

---

# Grace and Truth

Grace Lutheran Church - Fremont, Ohio  
May 2020

---



*While we can't gather in person,  
worship remains alive and well!*

*Stay Connected with us!*

*See inside cover for a complete listing of all available  
online opportunities for Worship, Devotions,*

*Bible Study, and more!*

*Until we can meet again...*

*Stay safe, Stay well!*

# AVAILABLE ONLINE



**WEEKDAY MORNINGS at 8:00 a.m. Morning Devotion with Moe** - via Facebook Live. You can find Maureen on Facebook at Maureen McClure Pump.

**TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS 9:30 p.m. Evening Compline** (*prayer to close the day*) - via Facebook Live on the St. John's Fremont Facebook page.

**WEDNESDAY 6:30 p.m. Bible Study on the Apostle's Creed** - via Facebook Live on the Hayes Memorial Facebook page.

**WEDNESDAY 7:11 p.m. Devotion with Pr. Jody** via Facebook Live on the Fremont Grace Lutheran Facebook page.

**THURSDAY 1:00 p.m. - Bible Study on Prayer** via Zoom Conference Call led by Maureen Pump. *For details on how to connect with Zoom for this Bible study, contact Maureen at [maureenpump@yahoo.com](mailto:maureenpump@yahoo.com)*

**SUNDAYS at Noon & WEDNESDAYS at 7:30 p.m. Youth Virtual Hangout** via Zoom Conference Call (<https://zoom.us/j/671080858>) led by Tricia McElfresh. If you have trouble joining the call send Tricia a message at 419-603-9477.

**SUNDAYS 1:00 p.m. Storytime at Church** - via Facebook group through the Hayes Memorial Facebook page.

For Online Bible Study with interactive posts and Facebook Live moments throughout the week, connect through the LIFT Fremont Facebook page.

**Grace Lutheran worship is posted weekly online at  
[www.gracefremont.org](http://www.gracefremont.org)**

# Change is Coming!

Well here we are. Easter Sunday has passed and for most of us...the first time we have ever missed sitting in a pew at church! What a change for all of us. But I want you to realize that a greater change is coming because Jesus' resurrection is greater than any virus!

In our lives we do not always expect change. We actually often resist change. Today however there is no way around it. Our lives have changed. Some of us may know someone who is ill with the coronavirus. Some of us may have lost a loved one. Some may have lost a job and financial security. Most of us have lost close contact with others we love since we are all trying to stay at home. Many are afraid.

Now I want you to remember your Bible. What happened to the disciples after Jesus died and was resurrected? His followers had lost someone that they loved. They lost their leader. They didn't know what to do. Their "jobs", so to speak, were lost as well. And Judas took all the money. There was nothing left. And where did they go? They went into hiding in the upper room. They were afraid of death.

But I want you to know, that in the middle of the fear going through the hearts of the disciples, Jesus showed up to bring about a change. I don't know how he passed through a door that was locked. All I know is that when Jesus is trying to get to us, nothing can keep him out.

Jesus was coming to them to bring about a change. A change in the way they viewed him. A change in the way they were thinking about tomorrow. A change in the way they considered what was the most important thing in life.

Jesus shows up in our situation with the same words of comfort, that He gave to the disciples. He said, "Peace be with you." And the change began...

The disciples had a reason to believe a change was coming after Jesus appeared to them. They went from a group of scared men and women who did not want to be associated with a dead Jesus, to men and women who would die, before they would say Jesus was not alive.

God is in our midst and is going to give you a totally different reason for living. I can warn you, that it won't always be easy, but it will be worth it. Only the brave and courageous can actually live for God. It's a lot harder than you think. But with the Holy Spirit at work in you, it's a change that you can make.

How will this all look when the pandemic is over? Only God knows the answer to that one! Rest assured; God is with you! God loves you! God will see us through this together. Amen and Amen

*Pastor Jody*

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### General Fund

As of MARCH 2020

	<u>2020 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>
Year to date receipts:	107,781	122,474	103,199
Year to date expenses:	<u>139,900</u>	<u>150,558</u>	<u>128,958</u>
Receipts less expenses:	(32,119)	(28,084)	(25,759)

Respectfully submitted,  
Doug Morris  
Financial Assistant

## CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes April 14, 2020

- Council meeting was held via Zoom
- Online worship continues, as well as daily devotions and Bible studies
- Weekly mailings (sermon, devotions) are sent to 65 individuals without internet access
- Phone Call Team continues to contact members weekly - members are loving this outreach!
- Capital Campaign will remain on hold
- Church building is undergoing a "deep cleaning"
- Property Committee is looking for volunteers to assist in lawn mowing; approximately 1.5 hours
- A youth led Mother's Day service is being planned and will most likely be delivered virtually
- LIFT Pastor Call Process will be coordinated for an initial meeting via Zoom
- LIFT Mercy Fund is being developed (fueled by donations) to be used to assist with food costs, medical supplies, and other COVID-19 related costs
- The online giving app - GIVE PLUS - is available on our web page ([www.gracefremont.org](http://www.gracefremont.org)) and is being used
- Just an FYI: the Sandusky County Emergency management Team will deliver food from the Food pantry as needed. Please call United Way for details.

## LIFT Director of Discipleship & Outreach Snapshot

As we continue to journey together through the COVID-19 pandemic, a recurring question has surfaced: how can I best help my neighbor in need? A result of working to answer this question is the creation of the LIFT Mercy Fund. This fund will respond to the financial needs of our neighbors who are impacted directly or indirectly by the COVID-19 pandemic. The LIFT Ministry Coordinator, Sarah Sarty, will shepherd the application process and disbursement of the funds with a target date of May 1, 2020 to begin actively responding to our neighbors in need. For those who are able to make a financial contribution to the fund, please make checks payable to LIFT Parish, LLC and mail to 705 W State St, Fremont, OH 43420. Indicate "Mercy Fund" on the memo line to ensure that your generosity is faithfully stewarded towards supporting the needs of those impacted by the pandemic. Once the process to receive funds is established, we will send out the instructions via e-mail, Facebook and on our web-site. Questions related to the LIFT Mercy Fund can be sent to [liftparishllc@gmail.com](mailto:liftparishllc@gmail.com) We continue to hold our entire community in prayer for each person's health, well-being and safety.

With you on the journey,  
Pam K.



*P.S. from Pastor Jody...Since this process will not be set up until May 1<sup>st</sup>, if anyone is in need of help immediately, please call my cell number at 660-281-3250 or my home number at 567-201-2819. Help will be on the way!*

# CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINEES

*While we continue to follow the Stay at Home order, church business continues. Church Council elections will be held during the month of May. Once details for voting have been determined, we will get that information to you. In the meantime, please review the list of nominees who have agreed to have their name on the ballot.*

---

**Nelda Bauer** - Nelda is one of our newer members of Grace, joining with her husband, Richard, in December of 2019. Active in her former church in Florida, Nelda served as Council President and Secretary. Since at Grace, she teamed up with Pr. Jody to lead a Bible study class. Nelda is retired and enjoys cross stitch and Bible studies.

**Richard Bauer** - Richard joined Grace with his wife, Nelda, in December of 2019. He was a very active member at his previous church in Florida fulfilling various positions as Council President and Treasurer. Richard was most recently nominated to serve on the Endowment Board of Grace Lutheran. Richard is retired and his hobbies include collecting stamps, coins, and beer steins.

**Ruthann House** - Ruthann has been a member of Grace for over 25 years. She has served on Council for several terms, acting as Treasurer. Ruthann was a former Sunday school teacher and attendance officer, and has assisted with a variety of events, activities, and fundraisers throughout the years. Ruthann has been employed with GLCAP (WSOS) for over 30 years, and currently serves as President/CEO. She enjoys spending time with family, home renovating/decorating, flower gardening, reading, NCAA basketball, and relaxing poolside!

**Beth Muffler** - Beth has been a member of Grace for 18 years and is completing her first 3 year term on Council, currently serving on the Mission/Outreach Committee. Beth volunteers as a Church Mouse and has helped with VBS and various youth activities. Beth has been employed as a teacher at Ross High School for 30 years. Her interests include OSU football, Cleveland Indians baseball, and anything outdoors!

**Ed Muffler** - Ed has been a member of Grace for 18 years and is completing his first 3 year term on Council - serving on Stewardship, Vice-President of the Executive Board, and currently Council President. Ed oversees the Sound System schedule, and was key in the recent sound system upgrade. He is also part of the Capital Campaign team. Ed has been employed with DuBois Chemicals for 28 years. His hobbies include sports, music, and electronics.

**Tanya Schling** - Tanya is a lifelong member of Grace and has served several terms on Council - serving on the Worship Committee and as Financial Secretary. She volunteers with funeral luncheons and is a former Sunday school teacher. Tanya is retired from Croghan Colonial Bank. She enjoys reading and working outside.

# Sharing God's Bounty

## God's Draft Choices

Two of the most highly watched sporting events on television are not when teams or athletes are competing against each other; rather they involve the drafting of players for the National Football League (NFL) and National Basketball Association (NBA) teams. For many hours, fans of professional sports will watch intently to see whom their favorite teams will draft.

Most of us won't be drafted by professional football or basketball teams, but, as Christians, we receive a greater calling. We, in essence, are God's draft choices. *"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit"* (John 15:16). God has made us a part of his team. We are not chosen by God because we are successful in our careers, great athletes, or wealthy. God chooses ordinary people to do extra-ordinary things. *"But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things ... and the things that are not ... to nullify the things that are"* (1 Corinthians 1:27-28).

Through faith, we understand that we are among the foolish and weak through whom God carries on his life-saving work. *"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us"* (2 Corinthians 4:7). God entrusts us ... clay jars ... with this treasure ... the Gospel. Even though we are frail and unworthy of our tasks, God has chosen us to carry his message of love to the world. As humble people of faith, we are empowered by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. He transforms and molds us. *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"* (2 Corinthians 5:17). It is God who does the drafting and the changing. Through faith, we will stay on God's team, and we will bear the fruit that he calls us to bear.

The professional athletes who are drafted are expected to perform. They are paid large sums of money to do very athletic things. As God's chosen people, we may not receive large compensation, but our benefits are out of this world! Therefore, we are eager to use our lives and resources in God's service for his glory. Paul wrote, *"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"* (Ephesians 2:10). What a privilege it is to be part of and serving on God's winning team!



*If Jesus walked up to you and said: "Come follow me ... I have a lot of work to do and I really need your help," would you tell him to get lost because you are just too busy in your pursuit of personal possessions and worldly comfort? Every day is a time to reflect on all that God has given you and a time to share and care about others. Have you given any consideration to helping Jesus carry out his works in your own church?*

# MOTHER'S *day*

WORSHIP & CELEBRATION

*SUNDAY, MAY 10*

All youth interested in helping with our virtual Mother's Day worship should sign-up **by Friday, May 1** via  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b48a4ae2ea7ff2-mothers3>

If you have questions contact Heather Hawn by email at [HeatherRHawn@gmail.com](mailto:HeatherRHawn@gmail.com)

This service will be posted on the Fremont Grace Lutheran Facebook page on Sunday, May 10 and our website [gracefremont.org](http://gracefremont.org)

## GRACE LUTHERAN SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Grace Lutheran Church oversees **two (2)** scholarship funds which are available to active members of Grace Lutheran Church who are currently enrolled or have been accepted at a college or university.

- ***The Tressel Memorial Scholarship*** is awarded to individuals who are majoring in ordained ministry, parish work, music ministry, Christian day school teacher, lay ministry, youth ministry, medical missionary, or any other fields of Christian service. This fund is also available to students attending Capital University as a Partner in Education (stipulations apply).
- ***Grace Lutheran Church General Scholarship*** - Applicants must be active members of Grace Lutheran Church, and currently enrolled or accepted in a college or university. No degree requirements needed.

*Please note: Applicants will only receive one scholarship from one of the above funds.*

Applications are available in the church office or online at [www.gracefremont.org](http://www.gracefremont.org). **The deadline for submittal to the church office is MAY 1, 2020.** If you have any questions, please call the church office, 419-332-1558.

If you would like to contribute to any of these scholarship funds, you can do so through the church office or by using a white pew envelope and marking it 'Tressel Memorial', or 'GLC General Scholarship'.

The following is a letter from Pr. David Brondos, our sponsored ELCA Missionary in Mexico. Pr. Brondos and his wife, Alicia, are doing relatively well, working from their home. The Corona Virus in their area seems to be a few weeks behind the U.S., so unfortunately, they are bracing for the worst. We keep them in our prayers.

---



## SEMINARIO LUTERANO AUGSBURGO

La Otra Banda 54 ✦ Col. San Angel ✦ 01090 México, D.F. ✦ Tel. 5616-8742 ✦ [www.semla.org](http://www.semla.org)

April 3, 2020

Grace Lutheran Church  
705 W. State St.  
Fremont, OH 43420

Dear friends at Grace,

I recently received word that you have renewed your covenant for the support for our ministry in Mexico through the ELCA Missionary Sponsorship program. Alicia and I have greatly appreciated your support in the past and are very glad that you wish to continue to accompany us in our work here in this way.

Of course, these are very difficult times for all of us as a church. Not only is it a challenge trying to keep a sense of Christian community without being able to gather with our sisters and brothers in the faith, but there are also so many people right now who are suffering the effects of this crisis in many different ways and are in need of our solidarity. We thank God that our faith enables us to manifest that solidarity in concrete ways and to share with others the hope we have in our crucified and risen Lord.

Alicia and I pray that God will continue to be with you and bring us all through these difficult days in ways that ultimately make us stronger in our love and in our commitment to doing the Lord's work in the midst of the enormous challenges we face. We thank you for remembering us in your prayers and want you to know that you are in ours as well.

May God continue to give you health, strength, and resolve in these times and keep before your eyes the empty tomb that lies beyond the cross and reminds us that it is the God of life who has the last word!

Yours in Christ,

David Brondos  
ELCA Missionary in Mexico  
<http://dbrondos.mx>  
[dabrondos@gmail.com](mailto:dabrondos@gmail.com)

# MAY BIRTHDAYS

*Happy Birthday to those who are celebrating 75 years and more!*

May 2	Sharon Mehling	1225 White Ave.
May 3	Marcella Widmer	7415 US Hwy 6, Gibsonburg
May 4	Clara Bowlus	880 Frederick Ave.
May 4	Walter Lamson	138 Cottage Grove Dr.
May 5	Sarah Chase	527 St. Joseph St.
May 9	Nancy King	3119 Co. Rd. 174
May 11	James Gruver	1507 Cleveland Rd. E #432, Huron 44839
May 11	Lynn Wilson	10 Meadowbrook Dr.
May 17	Esther Chambers	4702 Sussex Dr. Columbia MO 65203
May 20	David Prasuhn	408 Cottage St.
May 24	Clarence Weickert	318 E. Co. Rd. 89



**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 13.**

*The newsletter will be assembled  
on Thursday, May 21.*

*Happy Anniversary*

*To those couples celebrating 50 or  
more years of wedded bliss!*

**May 3, 1952 - Henry & Betty Breyman**

**May 5, 1962 - Larry & Judy Overmyer**

## THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to everyone who prayed for or helped with the service and luncheon for Steven R. Sieberg. Your kind and thoughtful expressions of sympathy is deeply appreciated.

God Bless You All!  
Deb Sieberg and family

A heartfelt thank you to Hal & Diane Hawk for their donation of the Easter Lilies. These beautiful flowers helped to decorate and brighten up the sanctuary for our virtual Easter celebration.

## With Sympathy

*Diane Blue  
Dean Dorr*

**FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE:** for the month of May, we will collect oatmeal and cereal. **While the church office is closed, please take your items directly to the Food Pantry located in the Share & Care building. Food Pantry hours are M - F, 12noon to 2:30pm**

Thanks to your generosity, in March we were able to donate four boxes to the Sandusky County Food Pantry and two boxes to the Bridge of Hope Food Pantry. Thank you!

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Jody Rice, Senior Pastor  
jjrice2002@yahoo.com  
Maureen Pump, Lay Associate Minister  
maureenpump@yahoo.com  
Linda Baumer, Office/Financial Administrator  
gracefremont@yahoo.com  
Tricia Dabrunz, Secretary/Receptionist  
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com  
Heather Hawn, Youth Minister ~ Middle/High School  
heatherrhawn@gmail.com  
Tricia McElfresh, Director, Noah's Ark Preschool  
noahs\_ark\_fremont@yahoo.com  
Tom Curry, Director of Music,  
musicatgracelutheran@yahoo.com

## Worship Services and Sunday School

Saturday 5:00pm ~ Traditional Worship

Sunday

8:00am ~ Adult Sunday School

9:00am ~ Worship/Holy Communion

9:00am ~ Pre-K ~ 5th grade Sunday School  
*(at a designated time during worship)*



## Grace Lutheran Church

705 West State Street  
Fremont, OH 43420

Return Service Requested

Office Hours – 9:00am-4:00pm, M-Th  
9:00 a.m.-1:00p.m., F

Phone: 419-332-1558

E-mail: [gracefremont@yahoo.com](mailto:gracefremont@yahoo.com)

Web page: [www.gracefremont.org](http://www.gracefremont.org)

Non-Profit  
Paid  
Fremont, OH  
Permit #133

## SUNDAY

## MONDAY

## TUESDAY

## WEDNESDAY

## THURSDAY

## FRIDAY

## SATURDAY



# 2020

**PLEASE NOTE:** For complete details about all of our online meetings and worship services see page 2 of your newsletter.

					1	2
					8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	Worship available via Grace website
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00 Worship via Facebook Noon Youth Virtual Hangout 1:00 Storytime at Church	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 6:30 Bible Study on Apostle's Creed 7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live 7:30 Youth Virtual Hangout	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study on Prayer with Maureen Pump	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	Worship available via Grace website
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY</b> 9:00 Worship via Facebook Noon Youth Virtual Hangout 1:00 Storytime at Church	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	<b>G &amp; T DEADLINE</b> 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 6:30 Bible Study on Apostle's Creed 7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live 7:30 Youth Virtual Hangout	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study on Prayer with Maureen Pump	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	Worship available via Grace website
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE</b> (oatmeal and cereal) 9:00 Worship via Facebook Noon Youth Virtual Hangout 1:00 Storytime at Church	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 6:30 Bible Study on Apostle's Creed 7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live 7:30 Youth Virtual Hangout	<b>G &amp; T ASSEMBLED</b> 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study on Prayer with Maureen Pump	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	Worship available via Grace website
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:00 Worship via Facebook Noon Youth Virtual Hangout 1:00 Storytime at Church	<b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 6:30 Bible Study on Apostle's Creed 7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live 7:30 Youth Virtual Hangout	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study on Prayer with Maureen Pump	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	Worship available via Grace website
31						
9:00 Worship via Facebook Noon Youth Virtual Hangout 1:00 Storytime at Church	8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe					

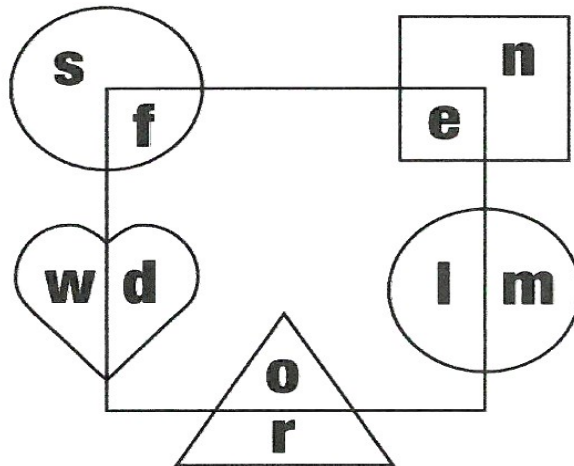


# GOD CARES FOR YOU!

Jesus tells his followers not to worry about their daily needs.  
What example does he give of God's care for his creation?

**Directions:**

To complete Luke 12:27 (NIV), match the shapes under each blank with the letter shapes shown to the right.



"Consider how the wild \_\_\_\_\_  
grow. They do not labor or spin.

Yet I tell you, not even \_\_\_\_\_  
in all his splendor was \_\_\_\_\_  
like one of these." Luke 12:27, NIV

Answer: "Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these." Luke 12:27, NIV