

Grace and Truth

Grace Lutheran Church - Fremont, Ohio
August 2020



Join Us at **STAYCATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

An @ Home Family Option for VBS

SUNDAYS
AUGUST 2ND, 9TH, & 16TH



HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. Gather your family & closest friends (as you feel comfortable)
2. Log into our private Facebook Group
(You will be invited after registration)
3. Press Play & Have Fun!

You will play games, make origami, and hear a Bible Story. Supplies are minimal and kits will be available for the 1st 100 kids who register for VBS. Each Sunday at Noon we will post the week's video and materials for you to do at your own pace. Each lesson will take about an hour, but can be split into shorter segments if needed. Pastors and leaders from LIFT churches will also be providing additional materials throughout the week for some added excitement! Raffles will also be held throughout VBS for fun prizes. More info is available in your church's newsletter and at www.liftchurches.org. We can't wait to see your family there!

A Heartfelt Message from Pr. Jody...

A Time for Everything...

*1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:
2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
3 a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,
4 a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time
to refrain from embracing,
6 a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,
7 a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,
8 a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.*

This beloved scripture reading tells us that God has a plan for all people. God provides cycles of life for us all... with work to do. However, timing is important. The secret to peace with God is to discover, accept, and appreciate God's perfect timing. With this in mind, it is time for me to retire from Grace Lutheran Church. My retirement will be effective November 5, 2020.

I have always shared with you my health journey. While my health is stable for the moment, the side effects of my chemotherapy are still with me. My doctor has informed me that my memory will not improve and will probably become worse over time. This is devastating news!

So, please forgive me for leaving you... but it is the right thing to do. "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

God's peace,

Pastor Jody

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund
As of JUNE 2020

	<u>2020 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>
Year to date receipts:	222,505	231,023	206,945
Year to date expenses:	<u>236,310</u>	<u>258,444</u>	<u>236,955</u>
Receipts less expenses:	(13,805)	(27,421)	(30,010)

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Morris
Financial Assistant

CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes July 13, 2020

- Council meeting was held via Zoom
- COVID-19 update:
 - positive cases continue to rise
 - motion made and approved unanimously to remain closed through August at which time Council will re-assess for September
- Giving has remained steady
- Capital Campaign - will move forward with several small projects
- LIFT New Pastor Call Committee
 - Transition Team has completed their work and will pass onto a Call Committee
 - A full-time pastor will serve as a Visiting Pastor for all churches, and rotate to provide sermons throughout LIFT
- Drive-In Church - it's joyous and well-received! Lowest attendance 90, highest attendance 150 !
- Midwest Maintenance will be contacted for building inspection
- Church Council Representative to serve on Endowment is Ruthann House
- Pr. Jody announced her retirement - effective November 5, 2020
- My Brother's Keeper has been well-supported. This member to member ministry is available to assist with utilities, house payments, and rent.
- The August Drive-In Car Show has been cancelled.
- Great Hymns of Faith LIFT event has been cancelled for 2020.
- Virtual VBS will be held the first three weeks in August. All families are welcome! Please sign up!

GRACE LUTHERAN TO REMAIN CLOSED

As this pandemic continues, we also continue to review and assess the situation in our immediate area. As stated in previous messages, our utmost concern remains to be the safety and health of our parishioners and staff. With that in mind, and seeing the most current rise in positive cases in Fremont, Church Council has carefully and unanimously made the decision that Grace will remain closed through August. We ask for your continued prayers, support, and patience as we all work through these "not normal" times. God's peace to you all!

AVAILABLE ONLINE



DID YOU KNOW that we have a **prayer request button** on our **website**? If you have a concern that you would like Maureen or Pr. Jody to pray about, please visit our website www.gracefremont.org. All you have to do is click on the prayer button and leave your concern there!

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

FIRST TUESDAY (Monthly) 5:30 p.m. Juggling Act via Zoom. Many of us feel like we are pushed to the limit juggling work, children, housework and taking care of ourselves. It might even be worse now that many of us are working from home. If you could use some time to chat with other people dealing with the same circumstances why not join the Zoom group. Don't hesitate to enjoy your dinner while we chat. IF you are interested send Maureen an email, maureenpump@yahoo.com, and she will send you the link.

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

TUESDAY 1:00 p.m. - Women of the Bible Study via Zoom - We might be at home but gathering around God's Word doesn't end. We are currently discussing the Women of the Bible. *For details on how to connect with Zoom for this Bible study, contact Maureen at maureenpump@yahoo.com*

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

SUNDAY 6:00 p.m. Virtual Prayer Group with Maureen via ZOOM. Please email Maureen at maureenpump@yahoo.com and she will send you the ZOOM link.

SUNDAYS (August 2, 9, 16) LIFT STAYCATION BIBLE SCHOOL - Registration is required due to copyright requirements from the publisher. To register visit <http://www.liftchurches.org/vbs2020.html>. If you have any questions or can't participate through Facebook please contact Heather Hawn at HeatherRHawn@gmail.com

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

Sharing God's Bounty

God Calls Us to be His Workers

In spite of our foolish and sinful ways, God calls us to be his workers. Scripture tells us that Jesus did not pick people from society's elite when he chose his workers. Jesus' disciples were peasants, fishermen, and even a tax collector. Paul wrote, "*Brothers, think of what you when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. 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. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things . . .*" (1 Corinthians 1:26-28). The majority of God's work was done and continues to be done by the lowly and oppressed people.

Certainly, God can use celebrities and very successful people in his work. However, we need to remember that, even though we may not have accomplished anything of worldly significance, broken any records, or won any awards, God can use and transform us into effective workers in his kingdom. "*I can do everything through him who gives me strength*" (Philippians 4:13). Society gives many accolades to those who succeed, but there is no greater honor or privilege than to be chosen as God's vehicle to spread the Gospel. As John states in his Gospel, it is Jesus who does the choosing. "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit" (John 15:16).

So why does God elevate the foolish and the lowly to be his workers? A reason may be found in 1 Corinthians 1:29: "so that no one may boast before him." It is only by God's grace that we are saved, called, and equipped to be in his service. If we come into God's work with impressive credentials, we risk taking the glory and credit for ourselves. God desires the weak and the lowly. As Paul said, "*Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong*" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). God uses ordinary people to do extra-ordinary things. Are you ready for duty?



"Charge them to do good, to be rich in good works and generous, sharing what they have." (1 Timothy 6:18) May Timothy's letter move us to better see how we are using all that the Lord has entrusted to us; our income, our talents. This sense of stewardship will help us grow in faith and concern one for another. That's what faith community is all about."

MEN IN MISSION - GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH RADIO BROADCASTS

The unprecedented time that we are all experiencing has limited our ability to meet, visit and socialize in person. This is certainly true of our church life. We are currently unable to worship and have fellowship together. During these unusual times our radio ministry has an even more important role in making the Sunday message available for more people. We want to thank and make special mention of all the faithful supporters of the radio ministry during the last few months. Without you this ministry would not be possible.

March 29 - Judy Gangwer & family
April 5 - Robert & Lil Zilles
April 12 - Robert & Janet Dorr
April 19 - Richard & Beverly Bradford
April 26 - William & Clara Bowlus
May 3 - William & Candyce Wingard
May 10 - Robert & Jan Bowles

May 17 - Anonymous
May 24 - Gary & Karen Haubert
May 31 - Ron & Helen Jess
June 7 - Les & Marcella Widmer
June 14 - Ken & Ann Overmyer
June 21 - Nancy King & family
June 28 - Mary Coleman

If you are interested in sponsoring a radio broadcast please contact Les Widmer, 419-341-1850. The cost to sponsor a broadcast is \$72.50. The broadcast can be heard each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. on Eagle 99.1.

DID YOU KNOW THERE IS FINANCIAL HELP FOR MEMBERS? During these difficult financial times some of us might need a little help with our rent, house payment, or utilities. Did you know you are able to receive this help from your church? My Brother's Keeper is a member to member ministry fund found here at Grace. Everything is kept confidential. If you find yourself needing a little help in the areas mentioned and are a member of Grace contact Maureen or Pastor Jody through the church office at 419-332-1558.

LIBERTY CENTER UPDATE - The Liberty Center is currently selling tickets for The Bauman Auto Group Big Charity Raffle. Tickets are \$5 each and all proceeds go to the charity that sold the ticket. Tickets may be purchased at the center, 1421 E. State St., either in person or by mail (please make checks payable to The Liberty Center). If you stop and do not want to enter the building please call, 419-332-8777, and someone will bring tickets out to you. Thank you for your support!

SNAP MINISTRIES UPDATE - During the start of this year Pr. Claude spent time meeting with each pastor to help them plan their goals for the year. He also spent several days with Pastor Prince in Lomie'. Where they are working with brick and mortar to finish their church building. In the middle of March Covid-19 hit Cameroon and Pastor Claude and his family were advised to quarantine themselves at the farm where fresh water is available. During their quarantine why spent their time planting avocados, potatoes, cassava, corn along with many other vegetables. As of June, there have been 9,864 cases of Covid -19 and 276 deaths in Cameroon. Cameroonians have literally moved away from the city to avoid this virus. Pr. Claude asks that you pray for the health and safety of the Cameroonians, for their crops, for the safety of the construction workers as they continue with building projects and give praise for the support that has been given to start building the main church campus.

BRONDOS MISSIONARY NEWS - Keep up with the latest happening from our missionary, Pr. David Brondos by visiting www.sites.google.com/site/dbrondos or via email at david.brondos@elca.org

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

August 3	Mary Coleman	815 Whittlesey St.
August 3	Dennis Curliss	720 Tucker Rd.
August 3	Henry Seibert	4215 W. State St.
August 5	Ronald Jess	4666 W. Lakeshore Dr. Port Clinton
August 6	James McGue	1545 Buckland Ave.
August 17	Joan Sachs	916 North St., Apt. 30
August 18	Velda Bowersox	1545 Fangboner Rd., Rm. 202
August 19	Dotti Borden	3172 N. Marina View Dr. Port Clinton
August 22	Paul Zilles	131 Berkshire Dr.
August 23	Albert Stokes	1634 Williams Dr.
August 25	Kent Watkins	1547 Emmett Dr.
August 27	Evelyn Taylor	1203 Kentucky Ave.



**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12.**

*The newsletter will be assembled
on Thursday, August 20.*



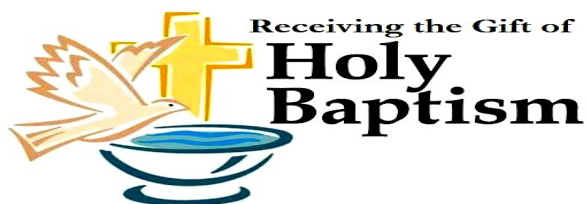
*To those couples celebrating 50 or
more years of wedded bliss!*

August 9, 1958 - Dennis & Ardis Curliss

August 14, 1948 - Ben & Donna Cooley

August 19, 1960 - Charles & Patricia Mowry

August 23, 1969 - David & Ruth Byers



July 5 - Caleb Lee Wise, son of
Cory & Stephanie Wise

July 12 - Elijah Allen Jess, son of
Austin & Jenna Jess

July 19 - Harrison William Blystone, son of
John & Virginia Blystone

FOOD PANTRY

CHALLENGE: for the month
of August, we will collect
spaghetti noodles and sauce.

**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.**



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

Until further notice, the following remains in effect due to the Covid-19 health emergency:

- All worship services are cancelled
- The Sanctuary is closed
- The Church Office is closed.



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

Web page: www.gracefremont.org

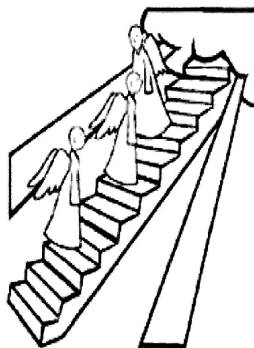
Non-Profit
Paid
Fremont, OH
Permit #133

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 9:00 Worship via Facebook 9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot Noon Staycation Bible School 6:00 Virtual Prayer Group	3 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	4 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study with Maureen 5:30 Juggling Act via Zoom 9:30 Evening Compline	5 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live	6 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	7 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline 	1 Worship available via Grace website <hr/> 8 Worship available via Grace website
9 9:00 Worship via Facebook 9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot Noon Staycation Bible School 6:00 Virtual Prayer Group	10 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 7:30 Church Council via ZOOM	11 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study with Maureen 9:30 Evening Compline	12 G & T DEADLINE 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live	13 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 	14 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	15 Worship available via Grace website
16 FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE <i>(spaghetti & sauce)</i> 9:00 Worship via Facebook 9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot Noon Staycation Bible School 6:00 Virtual Prayer Group	17 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	18 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study with Maureen 9:30 Evening Compline	19 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live	20 G & T ASSEMBLED 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	21 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	22 Worship available via Grace website
23 9:00 Worship via Facebook 9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot 6:00 Virtual Prayer Group	24 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	25 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study with Maureen 9:30 Evening Compline	26 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live	27 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe	28 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:30 Evening Compline	29 Worship available via Grace website
30 9:00 Worship via Facebook 9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot 6:00 Virtual Prayer Group	31 8:00 Morning Devotion with Moe 				2020	<div> PLEASE NOTE: For complete details about all of our online meetings and worship services see page 4 of your newsletter. </div>

Stairway to Heaven

"I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Genesis 28:13b (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Genesis 28:10-19



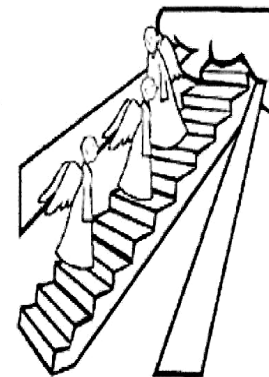
I G E X J C U U O J G M Q O T
W A B K J F Q W Z W A I W D G
Z X C B P D M E D E Y C G W E
N X B A N G E L S R L O O J C
H O G Y H W Q U H G E N I B H
X L O R D M O P F Y J A A V L
P H E R H H W Y A K H D M M A
A W O K E E L W D G A S C F N
J E F X H E R B P E N L Q H D
G A W W D I G I H Z N E F I H
O R N E A P I K G Q R E D P E
J T L T Z P V G V Z Z P E N A
T H S H A F E A F O U R O S V
K H H U R C E T P H P T Y V E
H P X B K F R E C L S W W T N

GIVE	ANGELS	DREAM	STAIRWAY	LORD
STONE	LAND	EARTH	HEAVEN	HEAD
SLEEP	HOUSE	JACOB	AWOKE	GATE

Stairway to Heaven

"I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Genesis 28:13b (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



P	R	U	E	H	T	B	N	M	L	X	F	K	O	Q	Y	D	Z	C	V	W	J	S	A	I	G
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 23-6-14-8-4 _____
- 5-4-24-17 _____
- 23-10-4-4-1 _____
- 17-2-4-24-9 _____
- 23-6-24-25-2-21-24-16 _____
- 5-4-24-20-4-8 _____
- 24-8-26-4-10-23 _____
- 1-2-14-9-25-23-4 _____

DREAM	SLEEP	STAIRWAY	STONE
PROMISE	HEAVEN	ANGELS	HEAD