

*"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*

**December 2014**

*Grace Lutheran Church, Fremont, OH*



ADVENT

# ADVENT WORSHIP

## *Mid-Week Advent Worship – 7:15 p.m.*

**Service 1 - Dec. 3: We Adore Him Who Is the Eternal Word** (John 1:1) explores the meaning behind Christ being called the Word and the reality that the Word was present at the beginning and will be with us forever.

**Service 2 - Dec. 10: We Adore Him Who Is the Creator of All** (John 1:1-3) uncovers John's masterful description of how Christ was involved in all of creation from the start and how he came to save creation by coming to earth as a tiny baby.

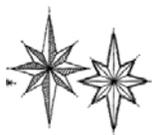
**Service 3 - Dec. 17: We Adore Him Who Is the Light in the Darkness** (John 1:4-5) reveals John's message that Christ is the Light who enlightens the darkness of sin and death that had come into the world.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

- Nov. 30 - "Stir in us, O God...Your Power"
- Dec. 7 - "Stir in us, O God...Your Voice"
- Dec. 14 - "Stir in us, O God...Your Light"
- Dec. 21 - "Stir in us, O God...Your Presence"

*"Stir in us,  
O God..."*

## CHRISTMAS EVE



The Christmas Eve Service: **We Adore Him Who Is One of Us** (John 1:11-12) celebrates John's declaration that Christ took on human flesh and blood to save the human race and make us his own.

## **MILLION DOLLAR LOVE STORY**

**Ohio congregation receives & gives a gift of love**

With great love, [Zion Lutheran Church](#), Waterville, Ohio, has for the last 10 years given away \$1 million to more than 100 missions, organizations, projects and agencies.

It all began as a love story: Katie (Bryant) Graf's love for her husband Doug. Katie was an only child and her parents, who lived in Tiffin, Ohio, were proud and wealthy. Her father was a successful businessman; her mother was involved in the local bank and universities. Doug's family had a blacksmith business in nearby Waterville.

After her father died, Katie introduced Doug to her mother. It didn't go well. In fact, after several times being with Doug, Katie's mother was still so against this boyfriend that she told her daughter: "All of this wealth is yours if you stop dating Doug." Not long after, Katie made it clear that her love for Doug was more important than her mother's money.

They married, and Katie became an elementary school music teacher, and her husband a custodian for the local schools. During the 50 years they lived in Waterville, Katie's mother wisely invested "her" wealth in nursing home corporations. Doug and Katie continued to live off their wages. They weren't able to have children, so Zion became their family. Katie directed the children's choirs and Doug took care of the building and grounds.

### **Every 10 years ...**

According to the investment policies, every 10 years Katie's mother reinvested and reallocated her wealth. Ten years went by, then another and so on. When it came time for the money to be reinvested in 2000, Katie's mother had died. As a result, the money went to first of kin: Katie.

By then Katie was in a nursing home suffering from Alzheimer's disease and knew nothing about the money that had been left to her. Doug was overwhelmed by this windfall, having never seen that much money in his life. His main concern was making sure Katie was financially secure in the nursing home. Having done that, he arranged to give "God's" money (\$2.7 million) to their "first of kin": Zion.

Doug died in 2000 at age 74; Katie two years later at age 78.

With [Acts 1:8](#) clearly in mind (Jesus' command to be his "witnesses in Jerusalem, in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"), Zion set up a mission endowment fund in 2004 that would serve its community, the surrounding area and the world.

As a result of this love story, the **LIFT** churches of Fremont, Ohio applied and received a \$6500 grant for a Christian Outdoor Day Camp from LOMO (Lutheran Outdoor Ministry of Ohio) to be held right here in Fremont!

*("Million Dollar Love Story" continued.)*

We will host a Team Coordinator and 10 counselors from LOMO. They will be our leaders to conduct our day camp experience.

The Summer Camp will be for all children leaving 3<sup>rd</sup> grade up to and including those leaving 6<sup>th</sup>. We hope to have 100 children participate. There will be no cost for any participant. The Summer Camp will run June 15-19, 2015.

We are looking forward to this exciting Summer Camping event. This is a wonderful way to share the Good News of God's love with our young people. Look for more details to come in the weeks ahead!

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**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**General Fund**

As of DECEMBER 2014

	<u>2014 Actual</u>	<u>2014 Budget</u>	<u>2013 Actual</u>
Year to date receipts:	358,104	378,011	357,592
Year to date expenses:	<u>391,328</u>	<u>416,514</u>	<u>369,746</u>
Receipts less expenses:	(33,224)	(38,503)	(12,154)

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Armstrong  
Financial Assistant

**CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET HEARING** will take place in the sanctuary on Sunday, Dec. 14, immediately following the late service. This meeting is for the purpose of reviewing the proposed 2015 Budget.

**REMINDER: All End of Year donations must be turned into the church office by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 29, in order to receive credit for 2014.**

**THE ENDOWMENT BOARD** is seeking nominations for two positions beginning March 2015. This is a two-year term. Please call the church office, 419-332-1558, if you are interested.

## **Church Council Notes - November 10, 2014**

- Alpha continues with 22 in attendance; celebration service in 2 weeks
- Vision 2025 - information from round table discussions has been compiled; committees will meet to begin putting steps in place
- Elevator dedication service at all weekend services Nov 22 & 23; cake & punch reception to be held at 9am in the Dining Room
- 2015 Proposed Budget - hearing to take place in the Sanctuary after the 10:00 service on December 14.
- \$6500 grant for LOMO (Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio) camp in Fremont; June 15-19; trained staff from LOMO will participate
- Eastern Conference Meeting with Bishop Lohrmann - Nov. 18 at St. John, Bellevue; Dinner 5:30, Meeting 6:30-8:30pm
- Symphony tickets are available for purchase in the church office

### **Christian Worship**

- Preparing for holiday season
- "Thank You" to Tom Coe for decorating the Sanctuary.

### **Christian Missions/Outreach**

- Share & Care representative - Maureen Pump
- Mission Fair - Nov. 29, 30, Dec. 3
- Coat Drive - 101 coats to date
- Food Collection - Sept. - 4 boxes to Sandusky Co. Food Pantry; 2 boxes to Hayes Memorial United Methodist; Oct. - 3 boxes to Sandusky Co. Food Pantry
- Love in Action - chicken soup delivered to 8 families; prayer shawls delivered to 3 people; 35 contacts made

### **Christian Youth/Growth**

- Youth to lead "Thanksgiving" service on November 23
- Orders being taken for Thanksgiving Pies; baking & pie pick up on November 26
- Christmas Program December 21 at 10:00 service
- Youth to go snow tubing in Mansfield in January
- Kickball tournament at Connor Park - May 3, 2015

*(Church Council Notes continued.)*

**Christian Property**

- Weather stripping to be done
- Gathering info for kitchen AC
- Midwest Maintenance to do scheduled work this week

**Christian Stewardship**

- Follow-up being done on Stewardship commitment card campaign

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**L.I.F.T. CHURCHES ACTIVITIES**

**WE ARE APPROVED AS A Synodically Authorized  
Worshipping Community (SAWC)!**

The LIFT Churches and Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church jointly sought the support of the ELCA and the Northwest Ohio Synod along with our Methodist Counterparts to pursue the vision of forming a new multi-denominational, multicultural worshipping community in the greater Fremont area. This is a vision of the in-breaking reign of God, as the Holy Spirit moves in the minds and hearts of God's faithful people causing us to respond to Christ's call to "go and make disciples of all peoples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19

We have met to discuss the opportunities to partner together in our effort to spread the Gospel to the Latino/Hispanic community through our effort called Puente De Esperanza (The Bridge of Hope). Currently over 2000 people a year are touched by Puente De Esperanza where they are offered food, clothing and/or advice.

We were seeking to move forward together to take the logical next step: i.e., to begin regular Spanish and/or bilingual worship services to serve those already being served by this ministry. Our team has been diligently working together to fund this important new ministry!

We are excited to announce that almost all the funding is in place. As we continue to move forward we would like to solicit your prayers and your support for this ecumenical outreach initiative. We recognize that there are many steps on this journey, but we are asking for your blessing to start down this path together.

We give thanks to God for you and for your continued support in our ministry.

In God's Grace,  
Pastor Jody Rice

L.I.F.T. continued.

**RIDERS UNLIMITED, INC:** LIFT has designated Riders Unlimited, Inc. as one of our social focus projects for November. Riders Unlimited, Inc. is a non-profit equestrian organization that primarily provides equine assisted activities and therapies to individuals with disabilities, as well as, equestrian programs for individuals without disabilities. It has been serving Sandusky, Ottawa, and surrounding counties since 1997. The mission of RUI is: "Harnessing the unique qualities of the horse, they utilize the strengths of each individual to promote physical, mental and emotional well-being." To fulfill this mission, RUI has approximately 50 volunteers and a special herd of 10 horses. Since its beginnings, more than 125 individuals with disabilities have received the benefits from the various programs, activities, and environment. RUI operates out of a facility located on 9 acres north of Oak Harbor on Behlman Road. You may not realize, but within its staff, volunteers, riders, and donors, RUI has connections with Trinity (Kingsway), St. Mark (Fremont), Grace (Fremont), St. John's (Fremont), St. Paul (Oak Harbor), and St. John's (Oak Harbor). We encourage anyone from LIFT and all other faiths to become an active supporter of Riders Unlimited, Inc. and the gifts and services they share.

**BRING IN YOUR COATS!** As you go through your closets this November please consider bringing in those coats you no longer wear and donating them to Share and Care. By the end of October we collected 101 coats. Let's keep it going and collect another 100 by the end of November. The boxes are located at every door to the sanctuary. Let's help someone who has no coat stay warm this winter.



### **NOISY OFFERING FOR THE FREMONT SOUP KITCHEN**

Beginning in January 2015 we will be lifting up the Fremont Soup Kitchen the third Sunday of every month with a "Noisy Offering." After the prelude and before the announcements we will pass around a soup pot for you to deposit your change. This collection will be given to the Soup Kitchen held here at Grace on Thursdays. "Brother can you spare a dime?" was a song heard during the 1930s Great Depression. Sadly, assistance is still needed in today's times. Many in our area are hungry and you can help with the gift of your 'change.' Please contribute once a month on the Third Sunday. Don't carry change? The flutter of a dollar bill is a beautiful sound. You CAN make a difference with "**Change for Change.**" Thank you from your Missions Outreach Committee.

# VOLUNTEER

## Opportunities



### WANTED: SOUP KITCHEN ADMINISTRATOR -

Volunteer position. This person will be in charge of planning meals, ordering food, and supervising the volunteers. Must be available Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Must have knowledge of food preparation. If interested, please contact Bob Karlovetz at 419-334-3970.

### Winter is Coming!

Volunteers are needed to help with snow removal on sidewalks and steps. We have two snow blowers and plenty of shovels. Please contact Jim Post, 419-680-2464, or call the church office, 419-332-1558.



### SHARE AND CARE NEEDS YOUR HANDS!

On December 2 Share and Care will be in need of people to volunteer from 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. If you are not able to give the full time, you are welcome to come and go as you wish. Grace Church is also scheduled to help the entire month of January on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Many hands are needed so please check your schedules and let Maureen know if you are able to help at [maureenpump@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenpump@yahoo.com) or call the church office at 419-332-1558.

### BRIDGE OF HOPE CHRISTMAS PROJECT

The Bridge of Hope Christmas Party will be held on December 21 at Hayes Memorial United Methodist beginning at 4 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help serve the dinner and help with games. Anyone interested contact Maureen at [maureenpump@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenpump@yahoo.com). Also, watch for the poster to be placed in the Narthex with an opportunity to purchase items to be donated at the party.

**HELP IS NEEDED TO CO-LEAD** the 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade Kids Club during Spirit on Wednesday evenings. The Club meets every Wednesday from 5:30-6:10pm and there is a new activity each week. Activities range from Bible stories, to crafts, to service projects to cooking! The commitment of leading the class would only be two Wednesdays a month. Please contact Stacey Reau if you are interested.

# OUTREACH & MISSIONS UPDATES

## LIBERTY CENTER UPDATE

October 2014 Residents: mom and 2 children; mom and 2 children; mom and 1 child; 5 single men; 6 single woman.

We are currently in need of gallon and quart zip-lock bags, 13 and 30 gallon garbage bags, canned fruit, and chunky style soups.

**ALPHA** will be wrapping up at the end of November. It has been a wonderful experience for the participants. On November 8 everyone attended a Day Away retreat at the home of Les and Marcella Widmer. It was a wonderful day filled with the Holy Spirit. The 21 people attending are now looking forward to the Celebration Dinner on November 24. Please continue to pray for those participating in this session of Alpha. It is a faith strengthening experience.

**FALL WOMEN'S BRUNCH:** On October 18, 26 women gathered in the dining room and enjoyed great food, fellowship, and making a fall center piece. Jill Gray from Bloom was with us and helped everyone make a beautiful arrangement in a pumpkin.

## MISSION FAIR COMING SOON!

Come to the "Fair" and start your Christmas Shopping by helping to support our fellow Christian Artisans. Mission Outreach Committee invites you to the Mission Fair at Grace Lutheran Church after worship Saturday, Nov. 29, Sunday, Nov 30 and Wednesday Dec 3. Unique items from Tanzania and the International Organization SERRV will be available for purchase. Proceeds go to help support our Brothers and Sisters in Tanzania, East Africa, and around the world. See you at the "Fair."



# Upcoming Activities

**THE TOLEDO SYMPHONY** will once again be performing a Christmas Concert in the Sanctuary of Grace Lutheran Church on Thursday, Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults; \$8 for seniors (65 and over); and \$5 for students (18 and under). Tickets can be purchased through the church office during business hours. All ticket sales final.

**THERE WILL BE NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPIRIT ACTIVITIES ON NOVEMBER 26.** Spirit will resume on Wednesday, Dec. 3 and will include Advent Worship at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**GRACE FELLOWSHIP** will have a Christmas buffet at Crystal Arbors in the Applewood Shopping Center on Tuesday, Dec. 9 at noon. Please RSVP to Joyce Havens, 419-332-0248, by Friday, Dec. 5. All are welcome!



## HANGING OF THE GREENS !!

Yes, it's hard to believe, but it will soon be Advent followed by Christmas. On Sunday, November 30, we will dress the church for Christmas and decorate the Sanctuary. We will begin right after the late service with a pizza lunch in the Dining Room. Many hands are needed to get the job done. If you are able to help, please call the church office or let Maureen know at [maureenpump@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenpump@yahoo.com)



Christmas Poinsettias can be ordered through the church office. Plants are \$10 each. Payment and wording for the bulletin must accompany orders. Plants can be picked up after the 10:00 service on Christmas Eve.



## FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE FOR DECEMBER

On Dec. 20 & 21 we will be collecting boxes of mashed potato flakes and noodles. The carts will be in the front of the sanctuary to receive your donations when you come forward for communion. Thank you for your generous donations.

## *LADIES ADVENT BRUNCH*

Attention ladies of Grace Lutheran. You are invited to our annual Advent Brunch on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to noon in the dining room. We are looking for co-hostesses and guests that would like to attend this event. For more information or to make a reservation call Jan Serwin at 419-334-8289, Mary Nossaman at 419-332-4595, or Judy Overmyer at 419-332-9717. This year we will collect hats, gloves and scarves to donate to the Liberty Center. Come join us for a morning of food, fellowship and fun!

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS RECITAL

We are organizing a children's recital of Christmas music to precede the 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service. We are looking for vocal music solos or duets, piano or instrumental solos of a sacred Christmas nature are acceptable. Piano accompaniment will also be available. Jan Serwin has agreed to coordinate this recital. If you are interested in participating please call her, 419-334-8289, to reserve your spot in the program. Jan will arrange a time for you to practice in the church prior to Christmas Eve.

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



**Jesus:** Adopted son of a carpenter, born of a virgin girl, parable-teller, miracle-worker, crucified criminal, the last person anyone would expect to save an entire world.

**Birth of Jesus:** The reason for the season and Santa's biggest competition.

# YOUTH events

## 1st - 5th Graders

**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!!

**ATTENTION PARENTS OF ELEMENTARY AGE CHILDREN:** Please walk your child inside the church on Wednesday evenings for Spirit activities and on Sunday mornings for Sunday School. The safety of your child is a top priority for all of us at Grace and we want to ensure that everyone gets to their appropriate activities safely. Please plan on delivering your child to the correct room for their activities and please plan on picking them up at their room at dismissal time. Children will not be able to leave their classroom to meet you in the parking lot. Thank you for your cooperation!

**THERE WILL BE NO SPIRIT ACTIVITIES  
ON WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26!**

All adults, children, youth and families are invited to go Christmas Caroling on Sunday, Nov. 30! A light lunch will be served in the dining room immediately following the late worship service and then we will head to a nursing home to spread some Christmas cheer. Perhaps we can get a large enough group and split up to visit several homes around town! Please RSVP to Stacey Reau in the church office.



**CRAZY KIDS** (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders), join Stacey for a sweet evening of decorating Christmas cookies! On Friday, Dec. 12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the church kitchen, we will decorate cookies to look like adorable snowman, Christmas trees and reindeer! As always, friends are welcome!

**TOT TIME will meet one more time before the new year!** Tot Time will meet in the lounge, for 20-30 minutes, on **Wednesday, Dec. 10** at 4:30 p.m. Tot Time is designed for infants through preschoolers, with a parent, to enjoy story time, finger plays and songs! Come for Tot Time and stay for the Spirit!



**All Children are invited** to the Birthday Party for Jesus on Saturday, December 20 at 10 a.m. in the auditorium! There will be party games, crafts and birthday cake! Please feel welcome to bring friends and family!

**PRACTICE FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** will be held on Saturday, December 20 from 11 a.m.-noon in the sanctuary. All children are asked to please attend, every child has a part in the program.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The Children's Christmas Program will be held on **Sunday, Dec. 21** at the 10 a.m. worship.



**ALL LITTLE LUTHERANS & CRAZY KIDS** (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders) are invited to the church auditorium on Tuesday, Dec. 30 from 1-3 p.m. to blow off some of your Christmas energy! It will be a casual get together with lots of fun games planned! As always, friends are welcome!

**The L.I.F.T. Winter School Supply Giveaway** will be held during the morning of **Saturday, January 17, 2015**, at St. John's Lutheran Church. This is a great opportunity for children to replenish their school supply items, make a fun winter craft and enjoy cookies and hot cocoa. There will also be a small selection of backpacks.

# Middle & High School

## THE POINT YOUTH GROUP!

All Middle and High School Youth are invited to an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and food.

- Dec. 7 - 12 to 4 p.m. Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Potter Village
  - Dec. 21 - 12 to 2 p.m. at Grace
  - Jan. 4 - 12 to 2 p.m. at St. John's
  - Jan. 18 12 to 2 p.m. at Grace

### EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT!

The Youth Dinner Auction will be held on April 18th! If you are interested in helping in any way to plan for the event please contact [eburns@ltsg.edu](mailto:eburns@ltsg.edu) or call Vicar Erin the church.



### THANKSGIVING SERVICE

On Sunday, Nov. 23 the 10 a.m. service will be lead by our youth! They are excited about the opportunity to lead worship. Please be sure to come and support our youth.

**CALLING ALL YOUTH** (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders) LET'S HELP WITH THE "HANGING OF THE GREENS" after the late service on Sunday, Nov. 30. We will have pizza for lunch and then get to work decorating the sanctuary for Christmas!



**LET'S GO SNOW TUBING!** The L.I.F.T churches will head to Snow Trails in Mansfield on Monday, Jan. 19. The cost is \$30 per person and will be payable when we arrive at the trail. Please sign up on the bulletin board next to the activities office or online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/snow-tubing-with-lift-tickets-14273563613>

### THE FLAMINGOS ARE HERE!

Be sure to spread the word about our exciting fundraiser to help fund our trip to the National Youth Gathering. The "Flamingo Hit" form as well as the "Flamingo Insurance" form. Forms are also available around the church.

### National Youth Gathering 2015

All interested youth should drop off their registration forms to the church office. If you have any questions or need a form please email Vicar Erin Burns at [eburns@ltsg.edu](mailto:eburns@ltsg.edu)

## NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL

Noah's Ark Preschool is always boarding new students! We are loving our extra time with our Monday/Wednesday/Friday class. We are using our extra time to learn math and music! We are thankful to have time to go outside almost everyday, and love to decorate the sidewalks with our chalk art.



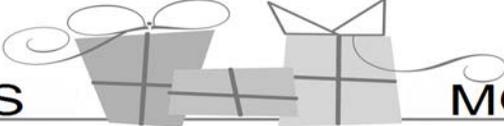
On Nov. 17 we welcomed a special guest speaker from the Sandusky County Parks District to present a program about the animals in our backyards.

The Noah's Ark board meets six times per year. The board's most recent business has included the formation of a tuition assistance program for families who may need to request short-term help. After the new year we will be inviting the congregation to donate to this fund, which we hope to have in place in time for the start of the new school year.

For more information about Noah's Ark please contact us by email, [noahs\\_ark\\_fremont@yahoo.com](mailto:noahs_ark_fremont@yahoo.com), or call Tricia McElfresh at 419-332-1558.

**PLEASE... 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.

For up-to-date news and information on our Missionary, Pastor David Brondos, please visit:  
[sites.google.com/site/bdrondos](http://sites.google.com/site/bdrondos)  
or send an email to him at [david.brondos@elca.org](mailto:david.brondos@elca.org)


  
 \*THIS MONTH'S\*  
**birthdays**

Dec. 4	Sandra Houghtaling	563 Co. Rd. 358
Dec. 4	Al Koebel	916 North St., Apt. 14
Dec. 6	Gilbert Rumball	73 Whitney Dr.
Dec. 9	Richard Burkett	1170 Muskellunge Rd.
Dec. 10	Patricia Gallagher	532 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Dec. 10	Nancy Lawrence	699 Rambo Ln.
Dec. 17	David McNelly	12 River Run Dr.
Dec. 18	Phyllis Jess	1751 Oak Dr.
Dec. 20	Lyla Avers	128 S. Grandville Blvd.
Dec. 21	Erma Smith	1501 Co. Rd. 181 Green Springs 44836
Dec. 28	Ruth Gerstenberger	147 W. Thomson Dr., Clyde
Dec. 28	Melvin Shafer	421 N. Co. Rd. 198
Dec. 29	Nancy Balsizer	2310 Co. Rd. 213, Clyde
Dec. 30	Joan Ginnever	927 B. Tucker Ln.

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH IS NOW ON FACEBOOK!**  
**Hit "LIKE" and become a friend!**

# Thank You's

Grace Family,  
Dick and I thank you for the prayers and cards you sent to lift us up. Pr. Jody, Maureen, and Pr. Jim a big thank you for your love and support during the last few weeks. Thank you to Linda Martin for the delicious soup to feed our souls.

We wish you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas!  
Dick & Sandy Houghtaling

Thank you to all of the families who participated in Trunk or Treat! I appreciated the efforts of everyone involved, from decorating your trunks to bringing your children out to enjoy the events of the evening.

Thank you for supporting Trunk or Treat!  
Stacey Reau

A big Thank You to all of the volunteers who gave their time over the summer to mow the grass around the church. The volunteers are Jim Scranton, John Avers, Jeff Rice, Gregg Gallagher, Duane Pump, and Dave Prasuhn.

Thank you to all of the kitchen helpers for feeding all of our family and friends.  
The Family of Hazel Noftz

Thank you to Pr. Jody, Maureen, and Vicar Erin for your many calls, visits, and prayers during my ordeal and surgery. It is all greatly appreciated.

God Bless,  
Suzanne Spriggs

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,  
We thank you for reaching out to touch the lives of others. We deeply appreciate your recent gifts of \$750 to the Eastern Region of Lutheran Social Services. Thank you so very much for your continued support.

May God Bless You,  
Nancy Yunker  
President/CEO

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE  
CLOSED FOR THE  
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY ON  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27 AND  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28.  
HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE  
THANKSGIVING!

Happy   
Thanksgiving

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 10.

The newsletter will be assembled  
on Thursday, December 18.



**SOMETHING NEW!** If you have ever wanted to hear the weekend's sermon again, or maybe missed attending worship one weekend, you can now find these sermons on our web page! Simply log onto [www.gracefremont.org](http://www.gracefremont.org), find "Recent Sermons" on the Home page, and click on the sermon date you would like to hear.

**REMINDER:** To our friends who are heading to a warmer climate for the winter months, don't forget to let the church office know your "Winter" address. We want to keep you updated on 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. If this happens, it will be necessary to take your name off the mailing list until we are notified of your return, to prevent recurring charges.)





**WE REJOICE & GIVE THANKS  
for new babies!**

Colan Anthony White, born October 14 to Cody and Shanna White; and Zayden Thoss, born October 20 to Brianna Thoss.

**WE WELCOME** the following new members who were received into the family of Grace Lutheran Church on October 15 & 16: Dean & Peggy Dorr, Chris Kissel, Corey, Brooke, Kamryn and Kensington Krieger, Anne Offenburg, Bob Sanborn, Mike Schalk, and Connie Smith.



*Hazel Noftz*

*Irvin Klohn*

*Mary Lynn (Casperson) Rosenberger*

**ALTAR GUILD - DECEMBER**

Barb Klohn  
Cheryl Paeth  
Mary Nossaman



**DID YOU KNOW?** ... The Grace & Truth newsletter can be delivered to you via email. If you would like us to send this newsletter to your email address, please notify Linda at [gracefremont@yahoo.com](mailto:gracefremont@yahoo.com) The newsletter can also be viewed on our web page at [gracefremont.org](http://gracefremont.org)

**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

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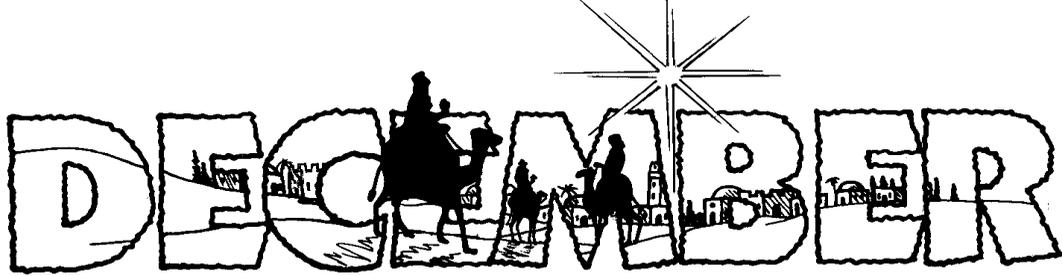
Tricia McElfresh, Youth Minister - 6th-12th grade

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<h1>2014</h1>	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	9:00 Project Day 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:30 Dartball	6:00 Youth Committee - Lounge	<b>SPIRIT</b> 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kid's Clubs 6:15 Kid's Choirs/Study Hall 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Advent Worship/ Confirmation 7:45 Bell Choir	11:30 Soup Kitchen at St. John's  7:30 Toledo Symphony Concert	1:00 Bible Study - Lounge	10 - 12:00 Advent Brunch  5:00 Worship/Communion	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion/Baptisms 12 - 4 Bell Ringing - 6th - 12th graders at Kroger - Potter Village 7:30 DAA	9:30 MOPS  1:00 Bible Study - Lounge  7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Council Devotions 7:15 Standing Committees 7:30 Dartball - Hessville 8:00 Church Council	Noon - Grace Fellowship at Crystal Arbors  Joy Circle Christmas Party at Sidell's Garden House  5:00 Worship Committee - Lounge	<b>G &amp; T DEADLINE</b>  4:30 Tot Time - Lounge 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kid's Clubs 6:15 Kid's Choirs/Study Hall 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Advent Worship/ Confirmation 7:45 Bell Choir	11:30 Soup Kitchen  6:00 Cub Scouts	1:00 Bible Study - Lounge  6:30 - 8:30 Cookie Workshop (4th & 5th graders) Dining Room	5:00 Worship/Communion
	16	15	16	17	18	19	
7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion <b>11:00 BUDGET HEARING</b> - Sanctuary 12:00 Youth Committee - Youth Rm 7:30 DAA	9:00 Project Day  1:00 Bible Study-Lounge  7:00 Boy Scouts 7:30 Dartball	6:00 Missions/Outreach Committee - Lounge  6:30 Property Committee - Lounge	<b>SPIRIT</b> 5:00 Meal 5:30 Kid's Clubs 6:15 Kid's Choirs/Study Hall 6:15 Adult Groups 7:15 Advent Worship/ Confirmation	<b>G &amp; T ASSEMBLED</b>  11:30 Soup Kitchen  6:00 Cub Scouts - Dining Room	1:00 Bible Study - Lounge	10:00 Birthday Party for Jesus - Auditorium  11 - 12:00 Christmas Program Practice - Sanctuary  5:00 Worship/Communion	
21	22	23	24	25	26		
7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion/ <b>Sunday</b> <b>School Christmas Program</b> 12:00-2 The Point at Grace 4:00 Bridge of Hope Christmas Party - Hayes UMC 5:00 Intern Comm. - Conf. Room 7:30 DAA	1:00 Bible Study - Lounge  7:00 Boy Scouts		<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>  5:30 Family Worship/ Communion  7:30 Worship/Communion  9:30 Recital  10:00 Worship/Communion	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  <b>No Soup Kitchen</b>	<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	5:00 Worship/Communion	
28	29	30	31				
7:45 Worship/Communion 8:55 Senior Choir Practice 9:00 Christian Education 10:00 Celebration Worship/ Communion 7:30 DAA	<b>End of year contributions due in church office by 4:30 p.m.</b>  7:00 Boy Scouts	1-3 Fun & Games for 1st - 5th graders - Auditorium	<b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>				



**GREETERS**

**December 7 & 21**

7:45 - D. & C. Polter (Front)  
B. & P. Smith (Baptistry)  
J. Sachs (Chapel)

10:00 - W. & A. Lamson (Front)  
D. & J. Linder (Baptistry)  
J. Long (Chapel)

**December 14 & 28**

7:45 - D. & S. Zilles (Front)  
S. Watkins (Baptistry)  
M. Widmer (Chapel)

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

**USHERS**

**December 7, 14, 21, & 28**

7:45 - B. Guthrie  
R. Haynes  
C. Weickert  
K. Overmyer

**December 7 & 21**

10:00 - T. & P. Karle  
M. Mullholand  
T. Troxel

**December 14 & 28**

10:00 - G. Nossaman  
S. Nossaman  
B. Williams  
C. Amor

**CHRISTMAS EVE - DEACONS**

5:30 - T. Schling, C. Waggoner, M. Klohn, C. Paeth

7:30 - K. Lindsay, M. Fraley, J. Avers, C. Amor

10:00 - S. Nossaman, R. House, J. Damschorder



**DECEMBER 7**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Alicia Klohn  
10:00 - Carly Wiersma, Morgan Hawk  
DEACONS: 7:45 - M. Klohn, K. Lindsay, C. Miller, C. Paeth  
10:00 - B. Williams, C. Waggoner  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Gedeon Family  
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger (5:00), L. Klohn (7:45), D. Prasuhn (10:00)

**DECEMBER 14**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Matt Dupey  
10:00 - Walker Cooper, Isaac Fraley  
DEACONS: 7:45 - H. Aspacher, J. Damschroder, R. Haynes, R. House  
10:00 - C. Amor, J. Avers  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Jess Family  
SOUND SYSTEM: D. Pump (5:00), G. Dupey (7:45), M. McElfresh (10:00)

**DECEMBER 21**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Aaron Klohn  
10:00 - Grant & Gillian Gallagher  
DEACONS: 7:45 - M. Klohn, K. Lindsay, C. Miller, C. Paeth  
10:00 - D. Cooper, M. Fraley  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The M. Dabrunz Family  
SOUND SYSTEM: N. Mayer (5:00), J. Oliver (7:45), R. Hawn (10:00)

**DECEMBER 28**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Alicia Klohn  
10:00 - Meghan Moses, Sarah Widman  
DEACONS: 7:45 - T. Schling, H. Aspacher, J. Damschroder, R. Hayes  
10:00 - S. Nossaman, J. Serwin  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The M. McElfresh Family  
SOUND SYSTEM: B. Bilger (5:00), L. Klohn (7:45), E. Muffler (10:00)

**JANUARY 4**

ACOLYTES: 7:45 - Matt Dupey  
10:00 - Eric Gedeon, Casey McElfresh  
DEACONS: 7:45 - R. House, M. Klohn, K. Lindsay, C. Miller  
10:00 - C. Miller, B. Williams  
COMMUNION ASSTS.: 10:00 - The Muffler Family  
SOUND SYSTEM: D. Pump (5:00), J. Oliver (7:45), D. Prasuhn (10:00)