"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 2014

Grace Lutheran Church, Fremont, OH

A TIME TO CELEBRATE!

Palm Sunday was a day of celebration for nine young people who received their first communion. We rejoice and give thanks for these youth. Front Row: Brooklyn Holland, Paige Russell, Virginia Dabrunz; Back Row: Samuel Rutherford, Miraya Johnson, Pastor Jody Rice, Blake Bender, and Luke Durbin. Not pictured: Chase and Chelsie Gilbert.



FIRST COMMUNION Class of 2014

The Pastor's Corner

Change is all around us. It is inevitable. There is change with global warming. There is change in the political world. There is change in the market place. Change...Mark Twain once said, "20 years from now you will be disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the one's you did. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

Now Grace has already started to make some great changes. Just think we are in the final stages of construction with the elevator...a dream in the making for many years.

And now we are getting ready to throw off the bowlines and sail into new waters! We are ready to embark on a new journey together with God as our captain! We have begun the Vision 2025 Project. This will be a fabulous missional journey. We will learn to develop our own unique response to God's promised and preferred future with our neighbors here in Fremont.

Our first step in our new adventure was the launch of The **Alpha** Course. It is a gathering for everyone who wants to explore life's big questions. **Alpha** is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. No pressure. No follow up. We will learn to be a church where we are able to invite our neighbors to come in and join us...for worshipping and praising God!

Our next step was the completion of selecting our Vision Committee. So we will begin meeting shortly for this long range visioning process. We will begin to listen to our neighbors and then finally we will be inviting each of you to participate and give your ideas in all areas, including Worship, Education, Ministry, Staff/Volunteers, Facilities, Fellowship and Youth.

Keep shining! Pastor Jody

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE! The first quarter of 2014 is already finished. Due to the extreme weather of this year many people were unable to attend church. As a result our giving for 2014 is behind where we need to be. We would like you to prayerfully consider your gifts to Grace. We give thanks to God for your continued support of Grace Lutheran Church!

Grace and peace, The Stewardship Committee

Upcoming Activities

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED – May Friendship Day will be held at noon on Friday, May 2, at Hayes Memorial UMC. The deadline to register is April 28. The cost is \$7 and checks should be made payable to Church Women United and then sent to Alyce Schmidt, 1708 Oak Dr., Fremont.

DISCOVER GRACE LUNCHEON OFFERED ON MAY 4.

If you are interested in knowing more about Grace Church, what Lutherans believe, and the possibility of becoming a member, you are invited to Discover Grace on Sunday, May 4. The luncheon begins at 11:15 and will last about an hour and a half. Please



call the church office at 419-332-1558 to sign up before April 30. Those attending the luncheon will be invited to join Grace on May 18 at the service of their choice.



MOTHER'S DAY AT GRACE

We will celebrate Mother's Day the weekend of May 11 & 12 with a gift for the ladies who attend worship that weekend.

GRACE FELLOWSHIP will meet on Tuesday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the church lounge. Our guest speaker will be Jeff Lamson, Superintendent of the Water Pollution Control Center for the City of Fremont. He will be giving us an overview of the improvements made to the sewage treatment plant built in the 1950's. Please join us for an interesting program!

FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE

The Food Pantry Challenge for May will take place on May 17 and 18. This month our challenge is to see how many cans of fruit and tuna we are able to collect. Grocery carts will be placed at the front of the sanctuary that weekend for you to put your donations into when you come forward for communion.



Wednesday Spirit activities will end for the season on May 21. It has been an active year and now it is time for us to break for summer. The meal, youth choirs and children's and adult groups will resume on September 10.

Crafting for a Cause will meet on Saturday, May 24 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the dining room. A free-will 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 phone at 402-850-1581 or by email at cheryl.a.paeth@gmail.com



THRIVENT MEMBERS! Help our congregation get an extra boost from the Thrivent Choice Dollars program "Direct Now... and add \$20!" Simply designate Grace Lutheran as your first pick to receive your Choice Dollars between April 1 and May 31, 2014. Thrivent will then give an extra \$20 for each member who chooses to do so. Grace will receive these additional funds as a one-time payment.

NEW TRADITIONS! As we continue to celebrate new traditions in 2014, we ask that the congregation turn and face the Processional Cross as it travels through the sanctuary. This is done as a way to give honor to Christ and His work done for us here.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR MUSICIANS!

Do you have a special piece of music that you would be willing to share with the congregation during the months of June, July, and August while the choirs are on vacation? Now is the time to start preparing your summer music selection. If you are interested please contact



Jim Gardner by calling the church office, at 419-332-1558, and leave a message to schedule your performance. Vocals, instrumentals, and ensemble groups are all welcome!

OUTREACH & MISSIONS

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR DAY

Love Your Neighbor Day will take place on May 3. Grace is one of ten churches heading out into our community to be the hands and feet of Christ as we help with household chores over the course of the morning. Check out the June newsletter for an article wrapping up this exciting event.

LIBERTY CENTER UPDATE

The Liberty Center of Sandusky County greatly appreciates being chosen as one of the six local charities focused on this year by the L.I.F.T group of Lutheran churches. Together you raised \$1669. In addition to the monetary donations the following items were also donated: 10 sweat tops/bottoms, 7 totes, 5 insulated lunch bags, 4 cans of coffee, 29 rolls of paper towels, 4 boxes of trash bags, 24 canned goods, 14 dry goods, and many rolls of toilet paper, bars of soap, toothpaste, shampoo, tissues, laundry soup, etc. One church also committed to making a dozen health kits. All donations were needed and will be put to good use. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Please continue to support us, and keep us in your prayers throughout the year, as homelessness does not take a break.

During the month of March, Liberty Center helped: 1 mom with 7 children - apartment; 1 mom with 2 children - apartment; 4 single men - 3 still at center, 1 apartment; 4 single women - 2 still at center, 1 with family, and 1 apartment.

Baumann Car Raffle Tickets-ALL PROCEEDS from ticket sales at the stay Liberty Center! Tickets are \$5. For more information about purchasing tickets contact the Liberty Center, at 419-332-8777.

Box City is scheduled for June 6 to help raise awareness about homelessness.

We are currently in need of the following items: paper plates, napkins, toilet paper, sugar and powdered coffee creamer.

PLEASE... PLEASE: We visit Memorial Hospital everyday. However, if you do not tell Admissions that you are a member of Grace Lutheran Church, we will not be able to find you and offer prayers. Please let us know when you are admitted. If you or a loved one are admitted to ANY hospital, please specify with the hospital that you are a member of Grace Lutheran Church, Fremont. You or a member of your family need to call the church office and let us know where to find you. Due to the privacy laws, we are often not notified and we need to rely on you.

L.I.F.T. CHURCHES ACTIVITIES

(Lutherans Involved in Fremont Together)

SOLES 4 SOULS UPDATE

Many thanks to everyone that participated in the Soles 4
Souls shoe drive! Shoe collection results: Grace 522 pairs and
10 singles, St. John's 227 pairs and 5 singles, Trinity 66 pairs,
St. Marks 147 pairs and 5 singles, and Faith 171 pairs and 1
single. We collected a total of 1,133 pairs of shoes and 21 single shoes.



ALPHA WINDS DOWN FOR THIS SESSION

On February 9 we kicked off our first Alpha session with 58 people in attendance. We have settled into an average of 60 people attending each week. Everyone enjoyed the Day Away Retreat at The Pines on March 22. It was a time to refresh and renew as we heard talks about the power of the Holy Spirit. As we prepare to wrap up this session on May 4, we are looking forward to the next session which will take place sometime in the fall. It has been an exciting time to watch the small groups bond with each other and grow in knowledge and faith. This has truly been an Alpha, or beginning, of a journey for everyone who

Another New Face!

We are blessed to have another new person on staff, Ben Wallick. Ben is currently an Associate Pastor at Hayes United Methodist Church while attending seminary. In addition to his role at Hayes and his seminary schedule, Ben was working support in the technology industry. As a result of the loss of this job, Ben came to us to ask if the LIFT churches could utilize his gifts.



Between St. John's and Grace we have hired Ben for a Seminary Work/Study Internship Pilot Program. He will be working for Grace for 20 hours per week and at St. John's for 10 hours per week. His areas of focus will be technology assistance in the following areas: general computer and telecommunications support, finalize extension of internet to all areas of the church, purchase of cameras and computer for recording of services for podcasts and live streaming, upgrading and updating the church/LIFT Web Site, upgrading Grace use of social media coordination with Grace, St. John's and LIFT in technology improvements.

The Intern is Coming! The Intern is Coming!

Yes our intern, Erin Burns, will be joining us on August 11. to begin her year long internship. "Vicar" Erin is joining us from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. She is 32 years old and has been married for four years to Ed Burns. She has a 12 year-old stepson named Hunter. Both Ed and Hunter will be staying at home in Youngstown most of the time during Erin's internship. Erin will be living in the house provided by St. John's on Napoleon Street.

We will be having a celebration to welcome Erin on Sept. 7. All the L.I.F.T churches are invited to meet at Faith Lutheran after worship and celebrate with an old fashion cook out and homemade ice cream. Mark your calendars!

WOMEN'S SPRING BRUNCH

On April 5, twenty-nine ladies gathered in the dining room and enjoyed a wonderful breakfast prepared by our Kitchen Ministers, Frieda Fought and Janice Baker. The guests were involved with an Easter devotion and then had a great time making Easter arrangements out of fresh flowers under the instruction of Jill and Ruth Gray from Bloom. Everyone had a great time and we are looking forward to having Jill come back in the fall to show us how to make an arrangement in a carved out pumpkin! Thank you to Jill and Ruth for coming and making the morning so much fun. Thank you also to Grace Lutheran Church Women for the generous donation that made the brunch possible.

VISION 2025

The Vision 2025 Committee has been selected! We have 19 people who have volunteered to serve on this committee to help us find God's preferred and promised future for Grace Lutheran Church. If anyone has any concerns, please bring them to the Mutual Ministry Committee. The complete list of members is listed on page 8 in the Council Minutes.

We will keep you updated as this new team begins to meet. A special thanks to everyone who has agreed to serve.

ELEVATOR PROJECT UPDATE!

We are currently awaiting the actual elevator unit and have been told possibly the end of April. Once here, it will take approximately 1-2 weeks to complete installation. State inspectors will then need to give their final approval before the elevator will be in use. Keep a close lookout for progress!

FINANCIAL REPORT General Fund As of MARCH 2014			
AS OF WIARCET 2014	2014 Actual	2014 Budget	2013 Actual
Year to date receipts:	105,467	113,300	107,149
Year to date expenses:	112,572	116,611	105,508
Receipts less expenses:	(7,105)	(3,311)	1,641
			4
Respectfully submitted, Bill Armstrong Financial Assistant			

Church Council Notes - April 14, 2014

- "L.I.F.T." (Lutherans Involved in Fremont Together) there are two more sessions. There have been 58-60 in attendance. May 4 is the celebration dinner; Nancy Cullen, Associate Pastor from Vineyard Church, will be the speaker.
- Elevator Update waiting for the elevator unit; time frame is behind, possibly end of April.
- Security Ad Hoc Committee after receiving suggestions/ recommendations from Police Chief Tim Wiersma, several estimates have been received and given to Property Committee to review.
- Long Range visioning with Mutual Ministry 19 people have agreed to be a part of this team. Council approved this list of names and they are as follows: Kathy Burmeister, Sherry Clevenger, Walker Cooper (Youth), Janet Dorr (Council), George Dupey (Mutual Ministry), Isaac Fraley (Youth), Pastor Jody (Staff/Mutual Ministry), Dick Knepper, Becky McElfresh (Mutual Ministry), Emily Muffler (Youth), Marv Mullholand (Mutual Ministry), Mary Nossaman (Mutual Ministry), Maureen Pump (Staff), Mark Reau, Tanya Schardt, Melissa Spriggs, Tracy Troxel, Les Widmer, Bob Zilles.

(Church Council notes continued.)

- Intern Update Erin Burns will be starting on August 11 and is looking forward to coming to Grace. Her focus will be on youth. She will attend the 2015 National Youth Gathering with our youth.
- Nominating Committee a slate of nine (9) nominees has been set, and elections will take place the weekend of May 10 / 11 at all services. (Note: Council Nominees info sheet begins on page 11)
- New Hire Ben Wallick, Associate Pastor at Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church - will be shared between Grace (20 hours) and St. John's (10 hours) - assisting Pr. Jody with out of town visitation and technology projects at Grace.

Christian Missions/Outreach

- Will participate in Farmer's Markets on June 21 and September 6
- Food Pantry donations are up; this month collecting fruit and tuna
- Global Barnyard will be a mission shared among the LIFT churches
- Bridge of Hope Summer Festival is scheduled for July 13
- 6 Soups and 3 Shawls were distributed
- Soles for Souls collected 1133 pairs of shoes

Christian Worship

- Baptismal Font has been refurbished by Terry Overmyer
- Suggested a Literature Rack be used to contain information placed in the Narthex
- Reported to Property Committee repairs needed on a pew; several cane chairs in balcony need to be removed due to poor condition

Christian Property

- Upcoming projects sealing the Baker Street sidewalk, the coal bin, and front steps
- Getting estimates on repaying the main parking lot
- Dave Prasuhn & Duane Pump will oversee the summer mowing crew
- Conference Room will be redone with new carpet, paint, and chairs

(Church Council notes continued.)

Christian Youth/Growth

Submitted an Age Policy proposal for youth events. Council approved and will go in to effect as of June 1, 2014.
 Policy states: *Middle School Youth* is a youth that is currently in the 5th through 8th grade. *High School Youth* is a youth who has completed the 8th grade through the summer following a youth's completion of their Senior year.

Christian Stewardship

- Committee is looking forward to Stewardship Sunday this fall and have begun planning
- Consecration Sunday is scheduled for October 26 and will possibly have just one service for that event
- 5th Sunday services Attendance is down at these services.
 Council approved that a 5th Sunday with 1 service will only be held for special events

CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Saturday May 10 at 5:00 worship

Sunday May 11 at 7:45 and 10:00 worship

Absentee ballots are available in the church office.



CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINEES

On Saturday, May 10, at the 5:00 p.m. worship service and Sunday, May 11, at the 7:45 and 10:00 a.m. worship services, a congregational meeting will be held to elect seven (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.

HARRY ASPACHER - and wife, Linda, have 3 married daughters, 8 grandkids and 1 on the way! Harry has been a self-employed real estate investor since 1998. Prior to that, he travelled the Eastern U.S. as a sales manager for Standard Motor Products. Harry has been a member of Grace for 5 years, is a volunteer for the Chicken Soup Ministry, and is Grace's representative to Liberty Center. He has been a volunteer with Liberty Center for 3 years and a Board Member for 2 years, and participated in the 2013 Love Your Neighbor Day. As a former 35-year member of Solomon Lutheran, Woodville, Harry served on each committee at least once, and served 2 terms as President. Harry's hobbies include camping, reading, birding, and following the grandkids' sports & activities.

JOHN AVERS - and wife, Diane, have two grown children, Eric and Andrea. John is retired from Rexam Beverage Can where he worked as a production maintainer. He now works part-time for Auxter Funeral Home in Clyde, and babysits his granddaughter 1 day a week. John has been a member of Grace for about 60 years and currently volunteers as an Usher. He has participated in choir and bell choir, and enjoyed his time serving on Church Council for three terms, including his time as a Council officer. John's hobbies are model railroading, golf, dartball, and gardening.

JEANETTE DAMSCHRODER - and husband, Mark, have 3 grown children and 3 grandchildren. Jeanette is a hairdresser of 34 years, owns & operates Designs Unlimited in Lindsey, and along with Mark, also own and operate Welly's Horseradish Company and Root's Poultry. Jeanette has been a member of Grace for 16 years and has volunteered for many youth events including travelling with the youth as a chaperone on three different trips. She continues to volunteer with the Good Friday Fish Fry, Youth Auction, and Youth Thanksgiving Pie Sales. She also assists with various Fremont Exchange Club events. Jeanette's hobbies include home improvement projects, crafts, and spending time with the grandchildren.

JEAN DUPEY - and husband George, have 2 children, Katie and Matt, and "a bunch of animals". She works for the Ottawa Co. Juvenile Court. Jean is a lifetime member of Grace and currently serves as Council Secretary. She helps with funeral meals, Youth Auction/youth events, Sunday School teacher, nursery, cookie baker, and served on the Constitution Committee. Jean also volunteers with 4-H and the Sandusky Co. Fair. In her spare time, she loves to garden, read, bake, and spend time with her family.

MICHAEL FRALEY- and wife, Pamela, have been married for 16 years. They have 2 children, Isaac and Brianna, and a dog Onyx. Michael is Director of Engineering at Crown Battery Mfg. Co. He has been a member of Grace for 3 years and has volunteered with Love Your Neighbor Day, and served as a chaperone on youth events. He also volunteers with the Fremont Community Theater. Michael enjoys putting puzzles together, Nascar, and UFC.

(Council Nominees continued.)

KRISTEN LINDSAY - and husband, Mike Schalk, share their home with Ginger, a dog they rescued over 10 years ago, and recently adopted newborn son, Gregory, which Kristen states is "the greatest blessing in the life of our little family." Kristen most recently completed her Doctor of Philosophy in Higher Education Administration from BGSU (which was the result of 6 years of hard work), and is employed at Heidelberg University as Assistant Dean of Student Affairs for Student Success. Kristen is a lifetime member of Grace, having served in various capacities. She currently sings in the Senior Choir, participates in Praise Choir, and is a member of the Stewardship Committee. Kristen is a volunteer for the following: Board of Erie-Seneca County Big Brothers, Big Sisters; Leadership Seneca County; WBGU-TV's Public Advisory Committee for Television; the American College Personnel Assn. Career Development Commission, and is a resume reviewer for the Ohio College Personnel Assn. Kristen enjoys crocheting, sewing, cycling, running local 5k's, and is an avid flea market/garage sale attendee.

JAN SERWIN - and husband, Dave, have been married for 33 years, and between them, have 7 children living in Ohio, Texas, Florida, and California. Dave and Jan share their home in Fremont with their dog, Artie (who is 10 in dog years). Now retired, Jan served as a teacher in Lindsey for 7 years, and finished up her career as a school Psychologist with the Fremont City Schools. Jan has been a member of Grace for 36 years. She is a member of Joy Circle and Bell Choir; is the accompanist for Kids of the Kingdom children's choir; is a member of the Library Committee, and currently is the President of the Noah's Ark Board.

MELISSA SPRIGGS - lives in Fremont and has a grown daughter, Rebekah Dilts. Melissa works at Lowe's in Tiffin as a Shipping and Receiving Clerk, and has been with them for 19 years. She is a lifetime member of Grace and is active in the Senior Choir and Bell Choir. Melissa's hobbies include cooking, making crafts, and playing her saxophone.

CORNELIA STAR - lives in Fremont and has been a member of Grace since 2012. Cornelia participates in Senior Choir and is a Communion Assistant.

YOUTH NEWS

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!!

The Craziest Critters on the planet are coming for a visit!

Please join us for fun and excitement!



Grace Lutheran and St. John's Lutheran VBS

Grace office# 419-332-1558 or St. John's office # 419-332-7341

You can now register your child or yourself as a volunteer online at www.groupvbspro.com/ez/gracelutheranfremont Come join us for a week of fun!

<u>July 27th-31st, 2014</u>
VBS will be held at St. John's 212 N. Clover St., Fremont 6 - 8 p.m.



The craziest critters on the planet are coming

for a visit this July!

Vacation Bible School Needs You!

July 27th-31st

6:00-8:30pm at St. John's

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



During the 6:00pm-8:30pm time:	
Registration (5:15-6:15pm)	
Teacher (Age Choice:)	
_Classroom Helper (Age Choice:	
Crafts Helper	
Recreation Helper	
Snack Preparation and Server	
Skit performers	
T-shirt size	



Weird Animals VBS ~ July 27-31, 2014

6:00pm-8:30pm at St. John's

Name:
Address:
Grade level just finished:
If in Preschool, how old?
Is there a friend you would like to be in the same class with?
Parent's Name:
Phone Number:
Siblings attending:
Food Allergies:
Medical Conditions we should be aware of:
Is Grace Lutheran your home church?

2nd ANNUAL KICKBALL TOURNAMENT - Sunday, April 27 at 1:30pm at Connor Park. Come and join the fun and support our middle and high school youth!





All Little Lutherans and Crazy Kids (1st-5th graders) are invited to an End of the School Year Party, here at the church, on Friday, May 23rd from 6-8pm! We will celebrate with pizza and water games! Please plan to get wet! As always, friends are welcome! Please sign up on the bulletin board next to the activities office if you plan on attending. Thanks!!

BOX CITY

IBERT

All kids and youth mark your calendars for Liberty Center's Box City on Friday, June 6! This is a fundraiser and Of Sandusky County awareness event for the Liberty Center. The Liberty Center

is the only homeless shelter in Sandusky County. During the night, we spend time building and customizing our boxes to sleep in, visiting with neighbors and enjoying hot dogs and snacks! Adult chaperones will also be needed for this event. If you sign up for Box City, it is your responsibility to try to obtain \$100 in sponsor donations. Please let Stacey Reau know if you are interested in attending!

MISSION TRIP 2014!

During the week of June 15 - 18 all high school youth are invited to travel to MacArthur, Ohio for work, fun and fellowship. We will be joining efforts with our friends at St. John's for the week! If you are a youth (that has completed 8th grade through a graduating senior), that is interested in this mission trip, please contact Stacey Reau immediately. A \$50 deposit is due by May 15, 2014 if you are interested in going. Thanks!





Come on Middle and High School youth. . . we need you at Sunday School! Each week is a new adventure with everything from YouTube clips, to movies to following and discussing the new program "I Am Second!". And, breakfast is served each Sunday morning! See you Sunday at 9 a.m. in the youth room!!



SYNOD YOUTH GATHERING

Eleven youth and three chaperones will be attending the Synod Youth Gathering at Kalahari in May! The fun starts on Friday, May 16 with a concert by Rachel Kurtz

and Agape. On Saturday there will be a youth servant event, guest speakers, time with the Bishop and a lock-in at the water park until 1:30 a.m., followed by worship together on Sunday morning! This will be an action packed weekend full of faith filled adventure! Please keep the youth and the chaperones in your prayers during the weekend of May 16-18.



Preparations are already being made for the 2015 National Youth Gathering!!

The ELCA Youth Gathering for high school-age youth takes place every three years and is about faith formation, worship, study, fellowship, service and play.

It is an opportunity for youth to engage in worship and fellowship with peers from across the United States and the world who share a common commitment and faith in Christ. The next Youth Gathering will be held July 15-19, 2015, in Detroit, Mich. The National Youth Gathering is for anyone who will have just completed 8th grade through a graduating senior.

The next meeting to prepare for the National Youth Gathering will be held on Sunday, May 4 from 11:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at St. John's. Lunch will be provided and we will walk from Grace over to St. John's as a group. Please plan to attend!

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL and COLLEGE GRADUATES!

Senior recognition Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, June 1. A breakfast will be served in your honor at 9 a.m. in the dining room and then you will be recognized at the 10 a.m. worship during a Blessing Service. We would like to recognize your accomplishments by sharing a picture and a brief description of what your plans are after graduation. Please drop off your information to the church office before May 4.

GRADUATION BREAKFAST - The congregation is invited to join us for breakfast on Sunday, June 1, at 9 a.m. in the dining room as we celebrate and recognize our graduating seniors.

THINGS THAT GO SHOW

The Things that Go Show will be held in the Grace Lutheran parking lot on Saturday, May 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets are \$2 for ages 2 and up. There will also be hot dogs, and popcorn if you get hungry while



you are exploring all of the vehicles on display. This year Thrivent is providing matching funds, so please consider attending this event or making a donation. If you have any type of vehicle that you would like to display at this fun family event, please call Tricia McElfresh at 419-332-1558 or send an email to noahs ark fremont@yahoo.com

NOAH'S ARK GRADUATION!

Graduation for Noah's Ark students will be held on Thursday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A cookie and punch reception be held in the dining room after the ceremony.



Q & A WITH THE ENDOWMENT BOARD

Q: What is planned giving?

A: "Planned giving" means creating a specific plan for future gifts to benefit Grace Church and other charities that are important to us. These gifts may be made during lifetime or at death. Many people first consider planned giving when preparing a will or along with other estate planning, but planned giving can be made part of our financial plans at any time in our lives. The donors who make planned giving arrangements are usually motivated by a strong commitment to a particular project or mission of the church. Their planned gifts allow them to acknowledge their gratefulness to God and fulfill their goal of supporting charitable work important to them, work that reflects their values.



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

<u>Means of Grace:</u> The simplest stuff of every day through which the most profound event of eternity happens to you.

<u>Mercy:</u> A quality that we think of as indicating weakness in human beings but that in fact shows strength in and from God; a knuckle-interlocking game that leads to a player crying "uncle."

DO YOU HAVE A LITTLE ONE

that loves "Veggie Tales?"

If you do, have we got news for you. The library is now home to six new "Veggie Tales" DVD's!



Thank You's

A note of thanks to everyone for their prayers, cards, and phone calls after my recent surgery. Your concern and thoughtfulness are so greatly appreciated. A special thanks to all the staff of Grace who stepped up and helped in so many extra ways.

God's blessings,

Pastor Jody

Thank You! Words cannot express my gratitude to everyone who helped during this Lenten and three Holy Day services. We gathered as a family and worshiped our Lord. Do you all realize that there were probably over 100 people who assisted us? We give thanks for your service. A special thanks to Pastor Henry Seibert for being the voice from the balcony on Maundy Thursday and on Good Friday.

Alleluia Christ is Risen!

Pr. Jody

To the members of Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for all your thoughts, prayers, and cards while I was in the hospital and now during my recovery. Thank you to Pastor Jim for your visit at the hospital and thank you to Pastor Jody for calling me while I was still in the hospital. Maureen thank you for visiting me at home and bringing me Holy Communion. Also, thank you to Bruce and Jeannie Bilger for taking me to all of my doctor appointments, to the hospital, and for all the help you have given to me. You have made it possible for me to have my recovery at home. Many thanks to the soup and prayer shawl makers and to Kathy Burmeister for delivering these items to me.

God's blessing to all of you. I am truly blest. This has been a good experience for me to see God working in my life. Thank you God.

Thank you all very much! Love and Peace, Rosie Evans To the pastors and congregation,

Thanks for all the visits, payers, and gifts while I was in the hospital and nursing home. I have had pneumonia four times since September and I'm glad to be home! Thank you to Becky for visiting, bringing the soup and my church directory. I like having people come over to visit.

God Bless You, Tammy Baer

Our thanks to Pastor Jody for visiting Joan at the hospital and bringing her a bouquet of flowers and giving communion to Joan, Jim and Karol. Many thanks to Pastor Avers, Maureen and the home communion team for visiting our home and your concerned calls. Thanks to the soup committee and the delivery people. The soup was very good. And to the congregation, thanks for the calls and cards that have been sent to us.

Thank you sincerely, Joan & Jim Ginnever

Dear Friends.

Thank you to Maureen for your visit and the prayer in memory of my sister-inlaw, Martha Belch. Thanks to my church friends who sent cards and to Candyce Wingard for the delicious soup.

Evelyn White

Dear Friends at Grace Lutheran Church,

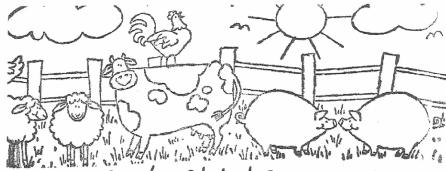
Thank you for your gift of \$543 to Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio. Your generosity directly benefits everyone who participates in this ministry. Thank you for being so kind and caring!

Sincerely, In Christ, Penny Christensen Executive Director, LOMO

Dear members of Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your continued support. Your kindness means much more to those in need, than words alone can tell.

Thanks again,
The Sandusky County Food Pantry



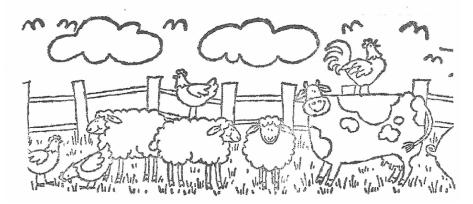
God's Global Barnyard

LIFT continues its commitment to act as one Body in Christ within the Fremont community. The caring ministry of LIFT 'lifts' up during the months of May and June God's Global Barnyard, one of the Good Gifts ministries of the ELCA. World hunger reaches to all corners of the world.

You've heard it said, "Give your neighbor a fish, they can eat for a day. Give your neighbor a community of fish and training in good business economics, they can eat for a lifetime". That is the goal of Global Barnyard.

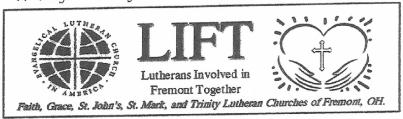
Besides fish providing healthy meals and income, a variety of other animals support families around the world:

- 1. Sheep provide wool for warmth and clothing, as well as milk.
- 2. Ducks are the best natural pesticide around and produce protein-rich eggs.



- 3. Chicks, when they are just a few months old begin laying eggs providing more nutritious meals. They also allow families to start a small business.
- 4. Goats are especially valuable to families living in hot, dry climates, providing fresh milk which can be used to make healthy dairy products.

These along with cows, pigs and alpacas can provide families with a fresh start and a means to escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good. Please prayfully consider joining in our efforts in eradicating world hunger.



LIFT is committed to acting as one body of Christ within the Fremont community. Drawing on our LIFT mission to proclaim God's gospel of love and forgiveness through service to others, the LIFT Caring Team has developed a common social ministry focus for 2014.

- May/June: Global Barnyard (cash donations will purchase animals for families in under-developed countries overseas)
- ** NOTE: Love Your Neighbor Day is scheduled for May 3
- July/August: School Supply (& uniform) Giveaway (donated items will be given to needy children on August 16 at St. John's)
- September/October: Village House
- ** NOTE: The Fall Love Your Neighbor Day will be scheduled during this time period.
- November: Riders Unlimited (monetary donations will support this ministry to the disabled)
- November/December (Advent): Share & Care and Bridge of Hope (coats, hats & mittens will be collected and donated to those in need)



birthdays

May 4	Clara Bowlus	880 Frederick Ave.
May 4	Walter Lamson	1520 River Dr.
May 5	Sarah Chase	524 St. Joseph St.
May 5	Carol Tuckerman	1055 Co. Rd. 289
May 7	Darlene Hasselbach	4571 Oak Harbor Rd.
May 8	Ellen Johnson	Gardens at Clyde, 700 Coulson St.
May 9	Nancy King	3119 Co. Rd. 174
May 11	James Gruver	1507 Cleveland Rd. E #432 Huron, Ohio 44839
May 17	Esther Chambers	4702 Sussex Dr. Columbia, MO 65203
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.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Grace Lutheran Church Office hours are now 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

ALTAR GUILD FOR MAY



Larry & Linda Beck

Lynn Schrader

New Baby!



APRIL 2 - Kyler Reigh Rutkowski, son of Scott & Ainsley (Watkins) Rutkowski. Congratulations!

April 6 - Brayden Scott Mominee, son of Scott & Kyleigh (Shrickel) Mominee.





Kate Linder

Mary Ann Redding

Diane Wiseman

Gary Perkins

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 14.



The newsletter will be assembled on Thursday, May 22.



OFFICE CLOSED!

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day.

LIBRARY SURVEY

The Grace Lutheran Church Library Committee wants to make the church library YOUR library. We would like to know more about your interests in a variety of topics and your media preference as well. Please indicate below your preferences on the form below. Any comments and suggestions are welcome. Please complete and place in the offering plate or drop off in the church office.

Topic	Audio Tapes	DVD's	Books	Other (i.e. Large Print, etc.)
Christian Fiction				
Christian Life				
Christian Biography				
Children's Media				
Other				
Comments and sugges	itions:			

Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts. For further information contact Carole Miller, Cindy Scranton or Jan Serwin.

Grace Lutheran Church 705 West State Street Fremont, OH 43420 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~5:00pm, 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

Non-Profit Paid Fremont, OH Permit #133

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
**	ła [*]		2014	1 11:30 Soup Kitchen	Noon Women's Bible Study - Lounge	3 LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR DAY 9 - Noon Mom To Mom Sale 5:00 Worship/Communion
7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion/Baptism/Noah's Ark Preschool 11:00 New Member Class - Lounge 5-7:30 Alpha 7:30 DAA	9:00 Project Day 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge 7:00 Scouts	6	7 Noon - Noah's Ark Board Meeting SPIRIT 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kids Clubs 6:15 Kids Choirs/Study Hall 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Confirmation 7:15 Bells	8 11:30 Soup Kitchen 6:30 Cub Scouts	Noon Women's Bible Study - Lounge	10 11 - 1 Things that Go Show 5:00 Worship/Communion/ Church Council Elections
CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion/Baptism 7:30 DAA	9:15 MOPS 1:00 Bible Study-Lounge 7:00 Scouts 7:00 Church Council Devotions 7:15 Standing Committees 8:00 Church Council	9:30 Daughter's Circle - Lounge 7:30 Grace Fellowship - Lounge	G & T DEADLINE SPIRIT 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kids Clubs 6:15 Kids Choirs/Study Hall 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Confirmation 7:15 Bells	15 11:30 Soup Kitchen	Noon Women's Bible Study - Lounge	2:30 Zilles/Kinn Wedding 5:00 Worship/Communion/ Food Pantry Challenge
NEW MEMBER RECEPTION 7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion 7:30 DAA	9:00 Project Day 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge 7:00 Scouts	7:15 Joy Circle at C. Fuchs	LAST DAY OF SPIRIT 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kids Clubs 6:15 Kids Choirs/Study Hall 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Confirmation 7:15 Bells	G & T ASSEMBLED 11:30 Soup Kitchen 6:30 Noah's Ark Graduation 6:30 Cub Scouts	Noon Women's Bible Study - Lounge 6:00 End of School Year Party Little Lutherans/Crazy Kids - Youth Room/Courtyard	9:00 Crafting for a Cause 3:00 Humberger/Wooten Wedding 5:00 Worship/Communion
MEMORIAL DAY RECOGNITION 7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion 7:30 DAA	OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL +DAY+	27	28	11:30 Soup Kitchen	Noon Women's Bible Study	5:00 Worship/Communion



GREETERS

May 4 & 18

7:45 - D. & C. Polter (Front)

J. Sachs (Baptistry)

S. Watkins (Chapel)

10:00 - L. & B. McElfresh (Front)

L. Halm (Baptistry)

J. Long (Chapel)

May 11 & 25

7:45 - B. & P. Smith (Front)

M. Widmer (Baptistry)

D. Burkett (Chapel)

10:00 - S. Clevenger (Front)

K. Burmeister (Baptistry)

T. McElfresh (Chapel)

USHERS

May 4, 11, 18, & 25

7:45 - G. Dupey

D. Zilles

P. Pelphrey

K. Watkins

May 4 & 18

10:00 - M. Dabrunz

S. Laird

D. & S. Burmeister

May 11 & 25

10:00 - T. Clevenger

D. Cooper

T. Troxel

B. Williams

MAY 4

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Isaac Fraley

10:00 - Meredith Troxel, Miraya Johnson

DEACONS: 7:45 - B. Seibert, C. Miller, T. Schling, L. Widmer

10:00 - B. Williams, C. Waggoner

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - L. Merrill, L. & J. Overmyer, B. Prasuhn SOUND SYSTEM: D. Pump (5:00), J. Oliver (7:45), M. McElfresh (10:00)

MAY 11

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Aaron Klohn

10:00 - Brooke Casperson, Taylor Sachs

DEACONS: 7:45 - J. Dupey, L. Martin, J. Dorr, M. Klohn

10:00 - M. Mullholand, S. Nossaman

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - C. Star, K. Saionz, S. Brickner, F. Keller SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), D. Prasuhn (7:45), R. Hawn (10:00)

MAY 18

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Alicia Klohn

10:00 - Brianna Garner, Morgan Waggoner

DEACONS: 7:45 - B. Seibert, C. Miller, T. Schling, R. Haynes

10:00 - D. Cooper, B. Williams

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The M. Gedeon Family

SOUND SYSTEM: D. Pump (5:00), L. Klohn (7:45), E. Muffler (10:00)

MAY 25

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Matt Dupey

10:00 - Jack & Eric Gedeon

DEACONS: 7:45 - C. Paeth, L. Widmer, J. Dorr, J. Dupey

10:00 - C. Waggoner, M. Mullholand

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The G. Jess Family

SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), J. Oliver (7:45), D. Prasuhn (10:00)

IUNE 1

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Isaac Fraley

10:00 - Grant & Gillian Gallagher

DEACONS: 7:45 - R. House, L. Martin, M. Klohn, C. Miller

10:00 - S. Nossaman, D. Cooper

COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The T. Wiersma Family

SOUND SYSTEM: D. Pump (5:00), G. Dupey (7:45), M. McElfresh (10:00)