

*"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

MAY 2013

Grace Lutheran Church, Fremont, OH



Ladies Brunch

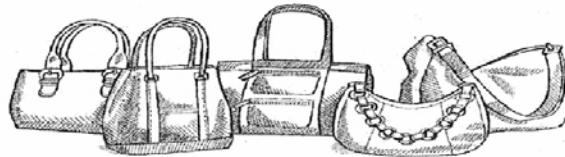
MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE WOMEN'S SPRING BRUNCH!

The Women's Spring Brunch will be held on
May 11. The brunch starts at 10:00.

The event will feature Debbie Koebel, Director of Memorial
Hospital's Browse and Buy Gift Shop.
Debbie will bring an assortment of scarves,
jewelry, and purses to demonstrate how
to co-ordinate them for a great look.

There will be activities for the children and the nursery
will be provided for pre-school children.

Please RSVP by Monday, May 6 to the
Church office at 419-332-1558.



May is a month full of all kinds of remembrances. We celebrate Mother's Day on May 12th. We also remember those who gave their lives so that we could live in freedom on Memorial Day.



There is also one other event. With eight young people in our congregation we remember their baptism with Confirmation. Our Lutheran confirmation is a public profession of faith prepared for by long and careful instruction. Our instruction classes last for two years...and I imagine some of our young people would say they were quite long!

The official rite is called "Affirmation of Baptism", and is a mature and public profession of the faith which "marks the completion of the congregation's program of confirmation ministry". At baptism parents and sponsors are entrusted with teaching their children. It is here where our young people will confess their beliefs and take ownership to continue their faithful walk with the Lord.

On Sunday, May 19th, Grant Gallagher, Matthew Hutton, Paul Mowry, Morgan Hawk, Cynde Jess, Alicia Klohn, Kristen Widman, and Carly Wiersma will be confirmed. We will be celebrating with them and their families at this joyous occasion. Come and celebrate the Good News!

Pr. Jody Rice

FESTIVAL OF HOMILETICS

On Monday, May 13 Pastor Jody will be attending the Festival of Homiletics in Nashville, TN for her continuing education event. It is an event where attendees will be inspired by God's Word proclaimed by some of the nation's finest preachers and teachers. They will have the opportunity to experience the fellowship of more than a thousand preachers. It gives an opportunity to learn and worship in an atmosphere that's dynamic, friendly, nurturing and prophetic. Spirits are renewed, refreshed and recharged! More to come after the event ...

UPCOMING EVENTS

“THE MEDICINE OF IMMORTALITY” (John 6:53-54)

What a privilege to be carrying Holy Communion, consecrated by a pastor at our altar to our homebound members! Most of our remaining teams have been doing this for well over five years, and continue to be blessed and to be blessing our people. Would you like to become a Minister of Communion? Our first meeting is on Sunday, May 5 from 8:50 to 9:50 a.m. Please call Pastor Jim at 419-355-9131.

ALL WOMEN TO BE RECOGNIZED WITH A GIFT ON MOTHER’S DAY!

On the weekend of May 11 and 12 we will recognize the women of the congregation with a small gift. So husbands and kids, make sure you bring the women in your family to church as we celebrate Mother’s Day at Grace.

P.S. there will be something special for the men in June.

NORTHWEST OHIO SYNOD ASSEMBLY

On May 15 and 16, seven of us will attend the Northwest Ohio Synod Assembly to be held in Bowling Green. - Pastor Jody, Pastor Jim, Maureen Pump, Marv Mullholand, Les & Marcella Widmer, and Allison Schrader. A special recognition luncheon will take place on Saturday for all pastors having an anniversary. Our own Pastor Jim Avers will be recognized for his years of service. Please keep us in your prayers as we gather with other Lutherans from all across Northwest Ohio.

**The Fremont Ministry Association Presents
“How Can I Keep From Singing”**

A vocal and piano/organ concert to benefit the FMA Emergency Fund will feature musicians Lindsay Kesselman, soprano and member of the Philip Glass Ensemble, and her husband Christopher Lees, piano and organ. The concert is set for Sunday, May 19 at 7 p.m. at St. John’s Lutheran Church. A freewill offering will be collected and a reception will follow the concert.



Crafting for a Cause will meet on Saturday, May 4 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.

GRANDPA, GRANDMA & ME! July 24 - 25, 2013

Grandpa, Grandma & Me is an overnight trip for kids and grandparents. We will depart on July 24 at 6:30 a.m. from the Faith Lutheran Church parking lot, 1187 Co. Rd. 128. Activities will include: a tour of the Phoenix Bat Co., the American Whistle Co., the Franklin Park Conservatory, a tour of the Columbus Zoo, a tour of the Ohio State House, and a tour of Graeter's Ice Cream Store. For more information about price or to register call Yvonne Vogel at 419-332-3544 or 419-307-1774 or by email at rayvon9607@att.net.

CHRISTMAS ON THE BEACH? December 2 - 6, 2013

This trip is a unique look at Christmas decorating in unusual locations. The tour will depart from Faith Lutheran Church on December 2 and return on the 6. This trip includes four night's accommodations, roundtrip motor coach transportation, 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners, all applicable taxes, meal gratuities and baggage handling. During the trip travelers will visit: Oceana a Master Jet Base, Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Boardwalk Lights of Virginia Beach, Christmastown at Busch Gardens, Newport News Lights and Shadracks Holiday Lights. For more information about price or to register call Yvonne Vogel at 419-332-3544 or 419-307-1774 or by email at rayvon9607@att.net.

ALPHA IS COMING IN THE FALL!

Alpha is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in a relaxed, friendly setting. The sessions are once a week for 10 weeks. Participants will enjoy great food, laughter, and learning in a fun and friendly atmosphere. Questions are welcome! Where is God? Why am I here? Where am I going? No question is too simple or hostile. Grace will be working with St. John's and Faith Lutheran to make Alpha a reality this fall and everyone will be invited to participate!

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION



On June 30 following the 10:00 service we will celebrate the 4th of July with a picnic in the court yard. There will be hot dogs, chips and dessert. Come dressed in your red, white and blue and join your church family to celebrate the 4th!

MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

We are forming a new committee called Mutual Ministry. Our Lutheran understanding of the church sees ministry as being shared by all the baptized people of God. At no time can we assume that only the pastor and lay professionals are responsible for ministry. The whole people of God have a ministry with and to one another. It is a mutual ministry. Out of this theological awareness emerges the rationale behind a congregational mutual ministry committee.

The ministry of any pastor, lay professional, and congregation is strengthened when there exists a small group of persons who act out of mutual concern for the pastor, lay professional, and congregation. The primary function of a Mutual Ministry Committee is to keep the pastor and staff advised about the conditions within the congregation and to interpret to the congregation the ministry of the professional leaders.

As we begin this new ministry, we ask for your prayers!

NEW WEB PAGE BEING DESIGNED BY T.C. CREATIVE SERVICES!



We have been working with our WEB designer to design a page that will have eye catching color and movement. There will be pictures of different activities. Anyone looking for information will find easy access to the areas of ministry. We will have Twitter and Facebook availability along with podcast capability. One of the things we are most excited about is the ability to send out "bullet" notices to the congregation announcing important activities going on at Grace that week. We will also be able to let the family of Grace know when one of our families suffers a loss in the middle of the week. We are excited to move forward with our new WEB page so watch for more information in the months to come.

FINANCIAL REPORT**General Fund**

As of March, 2013

	<u>2013 Actual</u>	<u>2013 Budget</u>	<u>2012 Actual</u>
Year to date receipts:	\$ 107,149.67	\$ 105,908.43	\$ 96,218.59
Year to date expenses:	<u>\$ 105,508.26</u>	<u>\$ 113,001.29</u>	<u>\$ 103,032.87</u>
Receipts less expenses:	\$ 1,641.41	\$ (7,092.86)	\$ (6,814.28)

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Baumer
Office Administrator

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES from April 8, 2013

- Mutual Ministry Committee meeting - April 25.
- Constitution Revision Task Force meeting - April 10.
- Joint Leadership Retreat for "LIFT" (Lutherans Involved in Fremont Together) - April 13, at Faith Lutheran Church, planning on 80 in attendance.
- Love Your neighbor Day - April 27. Many volunteers plus the Confirmation kids will be participating. The day starts at Grace with breakfast and concludes at St. John's with lunch.
- New Member Class - April 21.
- Technology update - working with TC Creative Services, a local company, and things are under construction.
- Good Friday Fish Fry results: sold 206 tickets; 62 at the door. Profit of \$1605.18. Money will be split between Sandusky Co. Food Pantry & our Youth program.
- Synod Assembly - May 17-18 in Bowling Green. Those attending: Pastor Jody, Pastor Jim, Maureen Pump, Les & Marcella Widmer, Marv Mullholand, & Allison Schrader
- Confirmation will be May 19, breakfast is being planned.
- Graduation Recognition of high school & college grads - June 2 at all services.
- The old Baptismal Font has been refurbished and will be used for some upcoming baptisms.
- Pastor Jody will attend the Festival of Homiletics in Nashville, May 13-16 as part of her continuing education.

(Council Notes continued.)

CHRISTIAN MISSION/OUTREACH

- Soles for Souls was a success with 1197 pairs and 33 single shoes collected. Will collect coats in the Fall.
- Mission Moment on 3rd Sunday - for march collected \$555 for Share & Care. April will collect for Soup Kitchen.
- May 14-28 several people will be here from Tanzania. Looking for someone to host them for 1-2 nights.
- Handed out 10 soups and 2 shawls in March.
- In June, August, and October the committee will be at the downtown Farmer's Market along with St. John.

CHRISTIAN PROPERTY

- Looking at updating Noah's Ark and MOPS sign.
- The front steps will be caulked.
- One tree in island will be cut down and replaced.
- Midwest Maintenance will be doing their annual inspection of the building.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

- Continue to work on the information booklet; hope to have it completed by September.

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.
- Easter Breakfast made \$200 and served over 95 people.
- Several youth are signed up to attend the ALIVE Festival in June.

**CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS
WILL TAKE PLACE AT ALL
SERVICES THE WEEKEND OF
MAY 11 and 12.**

Absentee ballots will be available
in the church office during business hours.

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINEES

On Saturday, May 11, at the 5:00 p.m. worship service and Sunday, May 12, at the 7:45 and 10:00 a.m. worship services, a congregational meeting will be held to elect 7 members to Church Council. In accordance with our Constitution, the following candidates have been nominated and have agreed to serve if elected. Please review these candidates before you vote.

DAVE COOPER - has been married to his best friend, Rae Ann, for 17 years. They have 2 boys, Walker, a freshman, and Levi, a 5th grader. Dave is employed with Glatfelter in Fremont as the Maintenance Supervisor. Dave has been a member of Grace since 1996 and currently serves as an usher at the 10:00 service. He has helped with various youth events, including Easter Breakfast and the Youth Dinner Auction. Dave volunteers his time as a coach of baseball, football, and basketball with YMCA, Fremont Recreation, and Clyde Little League. He enjoys spending time with family, camping, golfing, and watching the boys participate in their activities.

JAN HARRIS - and husband, Bob, have two grown children, Kyle and Lindsay, and five grandchildren. Jan is a retired teacher after teaching with the Clyde-Green Springs School for 35 years as a Special Education teacher. She continues to substitute teach for them. Jan is a life-time member of Grace. She is a member of Church Council, a past Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teacher, participates in Crafting for a Cause, serves on Altar Guild, and the GLCW-Project Day. Jan volunteers at funeral luncheons, VBS, Sunday School, and youth breakfast events. She also volunteers her time at the Sandusky County Food pantry organizing donations. Jan enjoys sewing, scrapbooking, card making, their grandkids, visiting family and friends, and travelling.

ROGER HAYNES - has been married to Barb for 39 years. They have three children, Brian, Lori, and Nick, and nine grandchildren. Roger is a lifelong farmer and farms in Sandusky and Ottawa Counties. He has been a member of Grace since 1974 and volunteers as usher, reader, and has helped with the Youth Dinner Auction. Roger is a private pilot and enjoys tractor restoration.

CAROLE MILLER - has a brother, Larry, in South Carolina, and a sister, Janet Dorr, in Fremont, and numerous nieces and nephews. She taught Physical Education & Psychology for 6 years in Ohio, 31 years in California, coached 5 sports, and now is resting! Carole has been a member of Grace Lutheran for 12 years. She is currently on Altar Guild, the Library Committee, is a Lector for Saturday night worship, serves on Church Council, and the Worship Committee. Carole has volunteered for the Soup Kitchen for the past 10 years, helps with funeral luncheons, and when Linda calls for help in the church office, she is there to assist with bulletins, newsletters, annual reports, and anywhere else where extra hands are needed. When she is not volunteering, she enjoys reading, music, traveling, Elder College, and lunches with friends.

CHERYL PAETH - is married to Mark. Their family consists of Taylor and Karly, and two labs, Sweet Pea and Sweet Corn. Cheryl is employed as an Occupational Therapist with PT Services, Inc. in Fremont. She has been a member of Grace since 2006 and is a greeter, reader, Church Mouse, and the coordinator of Crafting for a Cause. She also helps with Homebound Communion and as a teacher for 5th/6th grade Sunday School. Cheryl likes to volunteer with events related to Memorial Hospital, and enjoys paper crafts, sewing, devotions, teaching O.T. students, and teaching courses related to Lymphedema. Cheryl originates from Nebraska and Grace has become her family away from home.

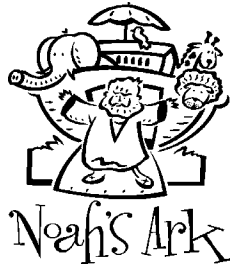
TANYA SCHLING - is married to Bill. They have a daughter, Jody Amor, who lives in Fremont with husband Kyle, and a son Jason, who lives in Arizona. They have 4 grandchildren - Kaylee Amor, a freshman at B.G.S.U., Kole Amor, a junior at Fremont Ross, Allie Schling, a high school sophomore, and Zak Schling, a 5th grader. And, completing their family are cats, Mukie and Max. Tanya is 8 months retired from Croghan Colonial Bank as a bank teller and is enjoying life. She is a life-time member of Grace, is a former Sunday school teacher, past Church Council member, and a current volunteer for funeral luncheons. She also volunteers at Share & Care, and Stamm and Hayes Elementary Schools. Tanya loves working outside in the yard, enjoys reading, and cleaning.

CINDY WAGGONER - is married to Pat Waggoner. They have two daughters - Taylor, who will be a junior at OSU, majoring in engineering, Morgan, who will be a sophomore at Fremont Ross, and son John, 35, a former Navy Seal, who is currently applying to medical school. Cindy retired from Tiffin Developmental Center in 2010. She also worked as a social worker with the Sandusky County Children Services, and was a Licensing Specialist for Day Care & Foster Care. After 2 years of retirement, Cindy is back at work as a classroom aide at the School of Hope. Cindy was confirmed at Grace in 1969. She helps in the kitchen with Wednesday night Spirit dinners. She volunteers for funeral luncheons, various youth activities, VBS crafts, Chicken Soup/Prayer Shawl ministry, Good Friday Fish Fry, and has served on Church Council in the past. Cindy volunteers at Fremont Memorial Hospital and other organizations. She is an official for USA swimming and volunteers as an officiate at meets throughout the swim season. She is involved in the Fremont Ross Swim

NATALIE WILFONG - and husband, Jeremiah, have been married since 2006, and have a 3 year old daughter, Mya. She has been employed at Phillips Pet Food & Supplies in Clyde for 8 years, and works in Customer Service and Accounts Receivable. Natalie has been a member of Grace since 2007. She participates in the Wednesday night S.L.A.M. class as well as other classes, has helped with youth lock-ins, and the chili cook-off. Natalie has a variety of interests, from sports to shopping to playing Play-doh with Mya. She enjoys spending time with family and friends; making memories.

BOB WILLIAMS - and wife, Nan, share their home with a miniature Dachshund named Cookie. Bob is a self-employed contractor. He has been a member of Grace since 1989 and currently serves as an usher at the 10:00 service. Bob helps with many projects around the church, both outdoor and indoor. He helps with various youth and church events, and is a past member of Church Council. Bob enjoys playing cards, travelling, and spending time with family and friends.

LORI WISE - is married to Mike. They have 2 children, Corey, a sophomore at B.G.S.U. and Megan, a junior at Fremont Ross. Lori works as a scheduler at American Welding and Tank. She is a life-long member of Grace. She has been the Cherub Choir assistant for 14 years and Sunday School Treasurer for 13 years. Lori is a past Church Council member and former Sunday school Superintendent. She volunteers with various youth events, including the Youth Dinner Auction and Vacation Bible School.



Aboard Noah's Ark Preschool, we have 31 preschoolers learning through play every day!

We have begun the process of applying for a Step up to Quality rating. SUTQ is a voluntary process for licensed Ohio Department of Job and Family Services centers which will help Noah's Ark become recognized and rated for excellence by the State of Ohio. The teachers have each attended 10 hours of continuing education in math and language arts, while I attended 10 hours of the "Taking the Lead: Administrator's Training" to further our Early Childhood education.

In April we celebrated the letter "W" with "Waffles and Whipped Cream Wednesday"! We know the year is almost over when we have gotten this far in the alphabet!

On Sunday, May 5, we will present two songs at the 10:00 worship service. We chose a silly song, "God is Bigger than the Boogie Man" and one of our graduation favorites "Praise Him", which uses sing language with the lyrics. Please plan to join us for this celebration of the 2012-13 school year.

We are making plans for the "Things that Go Show", which is scheduled for Saturday, May 18. Contact Tricia McElfresh if you have a vehicle to share with our children that day! Tickets are \$2 for ages 3 and up, and will go on sale May 1.

Noah's Ark Board meetings are open to church members. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month at noon in the dining room. Our last meeting of the year is May 1. Childcare is provided. If you desire to serve on the board for the next school year, please contact the church office.

Enrollment has begun for fall 2013. All 3-5 year-olds are welcome. Contact the church office or email noahs_ark_fremont@yahoo.com to set up a tour and free day on the Ark!

Serving God's children,
Tricia McElfresh, Administrator

YOUTH NEWS

Hey Kids!! Don't forget about Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9am 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!!



All Middle and High School Youth are invited to a party on Saturday, May 25 at the Reau home, 2080 Christy Rd.

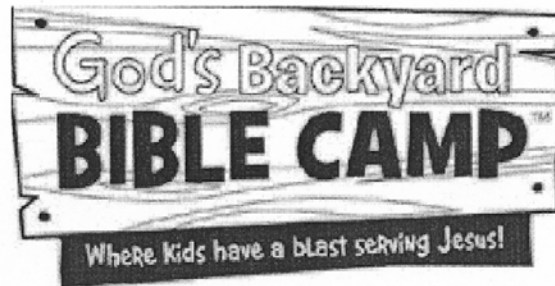
We will meet from 7-9 p.m. to celebrate the end of the school year and the beginning of summer break! There will be food, friends, a campfire and adventure waiting for you! Please sign up on the bulletin board next to the activities office if you plan on attending!

Thank you!

Little Lambs and 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 7-9pm! If you plan on attending, please sign up on the bulletin board next to the activities office. Thank you!!

**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 _____



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2013 It's a backyard Bible Bash!!

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!

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

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

We rejoice with the following children who received their First Communion on Palm Sunday in March: Zane Ball, Aubrey Durbin, Heaven Karr, McKenzie Stover, Jabari Heidelberg, Harley Seem, Ellie Stotz, Will Stotz, Lainie Tullis and Brie Wiersma.

On March 22, 12 kids, with two adults, traveled to Imagination Station for an organized overnight camp. All of the kids that attended were the most polite and most well behaved children there that night! A fun and laughter-filled time was had by all and nobody wanted the camp to end. A very special thank you to Annette Fisher, who helped Stacey chaperone the entire night!!



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, Wednesday evenings and Monday-Friday from 10am-noon! Thank you!!

CALLING ALL CREATIVE MINDS

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



GRADUATION!

Halleluiah! Some of our members are graduating. We have folks graduating from Pre-school all the way through college. We are very proud of all of you and would like to share your achievements. If you are going to graduate soon, please call the church office so that we may publish your names in the next Grace and Truth. Graduation for our high school and college group will be celebrated on Sunday, June 2nd. A breakfast will be provided to celebrate with the Graduates!

TALK TO YOUR PARENTS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Talking to your parents about caregiving, end-of-life issues and their wishes is important, but many people put it off because of being uncomfortable. Reduce the stress and start by discussing the location of information, not the contents.

One tool that can help is a financial inventory, which should be updated annually and include:

- **Legal documents:** property deeds, wills, trusts, living wills, health care and financial directives, and birth, marriage and military discharge certificates.
- **Contact information:** attorneys, accountants, financial planners, physicians and anyone who provides financial, legal and medical advice and care.
- **Current account information:** type, number and institution for all financial accounts, including checking, savings, retirement, investment, plus loans and insurance policies.

For financial guidance, contact Tracy A. Troxel, Financial Associate, ChFC, FIC at 419 334 3830 ext. 2 or tracy.troxel@thrivent.com today, or visit Thrivent.com.

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.

**WEDNESDAY SPIRIT ACTIVITIES END
THE SEASON ON MAY 15:**

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.

Choir parents take note! The choir party will take place on May 15 even though the children will be done singing by that time.



During the month of May we will be collecting the following items for Lutheran World Relief Fabric Kits: cotton or cotton-blend fabrics, 2 1/4 yards of 60" fabric, 3 yards of 44" fabric, 4 yards of 36" fabric, 2 spools of matching thread (250-300 yards each).

APRIL 7 CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT WINNERS!

Five teams competed for the title of Corn Hole champions in an evening of fellowship and corn hole. The winners were: Justin and Laura Rapp, 1st place, and Mike and Tricia Dabrunz, 2nd place.

The 1st place prize was a new set of corn hole boards with any design desired painted on it by Jeremiah Wilfong. The second place prize was a gift card to Appleby's. The group is planning more activities, so watch for information to come!

Thank You's

MANY THANKS to all who supported the Good Friday Fish Fry! It was an overwhelming success, a fun evening for everyone involved, and a great meal was enjoyed by all! To those who purchased tickets and donated deserts - thank you! To the kitchen helpers - Mary Coleman, Jeanette Damschroder, Pastor Jody & Jeff Rice, Les & Marcella Widmer, Bob & Nan Williams, Aaron Klohn, Alicia Klohn & Taylor Sachs - many thanks for your hard work! And to the "Fish Fryers" - Keeter Baumer, Mike Billings, Mark Damschroder, Steve Laeng, Gary Nossaman, Mark Prenzlin, Tracy Troxel, Pat Waggoner - awesome! A special thank you to Hal & Diane Hawk for their support and to McDonald's for their donation of orange drink and cups. A profit of \$1605.18 was made and will be divided among the Sandusky County Food Pantry and Grace Lutheran's Youth Program.

Linda Baumer, Chairperson
Fish Fry Committee

THANK YOU: LAMAR GARNER AND MERLE HIRT

After 50 years each, serving on the sound system, Lamar Garner and Merle Hirt have retired. Both men have faithfully served on the sound at the 7:45 service since the first sound system was installed. When you see these two faithful servants be sure to say thank you!

To our dear friends and family of Grace Lutheran Church. Our prayers and heartfelt thanks for all the cards, prayers and visits for Howard in his struggle to be part of this loving congregation. We also want to thank Pastor Jody for her vigilance when we thought there was no hope for Howard's recovering, also to Maureen and Pastor Jim. The chicken noodle soup delivered by Candyce Wingard was delicious.

God bless you all,
Mary and Howard Sachs

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Easter breakfast! There were so many volunteers that made the morning possible! Thank you to everyone who took the time to eat, who had the ability to donate and who had the willingness to prepare, serve and clean-up! So many hands made the work so light! Thank you from the Youth Committee!!

The Youth Committee would like to thank everyone who donated candy for the Annual Easter egg hunt!

Thank you for all of your prayers and cards. They were appreciated and God does answer. I am on the mend.

Sincerely,
Ralph Cover

Thanks to everyone at Grace for the many cards, prayers, soup and prayer shawl, and to the ladies for the funeral luncheon. Also, to Pastor Jody Rice for the many visits to Doris during her last months with us. She will be missed by many!

God bless you all!
The Family of Doris Haubert

Thank you to everyone for the prayer offerings before and after the death of our father, Del Rauch. Also for the consoling words and cards sent to us. Thank you also to Lyle Smith for the delicious chicken soup. And a very special thank you to Pastor Jody, Pastor Jim and Maureen for all their visits.

God Bless,
Bill and Tanya Schling

The Kinkaid family would like to thank everyone who came to the funeral home and sent a card. We really appreciate everyone's support and caring. Also we would like to thank the ladies for the delicious luncheon.

John Kinkaid, Sr.
Dessie Morehart and family

Thank you for inviting me to your services and allowing me to speak about Share & Care. I appreciate your church's support more than words can express! Your donation of \$703.25 will allow families and individuals to keep their utilities connected, pay their rent or help with medication.

Bless you!
Lynette Kirsch

I would like to thank the people of Grace for their prayers during and after my unexpected surgery. I received an amazing amount of cards, phone calls, gifts and warm wishes during my recovery! I am feeling so much better and I just want you all to know how very much I appreciate all that you did for me and my family during this scary time.

Love, Reagan Reau

Grace Church,
I want to thank the church family for the prayers and cards during my hospital stay. The soup delivered by Diane Hawk, made a very easy and delicious meal for us. It was all appreciated.

Nancy King.

Thank you for the delicious food and your thoughtful kindness.

Margie L. Druckenmiller and family

Thank you so much for your recent donation of \$736. This donation is much appreciated and has helped us to be able to continue necessary services to homeless individuals and families.

Blessings,
Margaret Weisz, Executive Director
Liberty Center

We at the Eastern Region of Lutheran Social Services would like to thank you for the donation of \$600 and also for the gift of \$83 to support the Toledo Food Pantry.

Nancy A. Yunker, President/CEO


Happy Easter and thank you again for all you do for the food pantry.

Sandusky County Food Pantry




birthdays

May 4	Clara Bowlus	880 Frederick Ave.
May 4	Walter Lamson	1520 River Dr.
May 5	Sally Chase	527 Saint Joseph St.
May 8	Ellen Johnson	Gardens at Clyde, 700 Coulson St., Clyde 43410
May 11	James Gruver	1507 Cleveland Rd E #432, Huron, OH 44839
May 17	Esther Chambers	1905 Melody Dr.
May 18	Kate Linder	916 North St., Apt. 27
May 20	Duane Newman	142 Briarwood Cir.
May 24	Clarence Weickert Jr.	318 E. Co. Rd. 89
May 27	Vincent Hetrick	Valley View Care Center 825 June St.



GRACE FELLOWSHIP will hold their next meeting on May 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the church lounge. A representative from W.S.O.S. will be speaking. All are welcome!



ALTAR GUILD FOR MAY

Marlene Mullholand
Linda & Larry Beck
Lynn Schrader

DO YOU LIKE TO PLAN FELLOWSHIP EVENTS?

If you do you would fit right in on our new Special Events team. We will be planning events to happen during worship and other times. Examples would be Grandparents Day, a dinner for couples celebrating 50 years of marriage, July 4th celebrations luncheon, or the church picnic! We are looking for people with ideas and the time to help. If you are interested let Maureen know at Maureenpump@yahoo.com or 419-332-1558.



SPECIAL MUSIC VOLUNTEERS are needed for the months of June, July and August. Many of our Grace musicians have been busy for most of the year either singing in the senior choir, praise team or ringing hand bells. While they take a much deserved rest during the summer months, we need volunteers to provide us with special music offerings. We can provide equipment for you and even help you choose music for your presentation. Piano or other instrumental solos or ensembles as well as vocal solos or ensembles are particularly appropriate for worship. Please leave a message in the church office for Jim Gardner, and he will return your call.



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

Atonement: Sort of like attunement - the act by which the person next to you quits singing off pitch and gets in sync with the choir - atonement is the act of God by which God takes us, who are out of sync with both God and neighbor and sets us right.

Bible: A book that Christians believe is so Holy and inspired that they almost never read it for fear that it might draw them closer to God and neighbor or change their lives in some other inconvenient way.

LEADERSHIP RETREAT FOR LIFT!

(Lutherans Involved in Fremont Together)

On Saturday, April 13, eighty Lutherans from all five local congregations (Faith, Grace, St. John's, St. Mark's and Trinity) came together to explore our joint vision. ***Faithful to God's call as one Body in Christ, we work together as fellow Lutherans to renew mission and ministry in the greater Fremont area.***

We had several goals:

- To review where joint ministry is already happening
- To discern where God may be calling us together
- To see ourselves and act as real partners in the ministry of Christ's church as one body
- To renew the church by reaching out in faith to the unchurched and dechurched

It was quite interesting to review all the areas where joint ministry is already happening! There are 15 different areas where our local churches have already joined together in ministry such as the pastor's weekly Bible study and having a joint pastoral care team. There are many other areas which were also being explored.

The second goal (To discern where God may be calling us together) allowed us to look at the challenge we all face ahead. We examined the history and current trends of all our congregations and even our denomination from the perspective of worship attendance from our congregations over the last 20 years. The numbers did not look very good. And so we joined together to explore the vision and hope for our future.

As a part of this discussion we studied one congregation, The Lutheran Church of Hope, in West Des Moines, Iowa. Their Pastor Emeritus, Merv Thompson shared their story with us via Skype. This was a church which started about 20 years ago with 18 members. They decide to reinvent themselves...which they called "a God thing!" As a result today they worship 9500 people per weekend!

Pastor Thompson characterized the LC of Hope and what shaped their congregation for such phenomenal growth. First he described the importance of a vision. At LC of Hope their vision focuses on both the Great Commandment (“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself ...Matthew 22:37-40) and the Great Commission (“¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” ...Matthew 28:16). Their entire ministry efforts focus on these two Scriptures.

Their next step was the creation of their Core Values.

1. **Jesus is Life!** Everything else is just details. This is a Jesus centered church.
2. Lost people matter to God...so they matter to us!
3. We worship God, not tradition...so there was freedom for innovation.
4. Following Jesus is a growing experience.
5. We are one body united in Jesus Christ.

The LC of Hope then decided to dream about what this innovated ministry would look like. They realized that they were only one new idea from transformation!

Our five congregations then broke up into groups and discussed what are our collective strengths for mission as well as our collective areas for improvement. We looked for areas where we could cooperate together.

There was some wonderful conversation and great ideas. We will report on specific areas of focus on later issues!



Newsletter
DEADLINE

**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS MAY 15.**

**The newsletter will be assembled
on Thursday, May 23, 2013.**

PLEASE KEEP THE CHURCH OFFICE up to date with any changes to your phone number and/or address, so we can keep in touch with you as needed. You may contact us with any changes in the church office at 419-332-1558 or by email at gracefremont@yahoo.com



*Doris Haubert
Tracy Jones
Richard May*



March 30 - Collin Matthew Ward, son of Alissa Ward.

March 30 - Legend Alana Albrecht, daughter of Ty Albrecht and Kelly Graham.

April 14 - Emma Lynn Emrich, daughter of Justin and Lindsay (Swope) Emrich.

April 14 - Henry Patrick Kauscher, son of Robert and Brittany (O'Connor) Kausher.

April 21 - Lilly Ryan Hinke, daughter of Ryan and Tonya (Herr) Hinke.

April 21 - Miraya Belicia Johnson, Luciana Alizeh Johnson and Alivia Vienna Johnson, daughters of Steve and Alicia (Keegan) Johnson.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS!

There are a multitude of opportunities to offer help and hope to the community in which we live and the world at large. Over the past month we witnessed the love of Christ as we received 2,000 pair of shoes for our Souls for Soles drive. Becky and Henry Seibert delivered the shoes to a trucking company in Defiance. From there they will be distributed here in the United States and shipped overseas to people who have no shoes. At the same time we took an offering at the doors to wrap up our weekend focus on Share and Care. Through your generous offerings we were able to send a check to Share and Care for \$555. These are wonderful examples of God's people caring for the community in which we live and the world at large. In April we will lift up the Fremont Soup Kitchen on the weekend of the 20 and 21. We are called by Christ to be His hands at work in our world. Here are more opportunities to get involved!

- Box City will take place from 5:00 p.m. on Friday June 7 to 8:00 a.m. Saturday, June 8. 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 to buy tickets. The tickets are \$5.00 a piece. The Liberty Center served 26 people in March. Their current needs are: a new computer, baby products, canned fruits, coffee, creamer, hamburger, dish liquid, paper napkins, all purpose cleaner, disinfectant spray, solid air fresheners, shower caddies.
- The Fremont Food Pantry had 242 referrals in March. They served 771 people and 16191 meals. The Food Pantry could use financial assistance.
- Share and Care gave out 258 bags of clothing in March. They also assisted with prescriptions, food pantry vouchers for 133 people, Salvation Army assistance in the amount of \$1,860.00 and financial assistance in the amount of \$1,410. Gas and food cards were also given out in the amount of \$888. The center is in need of volunteers, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, razors, laundry or dish soap, cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper and most importantly prayers for the center and their clients.

Love Your Neighbor Day is quickly approaching! This is your opportunity to get out and connect with the community in a big way! On April 27 we will join 10 other area churches to be the hands of Christ in our community. At the time of this printing there are over 200 volunteers signed up. It is a wonderful day of great fellowship as we carry out Christ's command to "love our neighbors"! Look for more information to come following the event!

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

pastorjim777@sbcglobal.net

Maureen Pump, Lay Associate Minister

MaureenPump@yahoo.com

Linda Baumer, Office Manager

gracefremont@yahoo.com

Tricia Dabrunz, Secretary/Receptionist

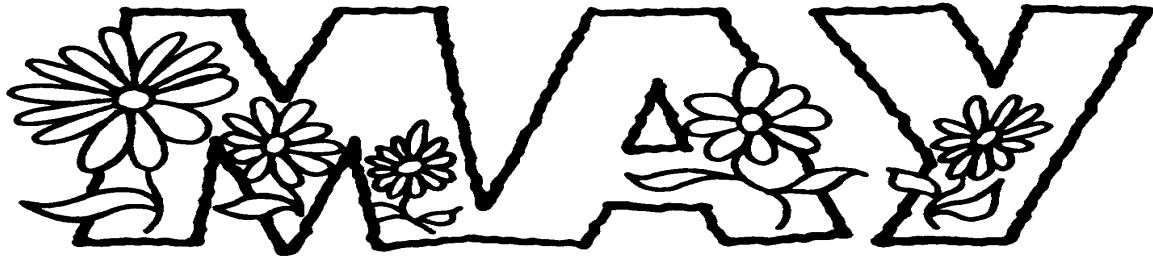
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com

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

May 5 & 19

7:45 - L. & R. Baumer (Front)
L. & D. Garner (Baptistry)
C. Klohn (Chapel)

10:00 - K. Burmeister (Front)
S. Clevenger (Baptistry)
R. Gray (Chapel)

May 12 & 26

7:45 - J. & J. Lajti (Front)
D. Burkett (Baptistry)
C. Paeth (Chapel)

10:00 - L. & B. McElfresh (Front)
L. Halm (Baptistry)
T. McElfresh (Chapel)

USHERS

May 5, 12, 19, & 26

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

May 5 & 19

10:00 - T. Shanahan
T. Troxel
B. Williams
T. Clevenger

May 12 & 26

10:00 - D. Cooper
D. & S. Burmeister
D. Curliss

MAY 5

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Tommy Bousquet, Isaac Fraley
10:00 - Walker Cooper, Dirk Gross, Casey McElfresh
DEACONS: 7:45 - R. House, P. Karle, L. Martin, C. Klohn
10:00 - S. Nossaman, E. Dabrunz
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Troxel Family, S. Brickner
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger (5:00), L. Klohn (7:45), E. Muffler (10:00)

MAY 12

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Matt Dupey, Josh Oliver
10:00 - Emily Kerns, Bailey Eishen, Kellie Auen
DEACONS: 7:45 - M. Klohn, B. Seibert, C. Miller, J. Dorr
10:00 - L. Polter, C. Amor
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Wiersma Family
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), J. Oliver (7:45) D. Prasuhn (10:00)

MAY 19

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Mallory Hutton, Matthew Hutton
10:00 - Mike Muffler, Nathan Weltin, Kennedi Weltin
DEACONS: 7:45 - J. Dupey, R. House, P. Karle, L. Martin
10:00 - E. Dabrunz, D. Linder
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - Cornelia Star, Greg, Jody and Cydne Jess
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger (5:00), D. Prasuhn (7:45), M. McElfresh (10:00)

MAY 26

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Aaron Klohn, Alicia Klohn
10:00 - Logan Kessler, Bryce Moreno, Paul Mowry
DEACONS: 7:45 - C. Klohn, D. Knepper, B. Seibert, M. Klohn
10:00 - S. Nossaman, L. Polter
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Gedeon Family
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), L. Klohn (7:45), R. Hawn (10:00)

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)

SUNDAY

MONDAY


TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

	<h1>MAY</h1>		<p>12:00 Noah's Ark Board Meeting SPIRIT 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kids Clubs 6:15 Children's Choirs 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Confirmation 7:15 Bells</p>	<p>11:30 Soup Kitchen 12:00 National Day of Prayer Fremont City Hall</p>		 <p>9:30 - 3:30 Crafting for a Cause 5:00 Worship/Communion</p>
<p>7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 8:50 Home Communion Training 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion/Baptism/ Noah's Ark Presentation 11:15 New Member Reception 11:15 Praise Team Practice 7:30 DAA</p>	<p>1:00 Bible Study-Lounge 7:00 Scouts</p>	<p>6:00 Women's Bible Study - Lounge</p>	<p>SPIRIT 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kids Clubs 6:15 Children's Choirs 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Confirmation 7:15 Bells</p>	<p>11:30 Soup Kitchen</p>	<p>5:00 Wedding Rehearsal</p>	<p>10:00 Women's Brunch 1:30 Aspacher/Laughlin Wedding 5:00 Worship/Communion</p>
<p>CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS MOTHER'S DAY 7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion 11:15 Praise Team Practice 7:30 DAA</p>	<p>9:00 Project Day 9:15 MOPS 1:00 Bible Study-Lounge 7:00 Scouts 7:00 Church Council Devotions 7:15 Standing Committees 8:00 Church Council</p>	<p>9:30 Daughters Circle-Lounge 6:00 Women's Bible Study - Lounge (end o 7:30 Grace Fellowship-Lounge</p>	<p>G & T DEADLINE SPIRIT - END OF SEASON 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kids Clubs 6:15 Children's Choirs 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Confirmation 7:15 Bells</p>	<p>11:30 Soup Kitchen</p>		 <p>11 - 1 Things That Go Show 5:00 Worship/Communion/Mission Moment</p>
<p>CONFIRMATION SUNDAY MISSION MOMENT 7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 9:00 Confirmation Breakfast 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion/Confirmation 11:15 Praise Team Practice 7:30 DAA</p>	<p>1:00 Bible Study-Lounge 7:00 Scouts 7:00 GLCW Board Meeting</p>	<p>7:15 Joy Circle - J. Guthrie</p>	<p>6:30 Noah's Ark Graduation</p>	<p>G & T ASSEMBLED 11:30 Soup Kitchen</p>		<p>5:00 Worship/Communion 7 - 9 Middle/High School Youth - Party at the Reau home</p>
<p>HOLY TRINITY 7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion 11:15 Praise Team Practice 7:30 DAA</p>	 <p>MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED</p>			<p>11:30 Soup Kitchen</p>	<p>7 - 9 1st - 5th graders - Party at the Reau home</p>	<h1>2013</h1>