

*“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.”*

John 1:14

Grace & Truth

Grace Lutheran Church, Fremont, OH

October, 2008

IT’S A FACEBOOK WORLD

I’ve been a member of Facebook for about a month now. Another pastor invited me to join, and I have found a whole new part of the world.

Facebook is an internet site (www.facebook.com) that is a social network. One joins the network (sign-up is incredibly easy), and then finds “friends”. It appears to be a safe site, since any friend has to confirm that they know you before you can send messages. Facebook is used mainly by high school and college students and other young adults, although I have also joined a network of other pastors through this site.

Facebook is also a ministry tool for the church! Yes, it’s new. And yes, we still have people who believe that the computer is a tool of the devil (turns out, people said the same thing about the gun and the car, but we still use them!). Here’s the point: if we as a church are serious about making connections with young people, Facebook is where we find them. We can use Facebook for outreach, information, bonding and connections, and even low-intensity counseling and sharing of advice.

So we’ve started a “group” on Facebook for Grace Lutheran Church. Already there are 17 members of our group (and four of them are actually over age 25). You can join, too! You’ll find updates on church events, and easy ways to connect with church friends. You’ll also find my new blog, where I’ll share occasional

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commentary on faith and life in this community. You can sign up at www.facebook.com, and then search for the Grace Lutheran Church group.

It's a new world, and Facebook is a big part of it. I'm learning to navigate my way through. And along the way, I've learned some very good news! Our Christian young people are showing character and grace. Here's what I've seen on their pages: very appropriate photos, respectful language (for the most part), and some awful spelling! But it is a network of friends, so there is forgiveness! I just hope they'll at least spell Jesus correctly – we are representing Him!

Pastor Paul

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Sunday, October 5 – The Gathering (7th & 8th graders) – 6-8pm

Sunday, October 12 – Your Encounter (9th-12th graders) –
3:00 - 6:00pm - Afternoon Road Trip

Saturday, October 18 – Crazy Kids Corn Maze – 1 – 4pm

Sunday, October 19 – Jr. & Sr. LYO – Cedar Point –
Cost \$20, plus money for food
Leave from church after 10:00 service
Parent volunteers are needed.



FOCUS ON MINISTRY

If you are like me, nothing is more enjoyable than spending time with people over a nice meal. Whether it is gathering around my table at home, in a restaurant, or at a dinner here in our dining room at church, people and food go together.

God knows the importance of food and fellowship. When the Israelites were hungry, God provided manna in the desert to ease the unrest in the camp. He worked through the disciples to provide bread for 5,000 men plus women and children, after a long day of listening to Jesus teach. Jesus enjoyed gathering with people over a nice meal. It was during the last supper, that He instituted Holy Communion, the meal we share, as his people, in worship. Food and Fellowship go together.

There are a great many people who provide food each time we serve a funeral dinner here at Grace. I am a strong supporter of funeral dinners. I have experienced the comfort and healing that takes place at a funeral meal. As family and friends share memories, hugs, and food, the love and compassion of Christ is felt.

We want to thank the men and women who have provided funeral food at all worship services on the weekend of October 25 and 26. Following the 10:00 service on Sunday there will be a meal in their honor.

If you have prepared a dish for a funeral meal and would like to attend the dinner please call the church office at 419-332-1558 before October 22 and let us know. There are so many people who have taken part in this ministry that it is impossible to name or invite them all without missing someone. So please give us a call so we are able to say thank you and share a meal with you on October 26.

God's Peace and Power,
Maureen Pump
Director of Ministries



**CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS
SEPTEMBER 8, 2008**

- **Membership Changes**
Transfer Out - Donnie, Ann, and Valerie Bixler
to St. John's Lutheran, Fremont
- **Annual Youth Dinner/Auction** scheduled for
Saturday, February 21, 2009.
- **Mission Fair** will be held on December 3, 2008.
Coffee and chocolate sales will be held at same
time.
- **Blood drive** scheduled for Saturday, December 27,
2008, from 8am - 2pm.
- **Wayne Lieske, Property Committee**, to have
drawings for Boiler System at October meeting.
- **Teacher Appreciation** at all services on
September 14.

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund

As of August 31, 2008:

Year to date expense budget:	\$326,311.27	
Year to date actual expenses:	<u>292,242.50</u>	
	\$ 34,068.77 (Under budget)	

The above numbers show that we are making every effort to be financially responsible in our decision making to stay within our budget. Spending is 10% below what we expected our expenses would be for the year. This is expected to continue due to the Youth Minister vacancy.

As shown below, the 2008 year to date receipts includes \$10,000 that was budgeted to be moved from Land Acquisition to our checking account to meet expenses. This was done as a precautionary measure to ensure sufficient funding was available. None of the \$10,000 transfer was needed for the month of August. As shown below, giving is up slightly from this time last year. Going forward, we ask for your continued support as we do God's work.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Year to date receipts:	\$ 270,143.72	\$269,009.76
Land Acquisition Transfer	10,000.00	- 0 -
Year to date actual expenses:	<u>292,242.50</u>	<u>303,683.20</u>
Receipts less expenses:	\$ -12,098.78 (Shortfall)	\$ -34,673.44 (Shortfall)

Capital Campaign

Beginning Balance 1/1/08		
Boiler Fund	\$172,279.52	
Accessibility Fund	<u>5,630.23</u>	
Total Beginning Balance 1/1/08		\$177,909.75
Income YTD 8/31/08		
Endowment Board	231,212.79	
Pledges Received	23,813.00	
Memorials/Donations/Interest	<u>51,877.84</u>	
Total YTD Income		<u>306,903.63</u>
Funds available as of 8/31/08		
		484,813.38
Pledges Yet to be Received		<u>176,137.00</u>
Balance plus Outstanding Pledges		\$660,950.38
Less Expenditures YTD 8/31/08		
		<u>10,141.31</u>
Total Funds (pledged or received) available for the project		\$650,809.07

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Laeng
Financial Administrator



Grace Fellowship will meet on Tuesday, October 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the Church Lounge. Kelly Snyder will present the program on "The Seeing Eye Dog". In addition to the program, all singles and couples attending, will enjoy fellowship and refreshments. Hope to see you there!



LOOKING AHEAD!

Thinking about the Christmas Holiday yet? Here are some events you will want to mark on your calendar!



The Mission Fair will be held during the first week in Advent, beginning at Wednesday night Spirit, December 3, and will feature items from Kenya and Tanzania. All profit goes directly back to the artisan. Watch future bulletins and the newsletter for more details.



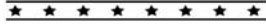
Orders will be taken during November. Items ordered will be available for pickup during the Mission Fair. Watch the bulletins and newsletter for more details.



Grace Lutheran's annual Blood Drive will be held on Saturday, December 27, from 8:00am - 2:00pm.
GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!



on Mike McElfresh




As I write this month's update, it is day 267 of Michael's deployment. Although his orders are written for a period of 400 days, he is hopeful to be counting down from 100 right now. The rumor is (and we never believe rumors!) they may be home before the new year. What a blessing that would be.

The plans to move to Kenya have been shelved, as Al Qaeda activities in the region have put them all on edge. For now, he continues to work in the administrative office in Djibouti. Although desk work is not his preference, at least it is safe and consistent. I know he would love a card or letter from members of his church family. His address is :

SSG Ned M McElfresh
D 412 CA BN
APO AE 09363-9998

He is worshipping every Sunday evening, and says he is starting to let himself dream of homecoming. Please continue your prayers for him and all who serve their country. It is a blessing and a challenge to be a military family, and we could not stay this course without our faith.

Tricia, Casey, and Ivy



**Heading south this winter?
Searching for a warmer climate?**

SNOWBIRDS **Which ever direction you go,
please be sure to contact the
church office with your "winter" address so we can
keep you in touch with Grace happenings!**

(The Post Office does not forward the newsletters, so if we do not have your current address, or if you leave an order of "Temporarily Away", we are charged postage when your mail is returned to us.)



Zion Women of the ELCA will host a Bazaar on Tuesday, October 7, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at 500 S. Brentwood Drive in Gibsonburg. There will be crafts, holiday items, white elephant, and baked goods. The menu consists of: Creamed Chicken on Biscuit Dinner - \$6. Hot Dog Dinner - \$3. All dinners include gelatin salad, dessert, and beverage. Carry outs will be available.

FALL COFFEE KLATCH

THE WOMEN OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, CASTALIA, INVITE ALL WOMEN OF ALL AGES, ALL WALKS OF LIFE, AND ALL DENOMINATIONS TO BE THEIR GUEST ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16 AT 9:30 A.M. YOU WILL ENJOY A CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, GREAT FELLOWSHIP, AND ENTERTAINMENT WITH OTHER AREA CHURCHWOMEN!

THE BREAKFAST IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. THE CHURCH IS HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE AND IS LOCATED AT 208 S. WASHINGTON STREET IN CASTALIA.



It's That Time Again! Dartball season has begun! The first game takes place on Sunday, October 1. For more details, call Larry Burmeister, 419-637-2541 or Bob Wickert, 419-639-2962. Join the fun!

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Another big "WOW"! Thank you so much to everyone who served in any way for Thankoffering Saturday and Sunday. "God is with you always, in all ways".

C.U. Oma



Thank you for cards, prayers, and visits while I was in rehab at Valley View Healthcare Center. Also, to Pastors Gruetter and Avers for their prayers. Also, Kathy Burmeister for delivering the lovely blue prayer shawl - means so much in healing.

In Christian love,
Joanne Ebert

* * * * *

Thank you to all who remembered me with birthday cards. They are all very special!

Shirley Bradford

* * * * *

Dear Friends at Grace - We want to thank all those who shared their care and concern with us when Mom died. Special thanks to the church staff, especially Pastors Gruetter and Avers, the Soup Ministry, the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Mom's Hope Missionary Society. These acts of love and thoughtfulness touched our hearts and lifted our spirits.

God Bless,
Judith and David Reed

* * * * *

I would like to thank Pastor Gruetter and Celebrant Maureen Pump for their prayers and beautiful service conducted for my beloved husband, David. Thanks goes out also to the Prayer Shawl Ministry for my prayer shawl, Judy Koebel for the chicken soup, and the many members who shared a hug, cards, and memorials during this very sad time.

May God bless all of you,
Judy Gangwer



October Birthdays

October 1	Sam Otermat, Jr.	880 Co. Rd. 99
October 4	George Gibson	1705 W. Cole Rd.
October 5	Robert Hetrick	1442 Oak Harbor Rd.
October 5	Lyle Smith	121 Norbert Dr.
October 8	Robert Michael	Elmwood of Fremont 1545 Fangboner Rd.
October 11	Del Rauch	63 Linda Dr.
October 12	Ada Mehlow	Parkside Manor 1430 Oak Harbor Rd.
October 12	Doris Shriver	1457 Alger St.
October 15	Elizabeth Parsons	1402 White Ave.
October 19	Muriel Newman	Bethesda Care Center 600 N. Brush St.
October 20	Eloise Jacobs	16416 US Hwy 19N Embassy Pk., Lot 1311 Clearwater, FL 33764
October 21	Janet Otermat	880 Co. Rd. 99
October 22	Donna Imler	1451 Oak Harbor Rd., Lot 14B
October 26	Betty Stotz	802 Kentucky Ave.
October 27	Eugene Dierksheide	16 Linda Dr.

ALTAR GUILD FOR OCTOBER

Linda Martin, Chairman
Dan & Jan Linder, Carol Slemmer



DISCHARGED

Marion Upton
Jeanice Olmstead
Laylan Massie
Mary Stuckey
Connie Wasserman
Irv Burmeister
Martha Fisher
Rita Shafer

Angela Bodart and Brandon Roach
August 30, 2008
Renee LaFontaine and Timothy Baughman
September 6, 2008
Alison Hoch and Daniel Roach
September 13, 2008



James V. Hummel
David G. Gangwer
Marian E. Zilles
Lynda Hofelich Voss

**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 17.**

**THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE
ASSEMBLED ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23.**



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

Return Service Requested

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

Worship Services:

Saturday 5:00pm - Traditional Worship

Sunday 7:45am - Liturgical Worship

9:00am - Christian Education

10:00am - Celebration Worship/Holy Communion

Office Hours – 8:30am-4:30pm, M-F

E-mail: gracefremont@yahoo.com

Web page: www.gracefremont.org

Paul Gruetter, Senior Pastor

paulgruetter@yahoo.com

James Avers, Visitation Pastor

pastorjim777@sbcglobal.net

Maureen Pump, Director of Ministries

MaureenPump@yahoo.com

Linda Biller, Office Administrator

billerlinda@yahoo.com

Sue Laeng, Financial Administrator

gracefremont@yahoo.com

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY




WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



			<p>1</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choir Practice 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 Continued Recovery Team 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>2</p> <p>11:00 - Soup Kitchen  6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:00 - Worship</p>
<p>5</p> <p>7:45 - Worship 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 6-8 - The Gathering-7th&8th graders 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>6</p> <p>2:15 - Beth Moore Bible Study 6:30 - Noah's Ark Board Meeting</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choir Practice 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 Continued Recovery Team 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>9</p> <p>11:00 - Soup Kitchen 5:00 - Women's Cancer Support Group 6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Food Pantry Sunday New Members Received 7:45 - Worship/Holy Communion 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 11:30 - Life Keys 3 - 6 - Your Encounter -9-12 graders 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 - Project Day 9:15 - MOPS 2:15 - Beth Moore Bible Study 7:00 - Church Council Devotions 7:15 - Standing Committees 8:15 - Church Council</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 - Charity Circle @ home of Marian Cooley 2:30 - Daughters Circle - Lounge 7:30 - Grace Fellowship</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choir Practice 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 Continued Recovery Team 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>16</p> <p>11:00 - Soup Kitchen 6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p> <p>"G&T" DEADLINE</p>	<p>18</p> <p>1-4 Crazy Kids - Corn Maze 2:30 - Smith/Yohe Wedding 5:00 - Worship</p>
<p>19</p> <p>7:45 - Worship 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion Jr./Sr. LYO - Cedar Point 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>20</p> <p>2:15 - Beth Moore Bible Study 7:30 - Grieving Hearts Support Group</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:15 - Joy Circle @ home of Bev O'Donnell</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choir Practice 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 Continued Recovery Team 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>23</p> <p>"G&T" MAILED 11:00 - Soup Kitchen 6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:00 - Worship/Holy Communion</p>
<p>26</p> <p>7:45 - Worship/Holy Communion 8:55 - Senior Choir Practice 9:00 - Christian Education 10:00 - Celebration Worship/ Holy Communion 11:15 - Appreciation Luncheon 8:00 - DAA</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 - Project Day 9:15 - MOPS 2:15 - Beth Moore Bible Study 7:00 - GLCW Board Meeting</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:00 - Soup Kitchen </p>	<p>29</p> <p>5:00 - Spirit Meal 6:15 - Children's Choir Practice 6:30 - Prayer & Praise 7:15 - Small Groups 7:30 - Confirmation 7:30 - Bells 8:00 Continued Recovery Team 8:30 - Praise Team</p>	<p>30</p> <p>11:00 - Soup Kitchen 6:30 - Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>31</p> <p></p>	<p>2008</p>



GREETERS

October 5 & 19

7:45 - M/M D. Zilles(Front)
C. Paeth(Baptistry)
J. Sachs(Chapel)

10:00 - M. Wood, D. Morehart(Front)
M/M J. Peters(Baptistry)
J. Overmyer(Chapel)

October 12 & 26

7:45 - M/M D. O'Donnell(Front)
K. Linder(Baptistry)
J. Letzring(Chapel)

10:00 - M/M E. Muffler(Front)
M/M D. Linder(Baptistry)
M. Shafer(Chapel)

USHERS

October 5, 12, 19, 26

7:45 - Jim Kleinkorres
Ray Linder
Marv Meyer
Jean Dupey

October 5 & 19

10:00 - Tony & Peggy Karle
Scott & Lori Nossaman

October 12 & 26

10:00 - Gary Nossaman
Del Rauch
Gil Rumball
Terry Clevenger

OCTOBER 5

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Zach Beckman, Tyler Kinkaid, Trenton Laird
10:00 - Nick Auen, Curtis Hinsch

DEACONS: 7:45 - L. Garner, T. Lytle, L. Martin, C. Miller
10:00 - L. Rapp, L. Smith, C. Troxel, C. Miller

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - L & J Overmyer, B. Prasuhn, G. Rumball
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), D. Pump10:00)

OCTOBER 12

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - AJ Mehlow, Austin Jess, Jacob Moses
10:00 - Matt & Brian King

DEACONS: 7:45 - D. Polter, L. Overmyer, B. Seibert, L. Widmer, J. Connors, S. Bradford
10:00 - C. Waggoner, D. Willey, S. Auen, E. Foreman

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - L. Smith, T & S Wiersma, J. Harris
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), D. Prasuhn10:00)

OCTOBER 19

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Kelsey Rosenberger, Allison Schrader, Alexa Urban
10:00 - Aaron Kerns, Grant Root

DEACONS: 7:45 - D. Blue, K. Burmeister, D. Durbin, A. Fisher
10:00 - T. Joseph, J. Koebel, N. Kreilick, F. Lawrence

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - F. Keller, S. Laeng, B & M Muffler
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Pump(10:00)

OCTOBER 26

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Alex & Andrew House, Kyle Damman
10:00 - Morgan Carmel, Meagan Buchele

DEACONS: 7:45 - R. Haynes, C. Klohn, T. Lytle, L. Martin, C. Miller, D. Polter
10:00 - D. Linder, J. Linder, L. Rapp, L. Smith

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - R & P Neill, L. Oberst, N. Kreilick
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger(5:00), L. Garner (7:45), D. Prasuhn(10:00)

NOVEMBER 2

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Alex Swope, Matt Guthrie, JC Minich
10:00 - Mariah Girand, Bailey Eishen

DEACONS: 7:45 - B. Seibert, L. Garner, L. Widmer, J. Connors
10:00 - C. Troxel, C. Waggoner, D. Willey, S. Auen

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - Mark, Mindy, Alexis, & Jack Gedeon
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer(5:00), M. Hirt (7:45), D. Pump(10:00)