children
- Get families trained to take Church into the home
- Open up new doors (avenues) for people to come to church
 - single parents
 - grandparents
 - couples
- Do a dinner theatre to involve kids and adults or a talent show
- Family Fun Day
- Drive-in Movie night (only walk-in)
- Trunk or Treats
- Camp over at church with activities
- Better communication
- Doing things together

BARRIERS TO OVERCOME

- Resistance to change
- Demographic gap
- Lack of school cooperation

PURPOSE/PROJECT/IDEAS FOR FUTURE

- Sports teams based at church
 - Wii bowling
 - Cornhole
 - Dartball

L.I.F.T continued.

- T-ball Team
- Golf outings
- Game night
- Movie night
- Bowling
- Sharing resources and ideas
- Share teachers (take the show on the road)
- Incorporate texting and web addresses to reach the kids
- Facebook page reminders
- Create groups and activities to large age group we are missing
- Develop a worship atmosphere for 20-40 year olds
- Enhance communication with web page to unite churches in our activities

Things liked the best about this retreat are:

- Discussing ideas and ways to work together to achieve God's work - 8*
- The guest speaker - 7*
- Getting together with all Lutheran churches - 4*
- Working toward the future - 3*
- Meeting new people - 2*
- Seeing familiar faces haven't seen in awhile
- Enthusiasm for Youth
- Jesus wasn't alone and we aren't either
- Strength in numbers
- People were open and nice
- We all have the same concerns and barriers—we're not alone
- Great turn out
- Realizing change is needed
- Talking to those that have the same job or interest

Next month's Grace and Truth will feature comments from another L.I.F.T group!

* Please note - The numbers after each comment indicate the number of people that made that suggestion.

ARE YOU MISSING ANY DISHES?

There is a collection of dishes in the church kitchen that has been accumulating from funeral luncheons. If you are missing a dish please take a moment to stop and check. Dishes can be found in the storage room behind the kitchen.

A NOTE ABOUT "CHOICE DOLLARS" FROM THRIVENT

Grace has received a total of \$6,173 in "Choice Dollars" from you and Thrivent Financial. For the entire year we received \$7,120. We thank everyone who has taken the time to allocate this money. This year's money can be dedicated to your favorite nonprofit organization quarterly beginning in April. The easiest way to designate these funds is to call 1-800-847-4836. When prompted say "Thrivent Choice." When prompted again say "Choice Dollars." A representative can process your request to direct your money. Grace certainly appreciates the funds that are directed to us. We encourage you to allocate these funds, even if you wish to name another charity. All must be directed by March 31, 2014, if you wish to take advantage of this program.

HELP DEFEND YOURSELF AGAINST IDENTITY THEFT

If you're among the millions of Americans who have had their identities stolen, you know what a headache, and potential financial loss, it can be. Now, if you are a member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, you can access an identity protection plan FREE or at a significant discount. This is yours as a benefit of your membership. Get access to:

- Daily credit report monitoring.
- Identity Theft Resolution Agents.
- Identity theft insurance and more.

Learn more about this membership benefit offered through Experian's® ProtectMyID®, including disclosure information.
Visit Thrivent.com/idprotection.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you !

One act of generosity leads to another. And the impact grows. Thanks to the members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, that's what we've experienced through the Thrivent Choice Program. Many of you directed your designated Choice Dollars to Grace Lutheran Church. Through your individual recommendation, you have made a difference. Collectively, Thrivent Financial members have helped us continue our important mission.
Thank you for your support and generosity.



Take some time to check out what's new in our Church Library...
from **CRAZY TALK**

Bishop: An overseer of Christians who can be pretty effective—provided he or she remembers who's really in charge.

Blessing: The act or words by which one bestows favor on someone who certainly hasn't earned it but probably thinks he deserves it; an action or gift that is a sign of divine favor.

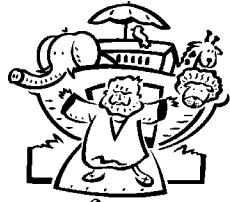


FLOWER DELIVERY NEEDED:

We have such lovely flowers on Sunday morning and it is a shame to see them just sit and wilt at the church. A bouquet of flowers from the church says we care and we are thinking of you. If you are able to help get the flowers out to members who would enjoy them let the office know at 332-1558. The goal is to have them delivered either on Sunday after the late service or on Monday mornings.



All VBS VOLUNTEERS are asked to please attend a volunteer meeting on Tuesday, June 4th at 7:00pm in the church lounge. Crew Leaders (teachers) will receive their teaching material and we will also meet our friends from St. Johns who will be working with us during the week of VBS.



Noah's Ark

Aboard Noah's Ark Preschool this month, we have been on several field trips. We visited the Fremont Fire Department and had a great time with Chief Burmeister and Firefighter Doug! We even got to spray the fire hose!

Visiting the Hayes Home was interesting, although it was very difficult not to touch all of the many beautiful and strange things we saw there. It's a good thing we got to walk to Birchard Park afterwards for some run-around play time and a snack!

We picked out and potted flowers from Schmittuz Gardens for our moms, and had a program for all of our parents. Ms. Frieda made her world-famous cinnamon rolls, which are as big as our heads!! YUM!

As this article is written, we are looking forward to the Things that GO show on May 18. Thank you to our many supporters, especially Hasselbach Meats for the hot dogs!

We will go to Connor Park for a picnic to celebrate the end of a great school year on May 21, and many of us will officially graduate on May 22. Our graduates include: Brook Baacke, Jayci Billow, Lilly Halbeisen, Riley Halbeisen, Landon Hanover, Laine Hatfield, Dylan Isaacs, Braylon Jordan, Braxtyn Jordan, Brooklyn Reau, Briallen Reau, Nolan Reed, Jack Reyna, Miley Sheidler, Laura Stawowy, Anya Stuart. We wish them God's many blessings in kindergarten and beyond!

Noah's Ark Preschool is now a Step Up to Quality Rated Preschool. We are very proud of the hard work it took to get this rating, and know that it will be an asset to us as families are choosing a preschool for their little ones.

For information on the preschool or to enroll a student, please call the church office or email noahs_ark_fremont@yahoo.com. Thanks for a great year!

Serving God's children,
Tricia McElfresh, Administrator

YOUTH NEWS

There will be no summer Sunday school for kids/youth on June 23.

Hey Kids!! Don't forget about Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in the auditorium! There is never a dull moment and exciting games, music and videos are waiting for you!

A note about youth activities: There are sign-up sheets in the Activities office for each individual upcoming youth event. If you know you are going to attend an event, please write your name on the sheet. Even if it is a possibility that you may attend, please write your name down. This will enable Stacey and the several volunteers who prepare events to plan accordingly. Thank you!!



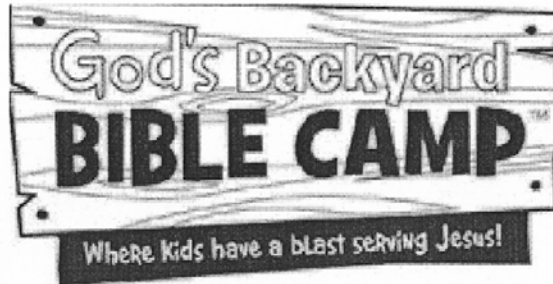
*Celebrating Their
Confirmation*

WE THANK GOD for the faith of the following young people who were confirmed during the 10:00 worship service on May 19:

Grant Gallagher
Morgan Hawk
Matthew Hutton
Cydne Jess
Alicia Klohn
Paul Mowry
Kristen Widman
Carolyn Wiersma

**GET READY FOR AN OUTDOOR
ADVENTURE!**

**Needed: People willing to share their gifts and
time with the young people of our church.**



JUNE 17TH-21ST

During the 9:00-12:00 time:

Registration (8:15-9:15 M&T)

Crew Leader (Age Choice: _____)

***The Crew Leader is someone to be a friend and to guide the
children to their next activity***

Crew Helper (Age Choice: _____)

Crafts Helper

Preschool craft helper

Recreation Helper

Snack Preparation and Server

Nursery

Music Helper

Planning and Set-up

Name _____

Phone umber _____

T-Shirt Size _____

God's Backyard Bible Camp Registration Form

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Grade Completed _____ Age _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

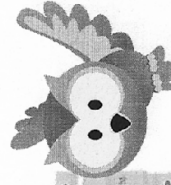
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

Emergency Contact Name and Number _____

Special Needs/Allergies _____

Is there a special friend your child would like to be with? _____

Class/Crew Assignment
(completed by church)

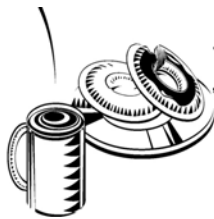




MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH CELEBRATE SUMMER!

All Middle and High School Youth are invited to a party on Saturday, May 25 at the Reau home, 2080 Christy Rd. We will meet from 7-9 p.m. to celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of summer break! There will be food, friends, a campfire and adventure waiting for you! Please sign up on the bulletin board next to the activities office if you plan on attending! Thank you!

LITTLE LAMBS & LITTLE LUTHERANS (1st-5th graders) will have a party on Friday, May 31 to celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of summer break! We will meet at the Reau home, 2080 Christy Rd. for fun, games, friends and a campfire from 7-9 p.m.! If you plan on attending, please sign up on the bulletin board next to the activities office. Thank you!!



There is a celebration breakfast planned for Sunday, June 2 at 9 a.m., in the church dining room, to honor graduating seniors! Everyone is invited to celebrate with the seniors their accomplishment! Please call the church office, 419-332-1558, to RSVP before May 28. Thank you!



There will be a meeting on Sunday, June 2 in the church dining room, immediately following the late worship service, for all middle school youth and their parents interested in an overnight July trip! On July 24 and 25 all interested middle school youth (those currently in 6th-8th grade) will travel to Loudonville for rafting/tubing and on the way home we will stop for paintball! Details will be discussed at the meeting.

BOX CITY 2013 IS COMING SOON...All kids, youth and families are invited to participate in the Liberty Center's Box City! This is a fundraiser and awareness event for the homeless in the Sandusky County area. Box City is a great time for participants to reflect on how blessed they are and to remember to appreciate what they have. To participate, each individual will be in charge of collecting sponsors for the night. Participants will sleep in a box on the night of June 7, at the Eastside Park on St. Joseph Street. The event will start at 5:30 p.m. through 8 a.m. on June 8. Any kids (1st-5th graders) who want to try this event out must have a parent attend with them. Middle and high school youth that are interested are asked to contact Stacey Reau **immediately** if they wish to participate. Adult chaperones will also be needed for this event. Thank you!



TOT TIME will be meeting on Saturday, June 15 at 10:30 a.m. in the church lounge! This is a great opportunity for all infants through preschoolers (with an adult) to participate in story time, finger plays and a craft!

CALLING ALL CREATIVE MINDS. . . The Youth Committee would love to organize a float for the Fort Stephenson Bicentennial Commission Grand Parade on Saturday, August 3rd advertising our youth and our activities! If you love creating and crafting, then we need you! Please contact Stacey Reau, in the church office or at 419-307-3567, if you would like to help organize this event.



Please keep in mind the **Student Uniform Exchange Room**, located right across from the church library! You can pick-up what your child needs or drop off what your child has outgrown. Every day the selection seems to get bigger and bigger! This room is self-serve and is open on Sunday mornings and Monday-Friday from 10am-noon! Thank you!!

Youth Kickball



Thank you to all who helped make the first Grace Lutheran Church Kickball Tournament a success! Thank you to Walker Cooper, George Dupey, Matt Dupey, Grant Gallagher and Tj Laird for their commitment and enthusiasm in planning such an event! Thank you to the Greg and Heidi Gallagher family for their hard work producing an awesome promotional video! Thank you to Crown Battery for their generous donation of lunch for all of the players the day of the tournament! Thank you to Diane Hawk for securing dry fields at the last minute so that the tournament could be played! And thank you to all of the middle and high school youth that secured teams, played on a team and/or helped to advertise! Plans are in the works for another tournament in the fall. . . watch future newsletters for details!



Tournament

Thank You's

As the school year comes to an end, I would like to thank all of the committed and enthusiastic volunteers who help me out week after week! Thank you to Penny Russell, Tammy Sanchez, Heather Hawn, Tricia McElfresh, Cheryl Paeth, Sue Wiersma and George Dupey for teaching the Word of God to all of the eager little ears! Thank you to Annette Fisher and Lori Wise for holding down the fort in the Sunday school office! Thank you to Matt Dupey for being the "tech guy" for the large group openings every Sunday! Thank you to Robin Seem and Mary Kay Farrell for being available to sub whenever called upon! And thank you to Tricia Dabrunz, Vicki Lamb and Sabra Rakay for your willingness to teach and serve at Kids Clubs during Spirit! Each of you have been given the gift to teach and I appreciate your willingness to serve!

Blessings to each of you~ Stacey

The Fremont Soup Kitchen would like to thank the members of Grace Lutheran Church for your generous donation of \$500 to buy supplies for our pantry. With the increased cost for food and the number of people being fed we have to use our funds wisely. Thank you for your support.

God's Blessings,
The Fremont Soup Kitchen

We wish to thank Pastor Avers for his many visits and to everyone for their gifts to Grace Church, hospice, and for the food during the days that we were celebrating Rita's life.

Mel Schafer, Jay & Louise, and Donna & John

A heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to our friends at Grace for all of their prayers and cards during Ralph's struggle. Much love to Pastor Jody for her visits to Toledo and Valley View. Much love to Pastor Jim for his many visits, support and beautiful service given to Ralph through his last days and his final rest. Many, many thanks to the ladies of Grace who furnished such a delicious luncheon following the service. The comments and compliments were endless. Thank you to Linda and Tricia in the office. Thank you to Jim Gardner for the music.

God bless each and everyone of you.
The family of Ralph Cover
Evelyn Taylor & Lindy

For Your Information

MISSION SUNDAYS: On June 15 & 16 we will lift up Habitat for Humanity as our social ministry of the month. There will be a mission moment and an offering taken at the doors.

LOOK FOR GRACE AT THE FARMER'S MARKETS THIS SUMMER:

The dates we will be at the Downtown Farmer's Markets are June 15, August 17, and October 5. We will be giving out candy and information about Grace Church. Anyone interested in helping let Maureen know at maureenpump@yahoo.com.

WEDNESDAY SPIRIT ACTIVITIES HAVE ENDED FOR THE SEASON:

We have had a good year but it's time for a summer break! We will return in the fall with the meal, small groups for kids and adults, choirs, Confirmation, and worship! Yes, in the fall we will once again have Spirit Worship. Many of you have told us how much you miss the Prayer and Praise service so it will be back when we resume in September.

ALPHA:Alpha is a way to explore what we hunger after...meaning, intimacy and relationship..in a very non-pressured, non-judgemental environment. On May 5 Maureen Pump and Christine Schneider Smith attended an ALPHA training. We will be working with the other LIFT churches to put an ALPHA course in place over the coming months.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A GARDEN BUT DON'T HAVE THE SPACE?

Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church has garden plots available. The plots are 6'x12' and are free of charge. To sign up for garden space or for more information call Carolyn Geirger at 419-332-8680. A gardening Covenant must be signed and the rules of the covenant must be followed.




Wii BOWLING NEWS - The spring Wii Bowling League recently finished their season. Esther Chambers, Nancy Roddy, and Bill Armstrong were among the prize winners! Wii Bowling plays at St. John's. The league will start up again in the fall. Maybe we can get enough players to form a Grace Lutheran Team! All ages are welcome and it is great fun! If you are interested contact Bill Armstrong at 419-332-6588.



 THIS MONTH'S
birthdays

June 1	June Valent	1451 Oak Harbor Rd., #4B
June 5	Norbert Mayer	900 N. Woodland Ave., Apt 204 Clyde, OH
June 6	Charles Mowry	533 Third Ave.
June 11	Joan Peters	805 S. Buchanan St., Apt 101
June 18	Mary Redding	34 Shipwatch Rd., Savannah GA 31410
June 19	Arlene Bower	1369 S. St. Rt. 19
June 23	Marjorie Tanvas	916 North St., Apt. 11
June 25	Helen Harris	P.O. Box 817 Green Springs, 44836
June 27	Jeannine Graham	1740 Baker Rd.
June 30	Lil Zilles	1232 Clinton St.

ALTAR GUILD FOR JUNE	
	Mary Kay Farrell Candyce Wingard Susie Wing Sue Brickner Sharon Watkins

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

On Friday and Saturday, May 17 & 18, six representatives from Grace Lutheran Church attended the Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly in Bowling Green. In attendance was Marv Mullholand, Marcella & Les Widmer, Allison Schrader, Pr. Jim Avers and Pr. Jody Rice.

The theme this year was "One in Christ." The business of the church was handled quickly. We approved three resolutions.

1. A commitment to support those who are living with mental illness and their families.
2. A commitment to engage through prayer and action ministry with and among people living in poverty.
3. The NWOS pursue an Annual Appeal on an on-going basis in order to raise "second-mile giving" undesignated funds

We also approved the 2014 NWOS budget.

A great deal of time was spent reviewing the great accomplishments throughout the synod for new worshipping communities, mission partners, and Good News & Amen!

If you have any questions about the topics that were covered please feel free to ask anyone of the attendees.

Pastor Jody Rice.

THE LOVE OF CHRIST SHINES!

"Inside our home we are overwhelmed with happiness, thankfulness and uncontrollable crying, "tears of joy" of course while 4 men pamper our lawn." "I am in disbelief of your kindness." "My 83 year old mother said, "God is blessing you". These are statements made by one woman who experienced the love of Christ on Love Your Neighbor Day. On April 27, 261 volunteers, representing 11 congregations from our community, went out to help homeowners with tasks they were unable to do for themselves. Gutters were cleaned, painting was done, yards were cleaned up, and inside cleaning was carried out. At the end of the day every volunteer said they would do it again! And their chance, as well as yours, will be on September 28. See you at the next Love Your Neighbor Day!

OUTREACH & MISSIONS UPDATES

- The Liberty Center will be having their Box City on June 8 from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. Participants will sleep in a box to help the homeless by raising money through sponsors and helping make our community aware of the great need. A group of youth from Grace will be participating that evening so let's pray for them as well as for all who participate and consider acting as a sponsor. The Baumann Big charity raffle is going on and people are welcome to contact the Liberty Center at 419-332-8777 or Harry Aspacher at 419-680-6382 to buy tickets. The tickets are \$5.00 a piece. The Liberty Center served 24 people in the month of April. Volunteers are needed for child care during mandatory meetings, and people equipped to teach personal finance classes.
- Share and Care would like to remind everyone that they will gladly take the remains of your garage or yard sales! The center is in need of small appliances. No large chairs, couches, stoves or refrigerators. For these large items you can call Larry Rice at 419-332-6253. Larry will pick them up and take them to Destiny's Attic. They are also in need of pots, pans, dishes, kitchen utensils, knick-knacks, linens, fabrics and yarns. August is the month Grace Church will be working on Tuesdays.
- The Soup Kitchen serves a meal every Thursday from 11:30-12:30. They always need volunteers and if you are interested contact Diana Nevius at 419-637-2244 or Marcella Widmer 419-637-2181.
- The Bridge of Hope will be offering their English as Second Language classes this summer at Hayes United Methodist Church. They are in need of groups to bring in meals for small groups of people. Child care is also needed. Volunteers are needed for the summer Fiesta on July 28 at the church. Sandusky County Food Pantry is in need of dish soap, liquid laundry detergent, peanut butter, jelly, pears, spaghetti, canned vegetables, and canned fruit.

Festival of Homiletics

May 13 - 16, Pastor Jody attended the Festival of Homiletics in Nashville, TN. The theme of the event was "Preaching that Matters." There were 1800 pastors in attendance from all over the world and from every denomination. It was an awesome sight to behold!

The goals for the festival were to:

- Bring together a wide variety of outstanding preachers and professors of homiletics.
- Inspire a discourse about preaching, worship and culture.
- Engage issues related to the church in the 21st century.
- Invite individual preachers to consider various styles and methodologies of preaching
- Inspire preachers in their roles of proclaiming the gospel.

Thank you for allowing me to attend this incredible conference. My soul was fed.

Pastor Jody

GENTLEMEN, don't miss worship on Father's Day, June 16,
because all men will be recognized with a gift.

During the summer GLCW will be collecting items to fill school kits for Lutheran World Relief. School kits contain the following items: crayons (boxes of 16 or 24), erasers (2 ½ inches), notebooks (spiral with 70 sheets), and ruler (with centimeter markings), pencil sharpener, scissors (blunt/safety with steel blades), #2 pencils with erasers, ballpoint pens (no gel inks).



Newsletter
DEADLINE

**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS JUNE 12.**

**The newsletter will be assembled
on Thursday, June 20, 2013.**



Ralph Cover

Rita Shafer

Kaye Willey



May 5 - Christina Lynn Raifsnider.

May 5 - Heather Marie Tullis.

May 5 - Chasity LaRae Nicole Gilbert, Chase Michael Gilbert, Chelsie RaeLyn Gilbert, Anthony Cayden Raifsnider, children of Anthony & Christina Raifsnider.

May 5 - Emmanuel Robert Heidelberg, son of Emmanuel & Stephanie Heidelberg.

May 5 - Greyson Steven Wayne Ortmann, son of Anthony & Meghan (Smith) Ortmann.

PLEASE NOTE: For anyone wishing to schedule a baptism, please contact Linda in the church office, 419-332-1558. Please be aware that due to parents' and families' schedules, there may be several baptisms on any given Saturday or Sunday.

VOLUNTEERS JOIN FORCES TO AID FREMONT HOMEOWNERS AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

On Saturday, April 27, more than 250 volunteers from 11 Fremont Christian churches joined forces to respond to their neighbors' needs in a semi-annual event called "Love Your Neighbor Day."

One team of volunteers performed a deep cleaning at Share and Care, a nonprofit organization providing low-cost and free clothing and household items as well as other charitable services to those in need. Other volunteers, wearing distinctive yellow t-shirts, spread out in teams to shampoo carpets and clean toys at Village House and organize rooms at Pontifex. A larger crew spent the morning clearing branches and brush and mowing at Misty Meadows Campfire Camp. New this spring, a group of 20 volunteers visited three nursing homes to assist residents in craft projects, bingo games and fellowship.

In addition, approximately 50 homeowners received assistance with home maintenance, upkeep and yard work projects. One homeowner felt "overwhelmed with happiness and thankfulness" while four men "pampered my lawn....The sound of those mowers was music to my ears!" Many homeowners who needed extra assistance appreciated having their windows washed, their gutters cleaned out, walls washed and painted.

Following the morning of service, volunteers gathered for a potluck lunch provided by Jimmy G's Barbecue and various members from the participating churches. Reminiscent of Jesus' feeding of the 5000, the tables really did overflow with an abundance of food, with the excess delivered to Liberty Center Homeless Shelter.

Love Your Neighbor Day grew out of discussions among a consortium of the five Lutheran churches in Fremont (St. John's, St. Mark, Trinity, Faith and Grace) about how to respond to community needs. The first Love Your Neighbor Day occurred in October 2011. Since then, volunteers from Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church, Journey Church, Fremont Church of the Nazarene, New Hope Vineyard, First Brethren, First Presbyterian and Spanish Church of God have also joined this community outreach project, under the auspices of the Fremont Ministry Association. Thrivent Financial, Jimmy G's and Kroger also provided financial and in-kind support.

Volunteers say that they are engaged in this work as a way of paying forward the blessings of God in their own lives. Coordinator Katy Ross explained, "We don't have to travel overseas to be involved in God's mission work. Participants in Love Your Neighbor Day experience the joy of working together as the Body of Christ while sharing their God-given talents for the benefit of others right here in Fremont." The next Love Your Neighbor Day is planned for Saturday, September 28, 2013.



Grace Lutheran Church
705 West State Street
Fremont, OH 43420

Non-Profit
Paid
Fremont, OH
Permit #133

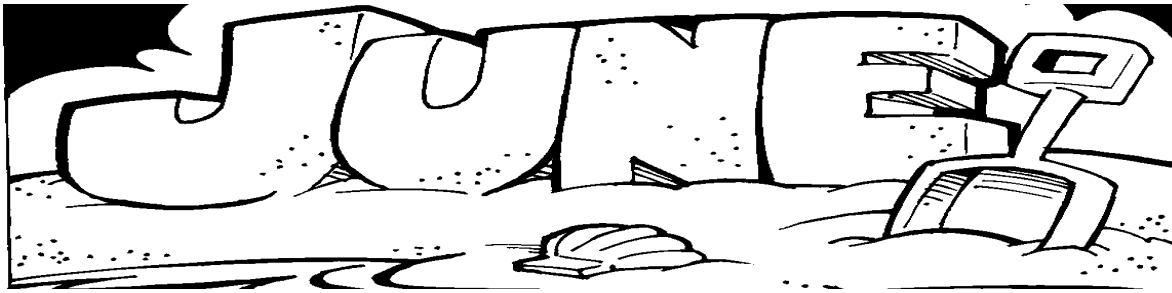
Return Service Requested

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-4:00pm, M-F, 419-332-1558
E-mail: gracefremont@yahoo.com
Web page: www.gracefremont.org

Jody Rice, Senior Pastor
jjrice2002@yahoo.com
James Avers, Visitation Pastor
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Maureen Pump, Lay Associate Minister
MaureenPump@yahoo.com
Linda Baumer, Office Manager
gracefremont@yahoo.com
Tricia Dabrunz, Secretary/Receptionist
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com
Stacey Reau, Part-time Youth Minister - Preschool-6th grade
stacey.reau@gmail.com
Tricia McElfresh, Director, Noah's Ark Preschool
noahs_ark_fremont@yahoo.com



GREETERS

June 2, 16, & 30 (9:00)

7:45 - D. & C. Polter (Front)
J. Sachs (Baptistry)
S. Watkins (Chapel)

10:00 - D. & R. Cooper (Front)
J. & D. Linder (Baptistry)
J. Overmyer (Chapel)

June 9 & 23

7:45 - B & P. Smith (Front)
M. Widmer (Baptistry)
J. Gangwer (Chapel)

10:00 - W. & A. Lamson (Front)
C. Slemmer (Baptistry)
N. Sloma (Chapel)

USHERS

June 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

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

June 2, 16, & 30 (9:00)

10:00 - D. Curliss
J. Havens
T. & P. Karle

June 9 & 23

10:00 - L. McElfresh
G. Nossaman
S. Nossaman
C. Amor

JUNE 2

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Isaac Fraley, Matt Dupey
10:00 - Grant Gallagher, Jack Gedeon, Eric Gedeon
DEACONS: 7:45 - D. Burmeister, C. Miller, J. Dorr, J. Dupey
10:00 - C. Amor, C. Miller
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - F. Keller, L. Merrill, B. Eishen, B. Prasuhn
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger (5:00), J. Oliver (7:45), E. Muffler (10:00)

JUNE 9

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Matt Dupey, Aaron Klohn
10:00 - Meredith Troxel, Carly Wiersma, Taylor Sachs
DEACONS: 7:45 - R. House, L. Martin, M. Klohn, B. Seibert
10:00 - E. Dabrunz, D. Linder
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - K. Saionz, L. Smith, C. Star, F. Keller
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), G. Dupey (7:45) D. Prasuhn (10:00)

JUNE 16

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Mallory Hutton, Matthew Hutton
10:00 - Kristen Widman, Sarah Widman, Cydne Jess
DEACONS: 7:45 - D. Knepper, D. Burmeister, C. Miller, J. Dorr
10:00 - S. Nossaman, L. Polter
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Gedeon Family
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger (5:00), L. Klohn (7:45), M. McElfresh (10:00)

JUNE 23

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Aaron Klohn, Alicia Klohn
10:00 - Megan Hawk, Morgan Hawk, Morgan Urban
DEACONS: 7:45 - J. Dupey, R. House, P. Karle, L. Martin
10:00 - D. Linder, E. Dabrunz
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Jess Family
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), G. Dupey (7:45), R. Hawn (10:00)




JUNE 30

9:00 Only

ACOLYTES: Matt Dupey, Isaac Fraley
DEACONS: C. Amor, S. Nossaman
COMMUNION ASSTS.: The Muffler Family
SOUND SYSTEM: J. Oliver

JULY 7

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Mallory Hutton, Matthew Hutton
10:00 - Casey McElfresh, Walker Cooper, Logan Kessler
DEACONS: 7:45 - M. Klohn, B. Seibert, D. Burmeister, J. Dupey
10:00 - J. Dorr, C. Miller
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The M. Dabrunz Family
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), L. Klohn (7:45), D. Prasuhn (10:00)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
GRADUATION RECOGNITION 2 7:45 Worship/Communion 8:50 Home Communion Training 9:00 Senior Graduation Breakfast - Dining Room 9:30 Praise Team Practice 10:00 Celebration Worship/Communion/Graduate Recognition 11:15 Middle School Parent Meeting Adventure Trip - Dining Room 4:30 - 6:30 Family Game Night - Courtyard 7:30 DAA	3 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge	4 7:00 VBS Meeting at St. John's	5 	6 11:30 Soup Kitchen 5:00 Wedding Rehearsal	7  4:00 Chambers/Karle Wedding	1 9:30 - 3:30 Crafting for a Cause 5:00 Worship/Communion <hr/> 8 5:00 Worship/Communion/Baptism
9 7:45 Worship/Communion 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/Communion 11:15 Praise Team Practice 7:30 DAA	10 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge 6:30 Church Council Ice Cream Social 7:00 Church Council Devotions 7:15 Standing Committees 8:00 Church Council	11 12:00 Daughter's Circle Sidell Garden House 7:30 Grace Fellowship - Lounge	12 G & T DEADLINE 6:30 Mutual Ministry - Conference Room	13 11:30 Soup Kitchen	14	15 10:30 Tot Time - Lounge 5:00 Worship/Communion/Mission Moment
FATHER'S DAY 16 Mission Moment 7:45 Worship/Communion 9:00 Christian Education 9:30 Praise Team Practice 10:00 Celebration Worship/Communion/VBS Installation/ALIVE Sending 7:30 DAA	17 9 - Noon Vacation Bible School 1:00 Bible Study-Lounge	18 9 - Noon Vacation Bible School	19 9 - Noon Vacation Bible School	20 G & T ASSEMBLED 9 - Noon Vacation Bible School 11:30 Soup Kitchen at St. John's 7:00 VBS Program at St. John's	21 9 - Noon Vacation Bible School	22 5:00 Worship/Communion
23 7:45 Worship/Communion 9:00 Christian Education 9:30 Praise Team Practice 10:00 Celebration Worship/Communion 7:30 DAA	24 1:00 Bible Study-Lounge	25	26	27 11:30 Soup Kitchen	28	29 5:00 Worship/Communion/Church Council Installation
5TH SUNDAY (1 service) 30 Church Council Installation 9:00 Worship/Communion/Baptism No Sunday School 10:30 Doughnuts & Hot dogs in the Courtyard 7:30 DAA	 <h1>JUNE</h1>				<h1>2013</h1>	