## Lent is upon us!

In the Ash Wednesday liturgy these words are included in the "Invitation to Lent":

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that
 contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neigbbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent-self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

We as Lutheran Christians have traditionally taken on additional worship opportunities as part of exercising this Lenten discipline. Let me talk about what they will look like this year.

By the time you read this we will have already observed Ash Wednesday with Holy Communion and the imposition of ashes. This solemn service begins our Lenten focus. On the next five Wednesdays, February $29^{\text {th }}$, March $7^{\text {th }}, 14^{\text {th }}, 21^{\text {st }}$, and $28^{\text {th }}$, we will have a vespers style service at 7 p.m. with the youth again assisting (as they did during Advent) in the leadership of the worship.

We will not be having our own Wednesday, midday service this year. Instead we invite our seniors who do not want to go out in the evening, as well as any who wish a mid-week experience, to take part in the service hosted by Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church. It begins at 12:12 each Wednesday to allow folks on a lunch hour time to arrive. (If you have the time and wish to enjoy fellowship afterwards, space will be provided for those who want to bring their lunch with them.)

## Pastor's page continued.

On Palm Sunday weekend, March 31st- April $1^{\text {st }}$, we will share the procession with Palms, a congregational, choral reading of the Passion account from the Gospel of Mark, and Holy Communion for all three services.

On Holy Thursday we will have a communion service at noon. At 7 p.m. we will have the service with First Communion and the Stripping of the Altar during which Psalm 22 will be read in the darkness. In addition this year, at the 7 p.m. service, I will be washing the feet of the first communicants.

In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the emphasis of "the night in which Jesus was betrayed" is of course the institution of the Lord's Supper. But in the Gospel of John, Communion is not mentioned and instead Jesus models servant hood by washing His disciple's feet. I hope to witness this to our young people and will include it in the educational experience of the class.

Good Friday will see Grace Church again host the community, three hour service from noon until three. Following that we will have a community procession observing the "Way of the Cross" featuring ten stops throughout town while carrying a roughhewn cross. This is new for Fremont and is being planned by elements of the Fremont Ministries Association. That evening we will have a 7 p.m. service here which will include the traditional "Bidding Prayer" and the "Solemn Reproaches". These two elements are part of the historic Church's liturgical observation of Good Friday and will be being said by millions of people around the world that day.

Our 5:00 Saturday evening service on Easter Eve will take upon elements of the Easter Vigil service and emphasize a renewal of all of our Baptisms. A new community service in Birchard Park celebrating the "lighting of the new fire" symbolizing the resurrection will happen at 7 p.m. This too comes from the Fremont Ministries association.

Finally, of course, we will culminate Lent with the two celebratory Easter morning services here at Grace. All the Holy week services will be lifted up again in the April "Grace and Truth".

Yours in Christ, Pastor Keith



Grace will be offering First Communion instruction for all second ${ }^{n}$ graders and any youth beyond second grade who has not yet taken the classes.
The class will be held on Sunday March $18^{\text {th }}$ following the 10 a.m. worship service. Lunch will be provided and the class will be over at 3 p.m. First Communion this year will take place during Holy Thursday evening service, April $5^{\text {th }}$. Pastor Keith and Stacey Reau will lead the group. Parents and even baptismal sponsors are encouraged to attend the class with their students. The lessons will talk about the components necessary for Communion and how they fit together.

## SIGN UP FOR THE $4^{\text {TH }}$ ANNUAL LENTEN SERIES: "BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES"

The topic this year will be STRESS! So many families are trying to juggle multiple things everyday. The stress becomes overwhelming! If your family is feeling the stress, join us during this Lenten season and see what the Bible says about it. We start on FEBRUARY 26 and the times are from 6:00-7:30. There will be a nursery provided and our Youth Minister, Stacey Reau, will be providing activities for the kids. Sign up by letting Maureen know at maureenpump@yahoo.com or call the church office.

BABY BOOMERS GAME NIGHT!


March 24 from 6:00-8:30. We will be ordering subs from Subway. After we eat we will have a variety games available or bring your own. Watch for more information to come.

General Fund
As of January 31, 2012:

| Year to date expense budget: | $\$$ | $34,996.71$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Year to date actual expenses: | $\$$ | $33,625.47$ |
|  | $\$$ | $(1,371.24)$ |
|  | (Under budget) |  |


|  | 2012 |  |  | 2011 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year to date receipts: | \$ | 34,264.35 |  | \$ | 36,804.52 |
| Transfer from Contingency Reserve | \$ | - |  | \$ | - |
| Year to date actual expenses: | \$ | 33,625.47 |  | \$ | 35,210.72 |
|  |  |  | To the |  |  |
| Receipts less expenses: | \$ | 638.88 | good | \$ | 1,593.80 |

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Laeng
Financial Administrator


Therefore, we are seeking an individual with a bookkeeping background and computer skills within an office setting. If interested, please send your resume to the church office at 705 W. State Street, Fremont, as soon as possible.

Thank you to all who supported the free-will offering for the Liberty Center at the Christmas Eve services here at Grace Lutheran Church. A check in the amount of $\$ 787.14$ was sent to the center!

## Church Council Notes

from January 9, 2012

- Toledo Symphony will perform a Christmas Concert at Grace Lutheran on Thursday, November 29, 2012.
- Resignation of Duane Pump, part-time custodian, was accepted and approved. (NOTE: resumes for this position are being accepted in the church office.)


## Member Information:

Transfer Out (per their request): Ron \& Pat Neill, Cora \& Jon Minich

## Christian Missions/Outreach

- 5 prayer shawls and 6 soups were delivered in January.
- A gift basket will be donated for the Youth Auction.


## Christian Worship

- Youth will participate in mid-week Lenten services.
- Noon service will only be observed on Ash Wednesday.
- There will be no Tenebrae service this year, but will be replaced with Bidding Prayer and Solemn Reproaches service.


## Christian Property

- Choir Loft rails have been installed.
- Handicap pews were put in place. Thank you to Jim Post, Duane Pump, and Dave Prasuhn.
- New carpet for Noah's Ark was donated and installed by Fremont Floor Covering.
- New Clover Street doors will be installed.
- A new freezer will be purchased out of Property's budget.
- Organization will begin for a mowing crew \& outside landscape maintenance.
- Pursuit of elevator is on-going.


## Christian Stewardship

- Met with Executive \& Property on financial planning issues.


## Council Reports continued.

Christian Youth/Growth

- 5 boys attended "Boys Night Out" on Friday, January 20.
- 16 children attended Little Lambs/Little Lutherans Valentine Party on Saturday, February 11.
- 20 children; 2 helpers attended Movie Night on Friday, February 10.
- Andy Brandon with Thrivent Financial, will speak to 3yr. olds 6th graders about wise money habits on Sunday, February 26.
- Lock-in for Crazy Kids - Friday, March 9-10; 8pm to 8am.
- "Green Party" for Little Lutherans, Friday, March 16.
- First Communion will take place on Maundy Thursday, April 5, during 7:00 worship.


## Nominating Committee

- Anyone interested in running for Church Council, please see Marv Mullholand or call him at 419-332-8309.
- Elections will take place at all services the weekend of May 12/13.


## Call Committee

- The committee will meet February 20 to review 3 candidates whose profiles have been submitted by the Synod Office.

Thank you to all who donated for Lutheran World Relief! For the month of March, we will be collecting for our Layettes. Baby sweaters, jackets, or sweatshirts, all with hoods or caps. Also, baby socks and bath size soap. There are containers at all entrances to the church. All help is appreciated!
"Souper Bowl of Caring" which took place at services on February 4 \& 5, collected $\$ 344.75$ ! All of these monies were donated to the Fremont Soup Kitchen. Thank you for your generosity!


The selection is growing in the Student Uniform Exchange Room! Located right across from the church Library, you will find skirts, pants, sweatshirts, shirts, and even shoes! Drop off what your child has outgrown and/or pick-up what your child needs now. The room is open on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

## ATTENTION CRAZY KIDS (4th-6th graders)

You've begged, you've pleaded...your wish has been granted! From 8pm on Friday, March 9 through 8am on Saturday, March 10, all CRAZY KIDS and their friends are invited to a lock-in here at the church! Games, food, service projects, a scavenger hunt, and even some cooking classes are all planned for the night! Please plan on bringing \$2 to cover the cost of pizza and a snack to share for the night. Please RSVP to Stacey Reau at 419-333-0688 or stacey.reau@gmail.com

LITTLE LUTHERANS (1st - 3rd graders) will have a "GREEN PARTY" on Friday, March 16, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Dining Room! We will be busy making everything from green slippery slime to our own green ice cream! Bring a friend and be prepared for fun!

CRAZY KIDS (4th-6th grade) - Mark your calendars now for Sunday, April 1! After the 10am service, we will meet in the dining room for an afternoon of "Egg-citing Experiments"! More details will follow in the coming weeks!


On Sunday, March 4, all Preschool - Sixth grade Sunday School students will be coming Home with "Fill the Ark" material to benefit Heifer International. "Fill the Ark" is a four-week, daily missionsgiving program that offers real-life solutions to world hunger and shows that one person, one family, one congregation can make a difference in today's world. Each student will receive one Ark bank and one four-week calendar. Daily lessons are done at home throughout the week, and contributions are collected each Sunday. As students fill their Arks with coins, they will meet the animals in the Ark and learn how these animals help families.

HEY KIDS! Dive head first into a cool, relevant, loving relationship with God! Let's meet in the auditorium every Sunday morning at 9am to praise God through games, dramas, and activities! We will learn how God can work inside each of us as we live out our lives every day in the real world!

JUST A REMINDER that Spirit Kids' Clubs continue to meet each Wednesday from 5:30-6pm! Join us for games, snacks, and fun...there is never a dull moment! 3 year olds - Kindergarten kids meet in the Noah's Ark hallway and 1st -6th graders will start meeting in the dining room (a change of place from previous months). At 6pm, all kids are dismissed to their age appropriate choir or to study hall. It's never too late to join the fun and bring a friend!



## GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

 The Annual Youth Dinner Auction, "Citizens With The Saints", will be Saturday, March 3, 2012. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., dinner begins at 6:30 p.m., and the auction starts at 7:00 p.m. There will be a silent auction and lots of great things on the auction block. If you have a donation you would like to make for the auction, please contact Laurie Buchele, 419-6808401, or klbuchele@aol.com. No used items please.Tickets can be purchased in the Activities Office after services on Sunday, or in the Church Office during business hours. Cost is $\$ 12$ per person. The meal, prepared by Peggy Karle, includes - Hawaiian Pork Chop, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Appetizers, Salad, Dessert, and Beverage.

Our youth attending the National Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans will be hosting this fun event!
They are very excited about this trip and appreciate your support!

ENCOUNTER - Sunday, March 11, 6-8pm at Grace Lutheran Church. For anyone in high school - bring your friends; always have food! Come "encounter" Jesus and see how He is always at work in your life. This is a time for senior high youth, planned by senior high youth.


THE ROAD - Sunday, March 25, 6-8pm at Grace Lutheran Church.
For anyone in grades 7 \& 8 - bring your friends; we always have food! Walk the Road with Jesus - He knows the Way.

## For all who love the outdoors, gardening, lawn care and serving the church, this is the group for you!

It's time to brush off the lawn mower and get ready to prepare and maintain our church grounds and landscaping for the beautiful spring, summer, and fall seasons. Whether you're available every week or just once a month, your help is greatly appreciated. Please indicate your name and telephone number by any of the tasks you'd be willing to help with, and place the sheet in the offering plate. The Property Committee will be in contact with you soon. If you have any questions, please call Dan Linder at 419-334-4565.

|  | Name | Phone <br> Number |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Edging Sidewalks |  |  |
| Lawn Mowing |  |  |
| Trimming Bushes |  |  |
| Spraying Round Up <br> (Weeding) |  |  |
| Watering Flowers |  |  |
| Gopher as Needed <br> "Has Truck Will <br> Travel Person" <br> to pick up supplies for <br> the Church from time <br> to time. |  |  |



## Tea with Hezbollah

is a nail-biting narrative as readers join novelist Ted Dekker and his co-author and Middle East expert, Carl Medereais on their hair-raising journey through the heart of the Middle East. The questions that sparked their interest was: Is it really possible to love one's enemies as Jesus tells us to. They discuss that question with leaders of the Hezbollah and Hamas, with muftas, sheiks, ayatollahs, and Osama bin Laden's brothers. They reveal these men's fears, emotions, and hopes of their own.

There is also a new fiction series of 3 books by Cindy Woodsmall entitled Sisters of the Quilt. This series offers the timeless truth that forgiveness is the balm that heals all wounds and is a blanket for the soul.

## AND... from CRAZY BOOK

## Parable:

A story with not only a point, but a skewer.

## Proverb: <br> A short saying that, once your hear it, you know it's true; valuable for those who don't know it.

Take some time to check out these books and more in our Church Library!

The Christian women of Malaysia invite us to join them Friday, March 2, for WORLD DAY OF

PRAYER 2012. The theme, "Let Justice Prevail", was developed out of their experience of life as Christian women within their multicultural, multi-religious society. Our local worship service will be held at Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church, 1441 Fangboner Rd. at 1:30 p.m.
 DAUGHTERS CIRCLE meeting time has been changed to 9:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is March 13, in the Church lounge.


Saturday, March 17, from 9:30am to 3:30pm in the church Dining Room. Bring your craft supplies, an optional potluck food dish, your drinks, and any fellow crafters! A $\$ 5.00$ donation will be collected for the FOOD PANTRY.


## Shank Yau's

I wish to thank Pastor Keith and Pastor Jim for their visits, prayers, and communion at the hospital and the Valley View nursing home during my illness last fall. Also, thanks to the Altar Guild for the Alter flowers which brightened my room. May God bless you all through the New Year.

Pastor Lloyd Linder
Dear friends of Grace Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for the lovely meal you served our family and friends following the memorial service for our father. It was delicious and a comforting way to be together after a challenging day and before we went our separate ways. We felt loved and blessed.

> Holly Voldrich for the family of Vernon Grendahl

## Dear Church Family,

 Words cannot begin to express my warm thoughts for all of you. Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers, the cards I received, the prayer shawls for each of my children and myself, and the hugs I received when I returned to church. Thank you to Maureen for her beautiful sermon at Dave's Memorial and to all the ladies who served a wonderful luncheon following the service. I am truly humbled by the outpouring of love and concern that you have given me and my family. Blessings to all of you. Sue Brickner and familyThank you to the people involved in the Soup and Prayer Shawl Ministries and to Sue Laeng who delivered these to me. I also want to thank all the ladies who donated the delicious food and prepared the funeral dinner for my dear friend, Vernon Grendahl. His family and I were most appreciative to have a place to gather together before going home. This congregation is wonderful in time of need in bring God's love to us.

Yours in Christ, Esther Chambers


| March 1 | Grace Lindstrom | 418 Chestnut St. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| March 5 | Audre Howey | 313 S. Wayne St. |
| March 7 | Mary LaFountaine | 1505 Alger St. |
| March 8 | Richard Audritsh | 38404 Kingsbury Dr. <br> North Ridgeville, OH 44039 |
| March 8 | Carol Klohn | 1324 McPherson Blvd. |
| March 12 | Margaret Coe | 221 N. Taft Avenue |
| March 12 | Albert Wright, Jr. | 2472 McPherson Hwy. |
| March 15 | Nancy Young | Lutheran Mem. Home, Rm. 220 795 Bardshar Rd. <br> Sandusky, OH 44870-1599 |
| March 16 | Wayne Graham | 1740 Baker Rd. |
| March 16 | Richard Houghtaling | 563 Co. Rd. 358 |
| March 20 | Helen Smith | 1208 B Tucker Rd. |
| March 20 | Ron Tuckerman | 1055 Co. Rd. 289 |
| March 23 | Ralph Cover | 1203 Kentucky Ave. |
| March 26 | Ben Cooley | 1611 Ell Drive |
| March 26 | Nancy McKeever | Colonial Acres 1451 Oak Harbor Rd., Lot 3B |
| March 29 | Viv Koebel | 776 S. Buchanan St. |
| March 29 | Dale Shimer | 1213 June St. |
| March 31 | Donna Garner | 140 Thomas Dr. |



ALTAR GUILD FOR MARCH
Ryk \& Eve Foreman
Sandra Weickert
Jan Harris


Lila Grace Reed, January 30, 2012 daughter of Shawn and

Annette (Damschroder) Reed
Karly Joanna Paeth, February 9, 2012
 daughter of Mark and Cheryl Paeth


## DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER

 ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY MARCH 21, 2012The newsletter will be assembled on Thursday, March 29.

Grace Lutheran Church
705 West State Street

## Return Service Requested


10:00am ~ Celebration Worship/Holy Communion
Office Hours - 8:30am~4:30pm, M~F, 4 19~332~1558

Keith A. Hunsinger, Interim Senior Pastor pastorkah@hotmail.com
James Avers, Visitation Pastor pastorjim777@sbcglobal.net
MaureenPump@yahoo.com
Linda Baumer, Office Administrator
Sue Laeng, Financial Administrator gracefremont@yahoo.com Stacey Reau, Part-time Youth Minister ~ Preschool~6th grade stacey.reau@gmail.com
Laurie Buchele, Interim Yo Laurie Buchele, Interim Youth Minister ~ 7th~12th grades klbuchele@aol.com
Tricia McElfresh, Director, Noah's Ark Preschool
noahs ark_fremont $@$ yahoo.com


## GREETERS

## March 4 \& 18

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

M/M D. O'Donnell(Chapel)
10:00 - M/M B. Auxter (Front)
K. Burmeister (Baptistry)
S. Chase (Chapel)

March 11 \& 25
7:45-M/M M. Damschroder (Front) M/M R. Baumer (Baptistry) C. Klohn (Chapel)

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

## USHERS <br> March 4, 11, 18, 25 <br> 7:45- D. House <br> A. Mehlow <br> B. Schling <br> AJ Mehlow

## March 4 \& 18

10:00-T. Shanahan
T. Troxel
B. Williams
D. Cooper

March 11 \& 25
10:00-D \& S Burmeister T \& P Karle

## MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE - March 7-7:00 p.m.

ACOLYTES: Zach Rieman, Logan Kessler
USHERS: C. Weickert, R. Haynes
GREETERS: M/M D. Zilles (F), M/M W. Lamson (B), K. Burmeister (Ch SOUND: M. Hirt $\qquad$
$\qquad$

## MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE - March 14-7:00 p.m.

ACOLYTES: Meredith Troxel, Brianna Garner
USHERS: B. Schroder, B. Zilles
GREETERS: C. Slemmer (F), Mike McElfresh Family (B), M/M E. Muffler (Ch) SOUND: E. Muffler

## MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE - March 21-7:00 p.m.

ACOLYTES: Emily Muffler, Kristen Widmen
USHERS: G. Nossaman, G. Rumball
GREETERS: M/M L. Garner (F), M/M J. Lajti (B), M/M B. Smith (Ch)
SOUND: M. McElfresh

## MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE - March 28-7:00 p.m.

ACOLYTES: Morgan Waggoner, Cydne Jess
USHERS: D. Zilles, G. Dupey
GREETERS: S. Zilles (F), N. Sloma (B), J. Overmyer (Ch)
SOUND: M. McElfresh

## MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - April 5-7:00 p.m.

ACOLYTES: Meghan Moses, Caitlin Marsengill
USHERS: L. McElfresh, T. Clevenger, J. Havens, G. Hinsch
GREETERS: S. Clevenger (F), B. McElfresh (B), D. Morehart (Ch)
DEACONS: D. Burmeister, W. Lamson, M. Bower, B. Armstrong, R. House, P. Karle SOUND: L. Garner

MARCH 4
ACOLYTES: 7:45-Jonathan Lotycz, Dirk Gross 10:00 - Kortni Lagrou, Lindsay Lagrou
DEACONS: 7:45- J. Dorr, S. Farrell, P. Karle, L. Martin
10:00 - L. Polter, L. Sachs, B. Armstrong, M. Bower
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The McElfresh Family
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Prasuhn(10:00)

## MARCH 11

ACOLYTES: 7:45-Jacob Moses, AJ Mehlow 10:00 - Megan Hawk, Morgan Hawk, Carly Wiersma
DEACONS: 7:45-R. House, B. Klohn, B. Seibert, J. Brock, S. Babione, J. Dupey 10:00 - E. Chambers, E. Dabrunz, J. Harris, W. Lamson
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - S. Brickner, F. Keller, N. Mayer, B. Prasuhn SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), M. McElfresh(10:00)

## MARCH 18

ACOLYTES: 7:45-Aaron Klohn, Alicia Klohn 10:00 - Kellie Auen, Bailey Eishen, Emily Kerns
DEACONS: 7:45- J. Dupey, S. Farrell, J. Dorr, L. Martin 10:00 - D. Linder, S. Nossaman, L. Polter, L. Sachs
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Gedeon Family
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), E. Muffler (10:00)

## MARCH 25

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Cody Johnson, Lexi Johnson 10:00 - Mike Muffler, Marc Bargerstock, Logan Kessler
DEACONS: 7:45-B. Klohn, B. Seibert, L. Widmer, S. Babione, J. Brock 10:00 - B. Armstrong, M. Bower, E. Chambers, E. Dabrunz
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - J. Harris, L \& J Overmyer, G. Rumball
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), D. Prasuhn(10:00)

## APRIL 1

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Cody Johnson, Lexi Johnson 10:00 - Nick Auen, Andy Burmesiter, Logan Kessler
DEACONS: 7:45- D. Burmeister, J. Dupey, R. House, P. Karle, S. Farrell, J. Dorr 10:00 - J. Harris, W. Lamson, D. Linder, S. Nossaman
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Jess Family
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), M. McElfresh(10:00)

