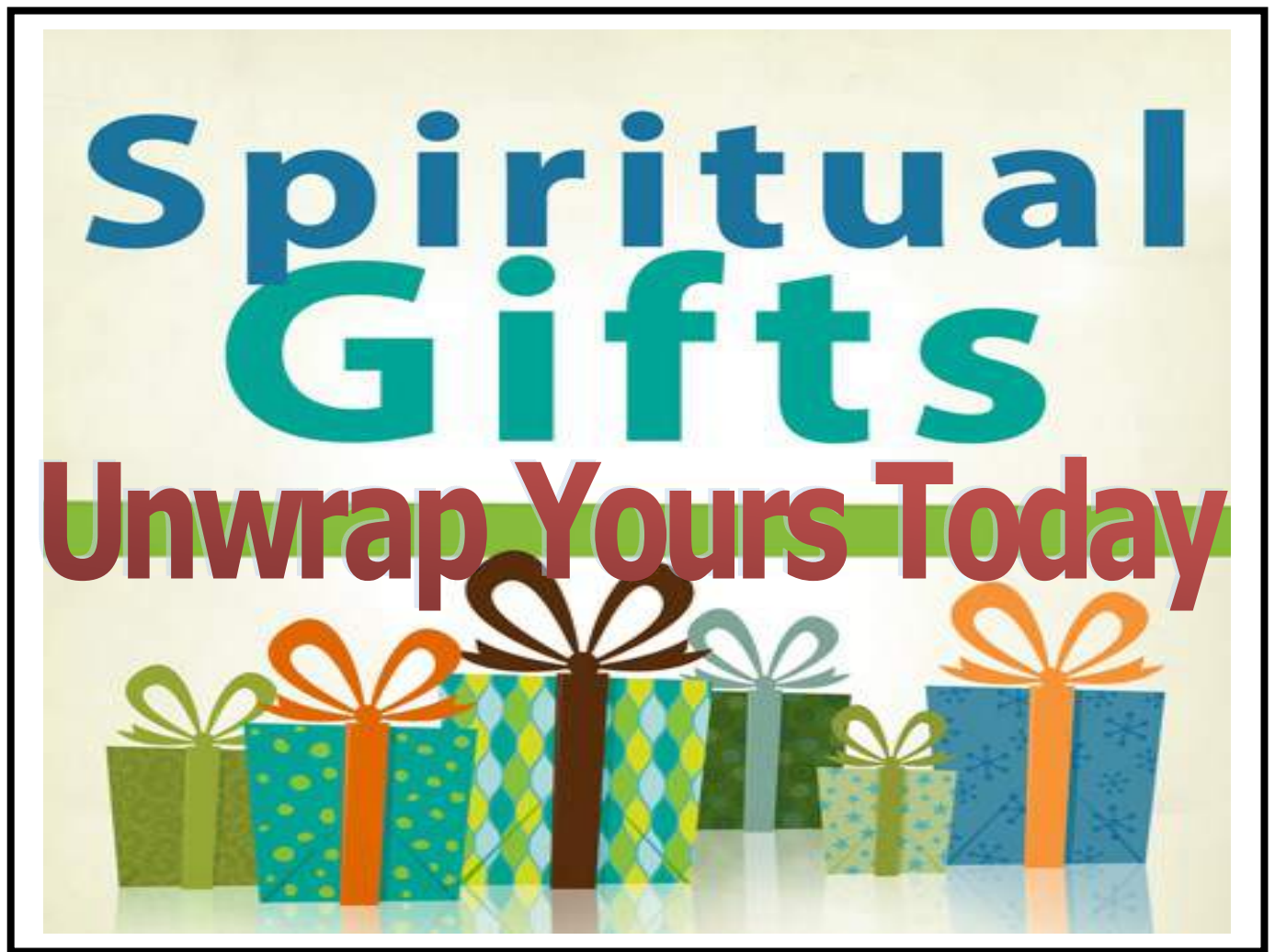

GRACE and TRUTH

Grace Lutheran Church - Fremont, Ohio

February 2022



We all have God-given Gifts and Abilities!

What are yours?

**To see more on these spiritual gifts
that God has equipped you with, turn to page 9!**

A NOTE FROM PASTOR MARK

In early February I will be going on a journey. On Sunday, February 13, I will fly to Denver, Colorado, and from there will travel to Winter Park, where I will attend a continuing education event that originally was offered by Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, and has continued for the past 40 years. The program is called Recreation and Revelation, and is held at Winter Park Lodge, across the road from Winter Park Ski Area.

The event features early morning worship and lectures from Monday through Thursday, with the rest of the mornings and afternoons free to explore the many ski slopes at Winter Park. Each day concludes with dinner and another learning session with this year's presenters, Dr.'s David Lose and Anthony Bateze. Lose is a former professor at Luther Seminary, and currently senior pastor at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, the largest congregation in the ELCA. Bateza is a religion professor at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

Any long-distance trip requires a significant amount of preparation. My airline tickets have been purchased, and travel from the airport to Winter Park has been arranged. I have reserved equipment for four days of skiing -- skis, boots, poles, and a helmet. I first attended this event in 2018 and returned in 2019 and 2020. The 2021 event was canceled due to the pandemic. My hope is to make this journey a regular part of my future Februaries.

On the church calendar, February is the month that we conclude our observance of the Epiphany season with the Transfiguration. This year that Sunday will fall on February 27. One could say that the Transfiguration was a major part of Jesus' preparation for the journey that he would take to Jerusalem and to the cross, to suffer and die there as Messiah.

I remember when I was a kid, my brother, Phil, who was two years older than I, would go off with his friends to play. And I remember wanting so much to go along with him, to be a part of whatever fun that he and his friends had planned. I used to say, "Phil, take me with you!" In the same way, as we begin the season of Lent, as Jesus begins his journey to Jerusalem, I hope that we can have that same desire to go along, and for us to say, "Jesus, take me with you."

But if we want Jesus to take us with him, we need to be ready for a personal "transfiguration." Some of you may remember Dag Hammarskjöld, a Swede who was Secretary General of the UN from 1953 until his tragic death in a plane crash in 1961. A book Hammarskjöld wrote during his time in office has the title "Markings," and is regarded as a spiritual diary. He was a strong believer in the mystery of life and the mysteriousness of God. Early in the book he writes this reflection:

"Summoned to carry it; alone to assay it; chosen to suffer it; free to deny it. I saw for one moment the sail in the sun storm, far off on a wave crest alone, bearing from land. For one moment, I saw...."

And then he continues:

"From that moment, when I said Yes to Someone, I knew for sure that my life, in self surrender, had meaning and had a goal."

Hammarskjöld could not necessarily name that moment, but for him it was transformational. We could also use the word "transfigurative." That may be true for us as well, where we had a visionary moment in our life, and we cannot pinpoint the exactness of the time of that moment, but we knew that our life had a meaning and a goal. We knew that God had called us for a purpose, for a destiny in this world, and that we surrendered ourselves to a purpose larger than ourselves.

So, I wonder: in the story of the Transfiguration, was it Jesus who changed or was it John, James, and Peter who were changed, and could now see the face of God shining in the man they knew? When they came down from the mountaintop, did they surrender themselves to a purpose larger than themselves?

That becomes a crucial question for us, too, as we come down from the Mount of Transfiguration, and begin our Lenten journey, as we travel with Jesus to Jerusalem and the cross. That journey will begin on March 2, Ash Wednesday, as we humble ourselves a bit, and allow ourselves to be marked with an ashen cross. In so doing, we are reminded not only of our mortality, but from whence the hope of eternal life comes. I hope that it can be for us a time when we travel with Jesus, and experience "transfiguration."

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund

As of DECEMBER 2021

	<u>2021 Actual</u>	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>2020 Actual</u>
Year to date receipts:	577,000	494,750	501,196
Year to date expenses:	<u>530,763</u>	<u>494,750</u>	<u>458,939</u>
Receipts less expenses:	46,237	0	42,257

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Morris
Financial Assistant

CHURCH COUNCIL - Minutes from January 10, 2022

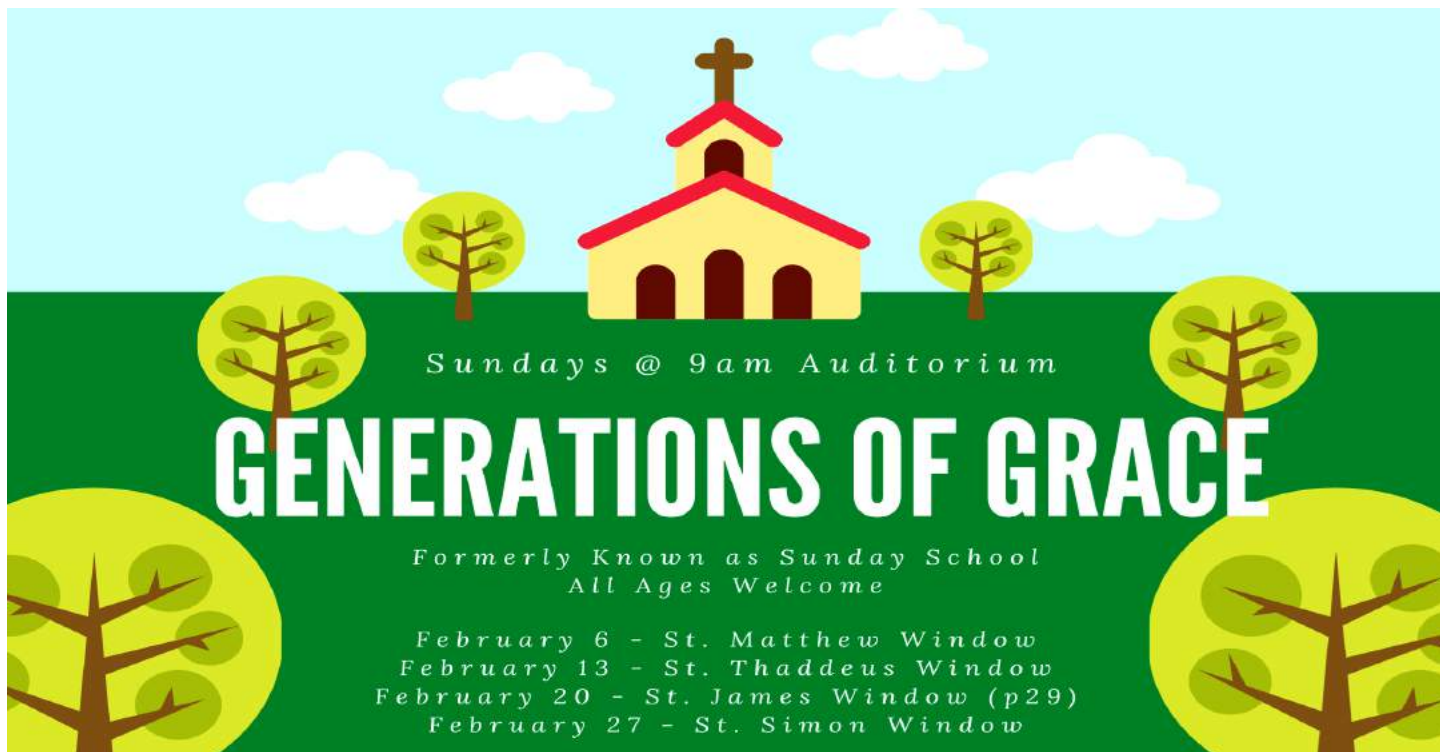
- Christmas Eve Worship - it was wonderful to see people in worship! Good review on candles!
- Call Committee announced - Kristen Lindsay, Chair; Roger Haynes, Nelda Bauer, Greg Jess, Kathy Burmeister, AJ Mehlow, Levi Cooper, Kaitlyn Fisher, Ike Durell, and Ed Muffler. Call Committee Installation will take place at services on January 29 & 30.
- Stewardship Campaign - will move forward with "Stewardship for all Seasons". The committee will meet January 24 at 2pm. Seeking a few more candidates for this committee.
- Budget Hearing - January 10, 6pm on Zoom. 20 people were in attendance. Review and discussion went well. Proposed budget will be included in the Annual Report and a vote will take place at the annual meeting.
- Annual Meeting - Sunday, January 30 at 9 a.m. in the sanctuary. Zoom option will be available.
- End of Year pays from Dedicated Accounts: Charity: \$900 to Noah's Ark Preschool; Sunday School Missions: \$1000 to Pontifex; \$200 to Liberty Center; \$200 to Soup Kitchen
- Missions/Outreach - 2022 events scheduled: June 16-Party in the Park; October 23-Fall Fest including Car Show, Chili Cook-off, Trunk or Treat
- Youth/Growth - upcoming events scheduled: Jan. 17-Roller Skating; February 26-Royal Adventure Camp; Midnight Madness for 3rd-5th graders - date to be determined.
- Noah's Ark Fundraiser - Saturday, February 26 - Craft-N-Crop - 9am - 8pm in the Dining Room.

Call Committee Announced

Members of the Senior Pastor Call Committee are as follows: Kristen Lindsay, Chair; Roger Haynes, Nelda Bauer, Greg Jess, Kathy Burmeister, AJ Mehlow, Levi Cooper, Kaitlyn Fisher, Ike Durell, and Ed Muffler.

This group will work together to interview candidates and recommend to the congregation a potential senior pastor.

The Call Committee will be installed during worship the weekend of January 29 and 30.



MAUREEN'S VIRTUAL PRAYER GROUP will meet via Zoom on *Sunday, February 6 at 6 p.m.* If you would like to participate please email Maureen at maureenpump@yahoo.com and she will send you the link.

GOOD MORNING DEVOTION WITH MOE - takes place weekday mornings at 8:30 a.m. via Facebook Live. You can find Maureen on Facebook at Maureen McClure Pump.

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY with Maureen meets at 1 p.m. in the lounge. The group is doing a study on Christian Character. If you are interested or you have questions please contact Maureen by email at maureenpump@yahoo.com

VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY - Maureen and Christine Schneider Smith, are offering a Women's Bible Study every Tuesday at 1 p.m. via Zoom. If you are interested in joining a discussion on Christian Character email Maureen at, maureenpump@yahoo.com, and she will send you a copy of the link.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST A SPOUSE - 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. Join us on *Monday, February 21 at 6 p.m.* in the church lounge. This is a time when we share a devotion, prayer and mutual support through discussion and shared experiences. Questions? Call Maureen in the church office or send an email to maureenpump@yahoo.com

JUGGLING ACT - Hey ladies, do you feel like your days are spent doing an endless juggling act! We juggle family, work, social and personal issues every day. Sometimes it feels like no one understands, but that is not true! Come and join with other women who are doing their own juggling act. We meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Currently we are going to The Garrison. Our next gatherings are planned for January 25 and February 22. Please call the church office, 419-332-1558, if you plan to attend. We want to make sure we have room for everyone.

ATTENTION: Due to the ongoing rise in COVID numbers and our continued efforts to keep everyone safe, we will keep our Wednesday night Spirit programming on PAUSE for the month of FEBRUARY. Wednesday night programming will then begin MARCH 2 on ASH WEDNESDAY. Throughout Lent, dinner will be served beginning at **5:30pm** and Lenten worship will be held in the SANCTUARY at 6:30pm.

PLEASE NOTE: Lenten worship at 6:30pm will take the place of Dinner Church. There will also be no small groups for youth or adults.

BOOKWORMS - We always welcome new members. The group meets every other month and our next meeting will be **Monday, March 28 at 2 p.m.** in the lounge. Any one interested in reading and discussion is welcome. Members provide their own books. The selection for our next meeting is *The Kitchen Front* by Jennifer Ryan.

THE NOISY OFFERING is received the first weekend of each month. Your donations are received by a mission chosen by the Christian Missions and Outreach Committee. The committee normally donates to a mission for an entire quarter of the year. The Christian Outreach and Missions Committee has chosen Noah's Ark Pre-school to receive the Noisy Offering for the first quarter of 2022. The Noisy Offering for the month of January was \$69.82. This amount was a bit lower than usual, but we must remember it was the weekend after Christmas and there was only one service. Thank you to everyone who helps to make a joyful noise on the first weekend of each month.

ALTAR GUILD NEWS: As we continue through the seasons of the church year please consider serving by helping with the preparation of the altar for worship and with clean up after worship. If you would like to know more about the meaning of the seasons of the church, altar preparation and how to serve please contact Becky Seibert at 419-217-4117 or by email at beckyseibert0@gmail.com or call Judy Overmyer at 419-463-0087.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE IS FINANCIAL HELP FOR MEMBERS? If you could use a little help with rent, a house payment, utilities, medical bills or living expenses, help is available. My Brother's Keeper is a member-to-member ministry found here at Grace. Everything is kept confidential. If you find yourself in need of help in one of the areas mentioned and you are a member of Grace, contact Maureen by calling the church office, 419-332-1558.



WORLD HUNGER APPEAL - Included in this mailing is an envelope for ELCA WORLD HUNGER. During the month of February, we lift up hunger around the world. Please use this envelope for your gift to World Hunger. ELCA World Hunger responds to neighbors around the corner and around the world.



ACOLYTES at Grace serve at the 7:45 a.m. and 10 a.m. services. We ask that youth help once a month. To sign up please scan the QR code.



CONFIRMATION will meet at 11:45 a.m. on **February 6 & 27** at Grace Lutheran Church. For more information please contact Heather Hawn by email at HeatherRHawn@gmail.com.



KIDS ZONE meets during the 10:00 a.m. worship following the Children's Message, in the Sunday School hallway. Parents will have the option to send their children to Kids Zone while they attend worship. Each week we will bring the stories of the Bible to life with a variety of activities including puppet shows, Lego building, games and snacks. Toddlers through 5th graders are welcome to attend. Volunteer opportunities will be available for older children.

COME TO OUR ROYAL ADVENTURE CAMP



Join the fun on **Saturday, February 26 from 10 - 11:30 a.m.** in the auditorium. There will be a story, crafts, snack and more. Bring your friends! Come dressed in your best attire as we learn and celebrate being children of the one true king. Boys and Girls are welcome! Please RSVP to HeatherRHawn@gmail.com by **February 20**.

Grace Lutheran Presents

CRAFT & CROP

Fundraiser for Noah's Ark Pre-School

Saturday, February 26

9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

ALL CRAFTERS WELCOME

- Table Donation is \$10 per person (half table)
- Upgrade your table: \$10 for a round table or \$15 for a rectangle table (electricity is first come first served)
- Come and go all day. Bottled water & snacks will be available for a donation.
- Garage Sale table. Donate unwanted craft supplies. Buy used/extra supplies.

Proceeds will benefit the pre-school.

Questions or RSVP to
419-332-1558 or
HeatherRHawn@gmail.com



RSVP BY
2/20/22



BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH/DINNER OR ORDER OUT

LIFT NEWS

TRINITY UPDATE: Trinity Lutheran Church has voted to dissolve as a congregation. The final regular worship service for Trinity was on January 9 (see right). A lunchtime congregational meeting for Trinity members will be on March 13 at 11:30 at Ole Zim's. A final celebration of ministry will be held outdoors on the former site of Trinity on June 26.



PULPIT SWAP: Pastor Paul Bailie, from the LIFT Parish, will be preaching at Grace on the weekend of January 22-23. Pastor Mark Bogen will preach at St. Mark that Sunday.

Drive-Thru Ashes

March 2, 2022

12-5 PM

Hayes Memorial
United Methodist Church
1441 Fangboner Rd.
Fremont, OH 43420



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

February 4	Amy Lamson	138 Cottage Grove Dr.
February 6	Dorothy Dierksheide	16 Linda Dr.
February 10	Grant Shriver	1457 Alger St.
February 13	Donna Cooley	1611 Ell Dr.
February 22	George Dabrunz	2017 Port Clinton Rd.
February 24	Paula Christensen	1545 Fangboner Rd., Rm. 301

Happy Anniversary

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

- February 3, 1962** - Norman & Patricia Rife,
5212 St. Rt. 101, Clyde
- February 5, 1971** - Dan & Jan Linder,
121 Deerfield St.
- February 7, 1964** - Edwin & Laura Lamalie,
1519 Co. Rd. 129
- February 11, 1961** - Clarence & Sandra Weickert,
318 E. Co. Rd. 89
- February 16, 1963** - Larry & Linda Beck,
19 Fox Run Dr.

FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE: will take place February 19 & 20, we will collect spaghetti and sauce. *Please place your donations in the grocery carts that are located in the Narthex and by the Baker Street entrance.*

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.)*

With Sympathy

Paul Zilles & Cliff Rawson

A huge "Thank You" to Pastor Mark for the wonderful message at the service for our beloved wife, mom and grandmother (Mrs. Larry) Kathleen 'Kathi' Burmeister. Kathi was baptized, confirmed and married at Grace Lutheran. Thank you to the office staff for helping make the service so nice. Thank you to the members of Grace Lutheran Church for your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time for our family. Lastly, a big "Thanks" to Kathy Burmeister for bringing communion to Kathi first at her home and then when she was in assisted living. She looked forward to every one of Kathy's visits.

From the family of Kathi Burmeister
Larry Burmeister, Mark Burmeister & family
and Kay Saionz

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you watch the Livestream Worship Live from home on Sundays? We are looking for a few people who can give us real time feedback. Unfortunately, we don't always catch errors in real time and afterwards is too late to fix a bad audio feed or other errors. We'd also like feedback on how we can make the service more personal for those of you who watch from home. If you would like to participate in feedback scan the QR code with your smartphone camera or email HeatherRHawn@gmail.com



God-given Gifts & Abilities

Praying with the Spirit
Encouragement
Faith Giving Wisdom
Discernment
Administration
Arts and Crafts
Miracles Preaching Mercy
Music Missions
Service Knowledge
Evangelism
Leadership Hospitality
Teaching
Healing

How can
YOU serve?

To complete & submit online, click here:

<https://forms.gle/Gc6AwqcRLuSLpw3Z7>

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Worship Times: Saturday @4pm; Sunday @ 7:45am or 10am

Communion Assistant	_____
Acolyte	_____
Greeter	_____
Usher	_____
Reader	_____
Sound System Operator	_____
Video Operator	_____

WORSHIP

Worship Planning Team	_____
Church Mouse (fill pew racks)	_____
Altar Guild	_____
Flower Delivery to Nursing Homes	_____
Adult Handbell Choir	_____
Chancel Choir	_____
Children's Choir	_____
Piano/Keyboard ability	_____
Instrumentalists	_____

CHURCH OFFICE

Bulletin / Newsletter Assembly	_____
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YOUTH

Youth Planning Team	_____
Host a Youth Event	_____
Transportation to Events	_____
Chaperone Youth Event	_____
Vacation Bible School Helper	_____
Sunday School Teacher/Sub	_____
Youth Fundraising Team	_____
Holiday Program Assistant	_____
Special Breakfast Helpers	_____

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

Outreach/Missions Team	_____
Funeral Dinner Assistant	_____

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Women's Project Day (sew quilts)	_____
Share and Care Volunteer	_____
Visit Homebound	_____
Assist with Meals	_____

PROPERTY

Property Planning Team _____

Snow Removal (parking lot/sidewalks) _____

Mowing _____

Tree/Bush Trimming _____

General Repairs _____

CONTACT INFO

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Mark Bogen, Intentional Interim
mark@bogen.org
Maureen Pump, Synodically Authorized Minister
maureenpump@yahoo.com
Linda Baumer, Office/Financial Administrator
gracefremont@yahoo.com
Tricia Dabrunz, Secretary/Receptionist
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com
Heather Hawn, Youth Minister
HeatherRHawn@gmail.com
Tom Curry, Director of Music
musicatgracelutheran@yahoo.com
Andrea Hirt, Director Noah's Ark Preschool
noahs_ark_fremont@yahoo.com

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
IS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2022.**

**The newsletter will be assembled on
Thursday, February 17, 2022.**



Happy Valentine's Day!

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-T
9:00am-1:00pm, F

Phone: 419-332-1558

E-mail: gracefremont@yahoo.com

Web page: www.gracefremont.org

February 5 & 6 -

GREETERS: N. Bauer (Narthex), R. Fisher (Baker Street) (4:00 p.m.)
P. Antesberger (Narthex); R. Burkett (Baker Street) (7:45 a.m.)
L. & B. McElfresh (Narthex); K. Burmeister (Baker Street) (10:00 a.m.)
USHERS: R. Haynes, K. Overmyer (7:45 a.m.); D. Cooper, M. Amor (10:00 a.m.)
DEACONS: R. House, N. Wilfong (7:45 a.m.)
DEACONS/CLOSERS: B. Muffler, C. Amor (10:00 a.m.)

February 12 & 13 -

GREETERS: V. Seville (Narthex), B. Seibert (Baker Street) (4:00 p.m.)
J. Gangwer (Narthex); S. Watkins (Baker Street) (7:45 a.m.)
L. Halm (Narthex); J. Overmyer (Baker Street) (10:00 a.m.)
USHERS: K. Watkins, S. Keller (7:45 a.m.); L. McElfresh, G. Nossaman (10:00 a.m.)
DEACONS: T. Schling, R. House (7:45 a.m.)
DEACONS/CLOSERS: A. Fisher, J. Overmyer (10:00 a.m.)

February 19 & 20 -

GREETERS: J. James (Narthex), R. Fisher (Baker Street) (4:00 p.m.)
C. Polter (Narthex); D. Polter (Baker Street) (7:45 a.m.)
M. Widmer (Narthex); M. Amor (Baker Street) (10:00 a.m.)
USHERS: G. & J. Dupey (7:45 a.m.); S. Nossaman, D. Cooper (10:00 a.m.)
DEACONS: N. Wilfong, C. Scranton (7:45 a.m.)
DEACONS/CLOSERS: B. Muffler, C. Amor (10:00 a.m.)

February 26 & 27 -

GREETERS: L. Wadsworth (Narthex), L. Stewart (Baker Street) (4:00 p.m.)
D. Zilles (Narthex); S. Zilles (Baker Street) (7:45 a.m.)
D. Cooper (Narthex); R. Cooper (Baker Street) (10:00 a.m.)
USHERS: K. Klohn, K. Overmyer (7:45 a.m.); J. Avers, S. Burmeister (10:00 a.m.)
DEACONS: C. Scranton, T. Schling (7:45 a.m.)
DEACONS/CLOSERS: B. Hollister, K. Smtih (10:00 a.m.)

March 5 & 6 -

GREETERS: N. Bauer (Narthex), J. James (Baker Street) (4:00 p.m.)
B. Schling (Narthex); P. Antesberger (Baker Street) (7:45 a.m.)
C. Slemmer (Narthex); K. Burmeister (Baker Street) (10:00 a.m.)
USHERS: R. Haynes, S. Keller (7:45 a.m.); M. Amor, J. Avers (10:00 a.m.)
DEACONS: N. Wilfong, R. House (7:45 a.m.)
DEACONS/CLOSERS: A. Fisher, J. Overmyer (10:00 a.m.)

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2022		1 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study - Zoom	2 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe SPIRIT will remain paused during February and will resume on March 2.	3 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 11:30 Soup Kitchen 6-9 Diakonia 7:00 Chancel Choir	4 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	5 4:00 Worship/Communion/ Noisy Offering
	6 NOISY OFFERING 7:45 Worship/Communion 9:00 Generations of Grace 10:00 Worship/Communion/ Kids Zone 11:45 Confirmation at Grace 6:00 Sunday Virtual Prayer Group with Moe	7 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:00 Project Day 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge 7:30 Dartball - Dining Room	8 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 11:00 Worship Committee - Lounge 1:00 Bible Study via Zoom 6:00 Noah's Ark Board Meeting	9 G & T DEADLINE 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	10 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 11:30 Soup Kitchen 6:00 - 9:00 Diakonia - Zoom 7:00 Chancel Choir	11 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 4:00 Worship/Communion
	13 7:45 Worship/Communion 9:00 Generations of Grace 10:00 Worship/Communion/ Kids Zone	14 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge 6:00 Executive Board Meeting 7:30 Church Council Meeting 7:30 Dartball - Dining Room	15 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study via Zoom 2:30 Joy Circle - Lounge	16 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	17 G & T ASSEMBLED 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 11:30 Soup Kitchen 6:00 - 9:00 Diakonia - Zoom 7:00 Chancel Choir	18 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 4:00 Worship/Communion
	20 FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE <i>(spaghetti & sauce)</i> 7:45 Worship/Communion 9:00 Generations of Grace 10:00 Worship/Communion/ Kids Zone	21 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 9:00 Project Day 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge 6:00 Grief Support - Lounge	22 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study via Zoom 5:30 Juggling Act at The Garrison	23 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe	24 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 11:30 Soup Kitchen 6:00 - 9:00 Diakonia - Zoom 7:00 Chancel Choir	25 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe
	27 7:45 Worship/Communion 9:00 Generations of Grace 10:00 Worship/Communion/ Kids Zone 11:45 Confirmation at Grace	28 8:30 Morning Devotion with Moe 1:00 Bible Study - Lounge 2:00 - Stewardship Meeting - Zoom				26 10 - 11:30 Royal Adventure Camp - Auditorium (pre-K through 5th) 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Craft & Crop Noah's Ark Fundraiser - Dining Room 4:00 Worship/Communion