

Grace and Truth

Grace Lutheran Church - Fremont, Ohio

September 2020



Come as you are, stay in your car, and experience Drive-In Church!

Worship begins Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot in front of St. John's Lutheran Church - enter from Court Street or Clover Street. Holy Communion will be included with worship, and elements will be safely distributed to each car upon entering the parking lot.

Once you park, tune your radio to 89.7FM, sit back, and enjoy worship from the comfort of your car! You can sing as loud as you want (*because you are in your own car*), and when it's time for Sharing the Peace... just give your horn a good honk!!



Offering buckets will be available as you exit. We recommend that you continue to contribute in your normal way -online, mail, office door mail slot. But, if you wish to bring your offering with you, please use your church envelope and include your name.

Drive-In Church has turned out to be a great joy for so many!
We ask that you continue to abide by all rules presented for worship!

RE-OPENING UPDATE...

Our Church Council recently met on Monday, August 10. One of our topics was the opening of our sanctuary for worship services during this time of COVID-19.

We have relied on some of our key Re-opening Task Force team members. Our medical experts voiced a great concern about bringing older adults back into the building when it is so hot. If anyone has any pre-existing medical conditions and returns to an un-airconditioned sanctuary, we would be creating more health risks. It is almost intolerable to wear a mask inside the sanctuary right now.

After much prayer and conversation, we voted unanimously to continue to keep the sanctuary closed during the month of September. We are doing our very best to reach you through the post office, emails, morning devotions, Wednesday night studies, and services on the weekend. The weekend services can be found on our web page at www.gracefremont.org or online on the Fremont Grace Lutheran Facebook page, and also can be heard on the radio (Eagle 99.1) Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. And, of course, we will continue to offer Drive In Worship at 9 am on Sunday mornings at the St. John's parking lot.

It has been difficult for all of us during this time. Please remember however that even though we are physically apart, we are not alone. "Don't be afraid, for ***I am with you***. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand" (Isaiah 41:10 NLT). May God continue to bless each and everyone of you!

God's peace,

Pr. Jody



September at Grace Lutheran is the month we observe Thankoffering. Every year our thankofferings are collected and sent to support the life-changing ministries of the ELCA. Even though we will not be worshipping together in our sanctuary on Thankoffering weekend, we can still

support and think of others that our gifts support. In this issue of Grace & Truth, you will find your Thankoffering envelope. These can be returned to Grace Lutheran simply by mailing it directly to the church or you can drop it in the church office door mail slot.

*In gratitude for all God has given to us, and with hope for all that is to come,
we collect our Thankofferings.*

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund

As of JULY 2020

	<u>2020 Actual</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>	<u>2019 Actual</u>
Year to date receipts:	318,164	264,606	252,807
Year to date expenses:	<u>286,193</u>	<u>303,232</u>	<u>274,431</u>
Receipts less expenses:	31,971	(38,626)	(21,624)

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Morris
Financial Assistant

CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes August 10, 2020

- Council meeting was held via Zoom
- COVID-19 update:
 - Sandusky County is ranked 17th amongst Ohio counties
 - motion made and approved unanimously to remain closed through September at which time Council will re-assess for October
- Capital Campaign - small projects continue, including Midwest Maintenance review of our building maintenance requirements,
- Other Property projects in the works - Smoke detection for the sanctuary, tree in courtyard to be cut down later in the fall, Noah's Ark classroom painting near completion
- LIFT Call Committee will have their first meeting August 17
 - Kristen Lindsay will serve as the Grace representative, Maureen will represent the pastoral team, and Jan Harris will represent the LIFT Board
- Noah's Ark Preschool - safety protocols are in the planning stage.
- Drive-in Church - continues to be a great joy! It will be planned through September.
- Budget planning for 2021 has begun!
- The Women's Christmas Brunch has been cancelled for December 2020.
- Virtual VBS continues
- All confirmand families are OK with online learning

Mail Delivery Issues...

Unfortunately, we have become aware of mailing delays, specifically in the delivery of this monthly newsletter. Once we take the newsletter mailing to the Fremont post office, it is out of our hands. This is a "bulk mailing" that goes through Detroit, and is not top priority, so we've been told. In the future, if you need a copy before your issue finds its way to your mailbox, please call the church office and let us know if you would like to stop by and pick up a copy or have a copy mailed "FIRST-CLASS". If you'd like, you can also request to have your name put on the mailing list to receive the newsletter via E-mail.

The newsletter is posted monthly on our web page at www.gracefremont.org

The Plans for the Future!

The future. What will happen now that I have announced my retirement? What will the people of Grace Lutheran do during a time of transition? Please let me assure you... all will be well!

The Northwestern Ohio Synod has a plan in place to help congregations during a change in pastors. There will be an exit interview with me and your appointed call facilitator from the synod office. The church council will be invited to attend as well. This process allows an opportunity for dialogue about my ministry and begins the process of closure and transition.

And then the process of transition and change begins. A transition team will be put in place and then after they finish their work, a call committee will be selected.

For the months of November, December and January, Maureen and I have put together a supply preaching schedule. These good people will fill in on Sundays to help proclaim the Word. By February Grace Lutheran Church should have an interim minister. With the size of GLC, you will need a full time interim.

As for me and my family, we will be moving to Gettysburg, PA. We currently own a home there that has been rented for the last 14 years. As a called and ordained minister of the NWOS, I have agreed to respect the integrity of the ministry of GLC. I will not be able to perform any ministerial functions unless I am invited to return by the new pastor. This means that I will not be able to perform any weddings, funerals, baptisms or pastoral visitations. This is done so that you will come to love your new pastor as much as you love me...

This promise I made is for the sole purpose of strengthening mission and ministry for the future of Grace. I am deeply grateful to you all. You will forever be my friends and a visit to Gettysburg (after COVID 19) would always be welcome!

God's peace,

Pastor Jody

!FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTION... coming in September!!

Grace Lutheran Church has partnered with The Toledo Food Bank to host another **Food Box Distribution** to take place **Friday, September 11, 2020** from 10:30am to 1pm in the main parking lot of Grace. As before, pre-registration and ID is required. Complete details will be provided once they become available. You can also visit www.toledofoodbank.org to watch for event and registration details.

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 8:30 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.

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

September

The Exalted State of Servanthood

Martin Luther, as professor of theology in the 1,500's wrote, "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all." Perhaps those two sentences appear at first to be contradictory. What Luther was trying to help us understand is that we, as Christians, are called to freedom from an obligation to serve, but that we are called to the freedom to serve joyfully.

This call to joyful servanthood is understood and often scoffed at, simply because we have confused servanthood with servitude. Servitude conveys the idea of bondage and even slavery. Servanthood, on the other hand, connotes voluntary service, joyful giving of ourselves, a willing choice to help others, and selfless commitment.

One who is involved in servitude serves unwillingly out of a sense of fear and has no hope of entering into a different state, while one involved in servanthood lives in an exalted state, a healthy and uplifting climate of helping others. Even though challenges must be overcome and problems may abound, the joy of servanthood is the overriding experience.

How do we get from a state of servitude to a state of servanthood? This transition is made when we properly understand the Word of God which clearly defines servanthood by explaining Christ's purpose in coming to Earth: "... the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). Jesus has lived the perfect life of the servant in our places, so we no longer are constrained to try to "measure up" to what God expects. The Law never saves, never enables us, only shows us our shortcomings.

When we look at Christ, though, and how he lived his earthly life and what he has done for us, we are freed to respond with heartfelt, sincere, loving service to those he has placed around us. The acts of service we render are the same; the motivation and attitude are what make the difference. Through Christ, we are elevated to the exalted state of servanthood.



Time is a gift that is given to man.

We are to use it according to God's own plan.

To each he gives a measured amount; to each a directive to make it count.

Spend this gift wisely. Develop life's plan to the Glory of God and the Service of Man.

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LIFT DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP & OUTREACH SNAPSHOT - September 2020

By the time you are reading this newsletter, I will have completed my time as a paid employee of LIFT. It has been an extreme joy and honor to be with you on the journey as the Director of Discipleship and Outreach for nearly three years! One of the greatest joys I've experienced in these years is seeing the connections that already exist amongst our congregations. To discover that people who were long time coworkers reconnect with one another at a joint worship service. Or for old neighbors that had lost touch to end up on the same Love Your Neighbor Day service project. The most unexpected connection was unraveling the interconnected web of extended family across all of our congregations as stories have been shared through the Online Bible Study, Walking by Faith through the grove, or in the Book Club. My prayer as I end this official time working for LIFT is that each of you feel the welcomed invitation to continue to discover the connections that already exist amongst our congregations. Then utilize those connections to further strengthen the ongoing community involvement which is the generous gift LIFT can give abundantly to all. In the days ahead you will still see me developing a green thumb at the community garden and donning an elf hat as Community Christmas begins later this fall. I also look forward to joining in worship periodically (once it is safe to do so) and will listen with an eager heart as you share how LIFT continues to make a difference for you, for your congregation and for the community.

Remaining with you on the journey,

Pam K.



Please note that the LIFT Board has determined that out of an abundance of caution and the ongoing public health concerns

we **WILL NOT HOST** the following events

in 2020: Outdoor Worship Service

& the Great Hymns of Faith

We look forward to hosting those events in the future (prayerfully in 2021) when it can be done safely and for the enjoyment of all in attendance!

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!

Thank You!

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

The clients and volunteers at Sandusky County Share & Care would like to thank you for your recent donation. Friends like you have enabled us to help our neighbors in need.

Sandusky County Share & Care

Dear Grace Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift to the ELCA Global Mission. Your support enables us to send missionaries, provide scholarships to international women leaders responding to God's call to ministry, helps to fund investments in evangelism, education and church expansion. Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God is shining through you.

With gratitude,
Rachel Mwitual Williams
Director, ELCA Global Missions Funding

in YOUTH Action



Coming to a park near you! It has been a long time since we have seen each other face to face. We have been given permission by council to meet outdoors with proper social distancing and masks.

Watch for details on our Facebook family page, Grace Lutheran Church Youth Group. Details will be posted a couple days before as to where and when I will be that week on Wednesday or Thursday. Hope to see you soon and catch up. Have a favorite park? Send me a request at HeatherRHawn@gmail.com.



Calling all youth, 7th grader or older, who have not yet started confirmation. Confirmation will be going online this fall. If your family has not yet received a call about confirmation please contact Heather Hawn by email at HeatherRHawn@gmail.com to register.

Happy Anniversary

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

September 12, 1964 -

Richard & Beverly O'Donnell

With Sympathy

*David Burmeister
Sally Chase*

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

September 2	Charlotte Urban	301 S. Pennsylvania Ave
September 3	Peggy Dorr	1863 Morrison Rd.
September 5	David Souder	2459 Buckland Ave
September 6	Nancy Gruver	1507 Cleveland Rd. E. # 432, Huron
September 6	Wayne Lieske	430 N. Broadway, Green Springs, Rm. 230
September 7	Joanne Hirt	430 N. Broadway, Green Springs, Rm., 108
September 8	Terry Radsick	746 S. Co. Rd. 232
September 9	Gerry Gallagher	532 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
September 15	Kennard Hirt	236 St. Paul Dr.
September 15	Barbara McNelly	30 Fox Run Dr.
September 15	Roger Otermat	1416 Co. Rd. 116
September 16	David Byers	1671 Buchanan St.
September 18	June Knepper	3745 W. Hayes Ave.
September 20	Geri Shimer	1247 N. River Rd., Rm. 401
September 23	Linda Beck	19 Fox Run Dr.
September 26	Marlene Mullholand	15 Meadowbrook Dr.
September 28	Marlene Smith	P. O. Box 174, Lindsey
September 30	Helen Jess	4666 W. Lakeshore Dr., Port Clinton



**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16.**

*The newsletter will be assembled
on Thursday, September 24.*



August 9 - Wyatt Kenneth House, son of
Andrew & Erika House

August 16 - Emma Michelle Lieb, daughter of
Bryan & Chery (Sachs) Lieb

New Babies

August 10 - Kinsley Mae Conklin,
daughter of Spencer & Megan
(Wise) Conklin

FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE:

for the month of September, we
will collect peanut butter, jelly and
beans. 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.



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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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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

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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 5 of your newsletter.

1
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
1:00 Bible Study with Maureen
5:30 Juggling Act via Zoom
9:30 Evening Compline

2
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live

3
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe

4
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
9:30 Evening Compline

5
Worship available via Grace website

6
9:00 Worship via Facebook
9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot
6:00 Virtual Prayer Group

7

8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe

8
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
1:00 Bible Study with Maureen
9:30 Evening Compline

9
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live

10
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe

11
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
9:30 Evening Compline

12
Worship available via Grace website

13
FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE
(spaghetti & sauce)
9:00 Worship via Facebook
9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot
6:00 Virtual Prayer Group

14
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
7:30 Church Council via ZOOM

15
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
1:00 Bible Study with Maureen
9:30 Evening Compline

16
G & T DEADLINE
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live

17
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe

18
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
9:30 Evening Compline

19
Worship available via Grace website

20
9:00 Worship via Facebook
9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot
6:00 Virtual Prayer Group

21
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe

22
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
1:00 Bible Study with Maureen
9:30 Evening Compline



23
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live

24
G & T ASSEMBLED
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe

25
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
9:30 Evening Compline

26
Worship available via Grace website

27
9:00 Worship via Facebook
9:00 Drive-In Church - St. John's parking lot
6:00 Virtual Prayer Group

28
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe

29
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
1:00 Bible Study with Maureen
9:30 Evening Compline

30
8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
7:11 Devotion via Facebook Live



Moses and the Burning Bush

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Exodus 3:5 (NIV)

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



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

- 7-5-25-9-25 _____
- 26-1-25-8 _____
- 13-15-4-9 _____
- 26-1-4-18 _____
- 25-12-18-11-12-14-25 _____
- 8-5-14-19 _____
- 17-4-5-1-18-11 _____
- 14-12-18-11 _____
- 7-15-14-16 _____
- 8-5-18-9-19 _____

SANDALS	BURN	HOLY	LAND	GROUND
MILK	BUSH	MOSES	FIRE	HONEY

A Baby by the River

When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water." Exodus 2:3 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Exodus 2:1-10



Baby Moses

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

SON	DAUGHTER	MARRIED	WATER	MOSES
NILE	CHILD	BIRTH	CRYING	MAN
BASKET	BABY	WOMAN	MOTHER	NAMED