

## FAREWELL OPEN HOUSE FOR PASTOR JODY...

As the time draws closer to Pr. Jody's retirement, plans have been set to wish her a final farewell! A Farewell Open House will be held in the sanctuary of Grace Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 1-3pm. All are welcome to stop in during that time to have a few words with Pr. Jody and wish her well. In our continuing efforts to keep Pr. Jody safe, as well as everyone, masks will be required and social distancing will be followed.

## A BIG DAY AHEAD!

Sunday, November 1, 2020 - two services - 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

- All Saints Day will be observed during both services. A special moment of remembrance will be given for those saints who have gone before us in faith, into the kingdom of heaven. Names of the members and friends of Grace Lutheran who have died during the preceding twelve months will be included.
- Farewell and Godspeed! Staff from the Synod office will be present and will participate in both services. Maureen Pump, Lay Associate Minister, will be installed as a SAM (Synodically Authorized Minister) for Trinity, St. Mark & Grace Lutheran Churches, authorizing her to preach the Gospel and administer the Sacraments until an Interim arrives. A Farewell and Godspeed Blessing for Pr. Jody will be included in both services. Following each service, members/guests will have a moment to say farewell as they leave the sanctuary.

Following our usual Sunday protocols, masks will be required and social distancing will be followed. Reservations for Sunday worship must be made, with caller specifying which service they will attend. Reservations can be made by calling the Grace Lutheran church office - 419-332-1558.

Deadline for reservations is 1pm on Friday, October 30, 2020.

# A Time for Everything...

Well my time for retirement has arrived. When I announced this four months ago, this date seemed so far in the future! Here we are. And it is time to say goodbye...

I want to thank you for all the years of support and care. You have been such an inspiration to me. I have tried my best to run a good race with you in mind, with my "eyes fixed on Jesus the author and finisher of our faith".

Friends in Christ, while this is certainly a significant time in the life of Grace Lutheran Church, it is not something unexpected. I believe we have in place an executive committee, church council, staff, and plan that will enable this congregation to move confidently and boldly into God's future.

If you are in the area of Gettysburg, PA, we hope many of you will come by (after COVID-19). We live about two blocks from the seminary and we are surrounded by the battlefields. The office will have our new address.

I will ask you to remember this above all else: while I am moving on, God is staying put. In the words of God's spokesman, Jeremiah: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

Blessings and love to you all, Pastor Jody Rice

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

#### **General Fund**

As of SEPTEMBER 2020

	2020 Actual	2020 Budget	2019 Actual
Year to date receipts:	385,982	353,798	321,059
Year to date expenses:	351,107	396,878	355,738
Receipts less expenses:	34,875	(43,080)	(34,679)

Respectfully submitted, Doug Morris Financial Assistant

## CHURCH COUNCIL

Minutes October 12, 2020

- Council meeting was held via Zoom
- Sanctuary has re-opened and congregants are happy to be back in the sanctuary and are cooperating with safety requirements
- Saturday service to return in the near future
- Additional volunteers needed for check-in procedures
- Pew cushions will be put back in pews
- Drive-in church will continue until weather becomes too cold
- Boilers have been serviced and are ready to go
- LIFT Call Committee interviewing potential candidate

## **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

Well, COVID-19 has made many changes in our lives! We have decided at this time to suspend our Capital Campaign until we are all able to gather together again. A big thank you to all who have already donated and pledged, and to those who continue to contribute. So, for now, please "Stay Tuned" for further developments and updates!

## **SATURDAY WORSHIP TO BEGIN!**

■ The 5 p.m. Saturday worship will begin again on November 7, 2020. Keeping with
■ our COVID-19 protocols, face masks will be required and social distancing will be
■ followed. Please call your reservations in to the church office - 419-332-1558.
■ Deadline for reservations is Fridays at 1 p.m.

# 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.

**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

**SUNDAY 6:00 p.m. Virtual Prayer Group with Maureen via Zoom** on the first Sunday of each Month. The next meeting will take place on November 1. 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

## **VOLUNTEER\$ NEEDED!**

We are looking for volunteers to help with worship services in the following areas:

- Distribute bulletins and communion kits at both Saturday & Sunday services
- Attendance check-in
- Ushers
- Drive-In Church Attendant (Sunday only, until weather becomes too cold.)

  If you are willing to volunteer, please contact the church office, 419-332-1558.

Thank you!

Thank you to all who participated in the online silent auction in place of our annual Spring Fundraiser! It certainly wasn't what we had planned for 2020, but we made the best of a poor situation and raised over \$2000 to benefit the Grace Lutheran General Scholarship Fund! Thank you all for your many ways of continued support!

November

# Sharing God's Bounty

#### Part of God's Plan

n those days . . . So begins a well-known passage of Scripture. Do you know what comes next? "In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree . . ." (Luke 2:1). Some of us can quote the whole story by heart. Even though we've heard it year after year, some of us for many years, the story is still precious to hear, still warms our souls, still excites our minds, still calms our fears.

Two seemingly inconsequential people of little means obeyed that decree and traveled to the town of Bethlehem to register for the census. The woman, Mary, was about to have a child. She knew that her child was the Son of God, a child to be named Jesus. Joseph, her husband, knew he was not the father of the child, although that was how the world



saw him. These were two of God's faithful. They knew the prophecies regarding the Messiah. They had been visited by the angel and learned that they were to be part of the fulfillment of those prophecies. They didn't know how things would turn out. They didn't know all that God had in store for them. They just "obey[ed their] rulers and submitted to their authority" (Hebrews 13:17) as they trusted God to guide and protect them and his Son each step they took on his path.

Of course, God did just that. God provided a place for the Child to be born (Luke 2:7). God sent angels to announce the birth of the King and moved the shepherds to respond to the joyful news and go to worship the new Baby (Luke 2:8-20). He sent "Magi from the East" who brought "gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh" and then believed the warning God gave them in a dream and avoided the evil King Herod on their return trip (Matthew 2:1-12).

How many of these people involved in this most wondrous story realized the important and memorable parts they played? We cannot say for sure but surmise none could really comprehend the eternal significance of the events as they unfolded.

We, too, are involved in God's plans. Certainly none can equal in importance the birth of Christ, but nothing God does is without purpose. Are we listening for the voice of the Spirit as God speaks to us through God's



Word? Are we, as we go about our daily routines, obeying our rulers, cognizant of being God's feet and hands and voice to carry out his plan? Do we bring our gifts, aware that God may use them according to a purpose we can't even imagine? How exciting it is to think and know that we are God's instruments! What a loss of blessing to us if we refuse to let God use us and another gets the opportunity instead (Esther 4:14)!

As we live out our daily lives as stewards, "let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith . . . so that we will not grow weary and lose heart" (Hebrews 12:2-3), but instead look forward with eagerness and anticipation toward the unfolding of God's plan in our lives.

As we enter the month of November, we remember and honor all of our veterans on Veteran's Day. Please enjoy this heartwarming story as told by Thomas O'Brien, son of deceased Navy veteran, Patrick O'Brien, Jr.



# **Long Lost Dog Tag of Leyte**

Sometime in late October, 1944, - WWII, - on secured Tacloben beachhead on the island of Leyte in the Philippines...

US Navy radioman, Richard Retallic, discovered a lost Dog Tag. It belonged to US Navy sailor, Patrick W. O'Brien, Jr., who had somehow lost one of two issued.

The terrible war raged on and on, ending some ten months later. Always feeling that the Dog Tag had belonged to a casualty, Richard wanted to find out for sure and to return it. His captain told him to put it back in his pocket for now - he had a war to fight!

Many years passed. In 1999, Richard passed away. His son, Scott Retallic of Wisconsin, took up the challenge of his father to find the O'Brien family. At 90 years of age, Patrick passed in February 2016. Scott saw his obituary on the internet and tried to connect, but it just didn't happen. Yet, in late 2018, another attempt was made after reading the obituary of Doris O'Brien, Patrick's wife.

Scott reached out to Pastor Jody after seeing her name listed in the obituary as the officiant for the funeral service. Pr. Jody shared his contact information with me and we were able to make contact! Soon, the "Long Lost Dog Tag of Leyte" came home after taking leave for incredibly 75 years! A true "needle in a haystack" story; but more like a grain of sand on a huge invasion beach!

Blessed thank you's to Richard Retallic and Patrick O'Brien, Jr. for their service, to Scott Retallic for his determination to get the Dog Tag "home", and to Pastor Jody for her help in getting us connected!

from Thomas O'Brien and family

## A COUPLE THINGS FOR YOU TO REMEMBER...

- The fall time change takes place Saturday, October 31. Remember to turn your clocks BACK
   1 hour before going to bed.
- If you are planning to "winter" in a warmer climate, please let us keep in touch with you! Contact the church office with your mailing address or an e-mail. (The Post Office will not forward the monthly newsletter.)



Confirmation will be going online via Zoom from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. on November 1 & 22, December 6, January 3 & 24, February 7 & 28, March 7 & 28, April 25 and May 2. If you have questions about confirmation please contact Heather Hawn by email at <a href="https://example.com">HeatherRHawn@gmail.com</a> to register.





Would you like to expand on the Children's Message with your family at home? Sunday School @ Home may be what you are looking for! Each lesson includes a Bible verse and question, snack idea, activities, and prayer. Lessons are posted weekly on the Grace Lutheran Church Youth Group Facebook page. Most activities use items that you may already have at home or are easy to grab when you are out grocery shopping. Feel free to make adjustments as you dig into scripture with your family!

**GAMES ON GOOGLE SLIDES** - Fun for kids & adults! We have created two Google slides games, Books of the Bible and the 10 Commandments for you to play and enjoy. Just scanned the QR Code below and you will be ready to play!

oks of the Bible



0 Commandments



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - We are looking for youth and children of all ages to be a part of the Christmas program this December. This will be a pre-recorded and edited video that we will tape individually or in small groups. We have speaking and non-speaking parts. We are looking for musicians to play in the background of the video. If you sing, play piano or are in band we would love to have you be a part of the play. Please contact Heather Hawn at <a href="https://example.com">HeatherRHawn@gmail.com</a> or through the church office, 419-332-1558.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK! Did you know that there is a closed Facebook Group for youth, parents, and interested members? Gone are the days of updating bulletin boards on a weekly basis. Now that same information can be found at the tips of your fingers. This page is updated frequently with pictures from events, last minute details, and events often before they are published in the newsletter. The page is available through the link below and joining is a simple as requesting to join. If you're not already signed up don't miss out! https://www.facebook.com/groups/FremontGLCYouth/

JUGGLING ACT - Do you feel like your days are spent doing a juggling act? So many of us do. We juggle family, work, social and personal balls every day. Sometimes it feels like no one understands what we are dealing with. But that is not true! Many of us are doing our own juggling acts! Come and join with other people who are juggling just like you. We have dinner together at 5:30 on the first Tuesday of the month. Currently we are going to The Garrison. The next gathering will be November 3. Please call the church office at 419-332-1558 and let us know you are planning to attend so there are enough seats for all.

## BOOKWORMS NEWS

We are always looking for new members. Bookworms will meet on *November 23 at 6 p.m.* in the lounge. We will discuss *Redemption* by David Baldacci. If you like suspense novels than this is the book for you. The group meets every other month



on the fourth Monday throughout the year. Members are responsible for obtaining their own books.

A GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST A SPOUSE IS BACK! If you have lost your spouse and could benefit from the support of others who are experiencing the same grief this group is open to you. Come on November 16 at 6:00 to the Conference Room at church.

**THANK YOU TO LAMAR GARNER!** For many years LaMar has taken our monthly donations to the Sandusky County Food Pantry. LaMar is retiring from this volunteer position and we want to take a moment to say thank you for all your years of faithful service. We are looking for someone who can step into this area of ministry for us. The donations are taken once a month and dropped off at the food pantry which is housed in the Share & Care building. If you are willing to help out, please contact Maureen at 419-332-1558.

#### MEN IN MISSION - GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH RADIO BROADCASTS

The unprecedented times that we are all experiencing has changed with way we interact with the world around us. 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.

June 7 - Les & Marcella Widmer
June 14 - Ken & Ann Overmyer
June 21 - Nancy King
June 28 - Mary Coleman
July 5 - Bob & Joyce Wickert & family
July 12 - LaMar & Donna Garner
July 19 - Rosie Evans
July 26 - Peggy Kiser
August 2 - Mark & Christine Smith

August 9 - Judy Gangwer & family
August 16 - Dottie Borden
August 23 - As a gift to the congregation
August 30 - Gary & Mary Nossaman
September 6 - As a gift to the congregation
September 13 - As a gift to the congregation
September 20 - As a gift to the congregation
September 27 - As a gift to the congregation

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.



Are you an early riser?

Join NWOS Staff and Bishop Daniel for
Synod Staff Prayer time, virtual fellowship,
and conversation about what it means to be
On the Way together.

Bring coffee, breakfast, and a friend and we'll see you there!

Oct 29 @ 7:30 a.m.

More info: nwos-elca.org





Calling all night owls!

Join NWOS Staff and Bishop Daniel for a nightcap, virtual fellowship, and conversation about what it means to be On the Way together.

Grab your favorite nightcap beverage and we'll see you there!

Nov 5 @ 9:00 p.m.

More info: nwos-elca.org



All are welcome to join NWOS staff and Bishop Daniel for virtual fellowship and conversation about what it means to be **On the Way Together!** You can choose to meet for *Coffee Hour* on October 29 at 7:30 a.m. or for a *Nightcap* on November 5 at 9:00 p.m. Invite a friend and join us on Zoom!

**NWOS Fall Gathering Zoom Info for October 29 and November 5** - Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82064106283?pwd=Vll2Y2dvVkhaS05Mdzg0bU52UmlvQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82064106283?pwd=Vll2Y2dvVkhaS05Mdzg0bU52UmlvQT09</a>

Meeting ID: 820 6410 6283

Passcode: 419957

One tap mobile - +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

November 3	Judy Gangwer	1047 Hazel St.
November 3	Dorothy Wheeler	102 Grand Ave., Clyde
November 4	Joyce Havens	1535 Finefrock Rd.
November 10	Connie Smith	212 Myah Dr.
November 12	David Long	600 Elizabeth St
November 15	Pr. Jim Avers	1501 Birchard Ave., Apt. A
November 15	LaMar Curliss	29 Whitney Dr.
November 15	Suzann Spriggs	910 White Rd.
November 16	Janet Guthrie	1035 N. Co. Rd. 198
November 18	John Kinkaid	1545 Fangboner Rd., Rm. 508
November 23	Patricia Lindsay	2240 Smith Rd.
November 26	Ken Kiser	711 Rawson Ave.
November 27	Irene Wood	1246 S. Grandview, Oak Harbor
November 28	Bill Bowlus	880 Frederick Ave.
November 28	George Wymer	1223 Skyline Dr.



DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11.

The newsletter will be assembled on Thursday, November 19.



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

**November 22, 1958** - Fred & Nancy Lawrence **November 24, 1967** - Terry & Sharon Radsick

November 24, 1954 - Robert & Lillian Zilles

**November 29, 1969 - Kent & Sharon Watkins** 

# With Sympathy

Don Knepper, Lois Oberst Jeanne Zilles Hoffman Marilyn J. Oliver, Peter Schalk Henry Breyman

FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE: for the month of November, we will collect oatmeal & cereal. 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.

## New Baby

October 19 - Oliver Robert Bartlett, son of David & Eve Bartlett

## RECEIVING THE GIFT OF BAPTISM

October 11 - Zachary Howard King, son of Matthew & Veronica King

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Jody Rice, Senior Pastor jjrice2002@yahoo.com

Maureen Pump, Lay Associate Minister maureenpump@yahoo.com

maureenpump@yanoo.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



The church office will be closed on *Thursday, November 26* and *Friday, November 27*. Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving. The office will resume regular hours on *November 30*.

Grace Lutheran Church 705 West State Street Fremont, OH 43420

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Paid Fremont, OH Permit #133

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



#### **NOVEMBER 1 - 8:00 A.M.**

GREETER: Tanya Schling ATTENDANCE: Bill Schling

**USHER: Mark Smith** 

BULLETIN/COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION: Christine Schneider Smith

10:30 A.M.

GREETER: Jerry Moses ATTENDANCE: Connie Amor

**USHER:** Carol Slemmer

BULLETIN/COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION: Tina Moses

**NOVEMBER 8 -**

GREETER: Jerry Moses ATTENDANCE: Connie Amor

**USHER:** Tina Moses

BULLETIN/COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION: Bill Hollister

NOVEMBER 15 -

GREETER: Jerry Moses ATTENDANCE: Connie Amor

USHER: Ed Muffler

BULLETIN/COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION: Ruthann House

NOVEMBER 22 -

GREETER: Jerry Moses ATTENDANCE: Connie Amor

USHER: Beth Muffler

 $BULLETIN/COMMUNION\ DISTRIBUTION:\ Carol\ Slemmer$ 

NOVEMBER 29 -

GREETER: Jerry Moses ATTENDANCE: Connie Amor

USHER: Bill Hollister

BULLETIN/COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION: Carol Slemmer

**DECEMBER 6 -**

GREETER: Jerry Moses ATTENDANCE: Connie Amor

USHER: Ed Muffler

BULLETIN/COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION: Ruthann House

# The Greatest Commandment

Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Matthew 22:37

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



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GREATEST LORD	HEART COMMA	NDMEI	NT	2000	OVE OUR	SELF				NEI TE/		_		

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ALL SAINT'S DAY/ FAREWELL PR. JODY 8:00 Worship with Communion 8:00 Worship via Facebook 10:30 Worship with Communion 6:00 Virtual Prayer Group 12:30 LIFT Executive Board Meeting via Zoom 12:30 - 1:30 Confirmation via Zoom	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study with Maureen 5:30 Juggling Act at The Garrison	4 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 11:30 Soup Kitchen	6 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	5:00 Worship with Communion  Worship available via Grace website
9:00 Worship with Communion 9:00 Worship via Facebook	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 7:30 Church Council via ZOOM	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study with Maureen	G & T DEADLINE 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 11:30 Soup Kitchen 5:00 Virtual Prayer Group	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	5:00 Worship with Communion  Worship available via Grace website
FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE (oatmeal & cereal)  9:00 Worship with Communion  9:00 Worship via Facebook 12:30 LIFT Board Meeting via Zoom	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 6:00 Grief Support Group - Conference Room	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study with Maureen	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	G & T ASSEMBLED  8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe  11:30 Soup Kitchen	8:30 Moming Devotion with Moe	5:00 Worship with Communion  Worship available via Grace website
9:00 Worship with Communion 9:00 Worship via Facebook 12:30 - 1:30 Confirmation via Zoom	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 6:00 Bookworms - Lounge	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study with Maureen	25 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	HAPPY & thanksgiving  OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED	5:00 Worship with Communion  Worship available via Grace website
9:00 Worship with Communion 9:00 Worship via Facebook	8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 11:30 GLCW Board Meeting - Conference Room	No	vemb	er.	2020	