

March 2025

Grace & Truth



MARCH 5, 2025

ASH WEDNESDAY AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 6:30 PM - Ash Wednesday Worship
 with Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

Drive-Thru Ashes will be offered at Hayes Memorial United Methodist Church,
 1441 Fangboner Road from 11 am to 1 pm.

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Contact Us...

Grace Lutheran Church
Office Hours –
 9:00am-4:00pm, M-Th
 9:00am-1:00pm, F
Phone: 419-332-1558
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gracefremont@yahoo.com
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SAVIOR SER[♥]VA[♥]NT FRIEND

Mid - Week Lenten Worship will be offered each Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Each week we will welcome a different LIFT pastor.

A light supper will be served at 5:15 pm before worship from March 12 - April 9, in the dining room.

MARCH 12 - Jesus heals us when we are wounded and weakened by sin.

MARCH 19 - Jesus listens to us like no other and answers our questions and concerns.

MARCH 26 - Jesus encourages us in our faith to live our lives for Him.

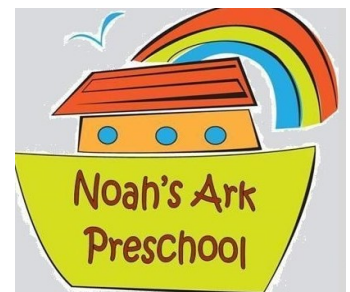
APRIL 2 - Jesus protects us from the devil and from danger and keeps us safe in him.

APRIL 9 - Jesus comforts us in struggles and sorrows so that we might find rest in his promises.

LET'S DIG DEEPER INTO OUR LENTEN THEME – Starting on Ash Wednesday, March 5 Pastor Bailey will host a Bible Study each week at 7:30 pm following the mid-week worship in the large Sunday School classroom across from the elevator. During this time we will share conversations on how we best see Jesus as our forgiver, healer, listener, encourager, protector, and comforter. All are welcome!

The latest from Noah's Ark...

We are moving through the alphabet and having so much fun with it. For the letter "P" we will visit with two Fremont Police officers Smith and Vasquez. They will talk about how the police are here to keep us safe. We want the children to understand that the police are not scary people but are just like us. It's always a fun visit with members of the Fremont Police Department. Also, we have been talking a lot about keeping all of us healthy and safe. With all the illness going around we talked about how important it is to wash our hands often and use our "chicken wing" (aka our elbow) when we cough or sneeze. We've also been talking about how eating healthily can help protect our bodies from getting sick too. We will continue to talk about our letters, numbers and staying healthy. Thank you for your continued support with the preschool. We will also continue enrolling students for next school year.



Andrea Hirt, Administrator
Noah's Ark Preschool

A note from our pastor ...



Soon enough you will hear those beloved and dreaded words:

*Remember you are dust,
And to dust you shall return.*

As those words are echoed, the cross is traced, and ashes are smeared upon our forehead. Ash Wednesday is nearly here and the Season of Lent is about to begin. I also look at Lent as a journey surrounded by two mountain top moments. We begin as we join Peter, James, and John coming down the mountain where Jesus was transfigured in all his glory. We end on the mount of calvary where Jesus' glory is fully known. In between these two mountain top moments journey faithfully with Christ toward the cross and beyond to the joys of the open tomb.

As we gather for worship on Saturday and Sunday, our journey toward the cross will allow us to encounter the temptation of Jesus as he is tormented by the devil after fasting for forty days. We will grieve with Jesus as he laments of the city of Jerusalem. We will hear anew Jesus preach and teach as we reflect on the parables of the fig tree and the prodigal son. Our journey on the final weekend in Lent will take us to the home of Mary and Martha where Jesus is anointed. Here, Mary's hair is let down, perfume is poured, and Jesus' feet are bathed all in preparation for the coming crucifixion.

Along this Lenten Road we will also gather for worship on Wednesday evening. Our night will begin with a simple meal in the Dining Hall, then we will gather for worship under the shadow of the cross. This year we will reflect on Jesus as our Savior, Servant, and Friend. Throughout our evenings together we will welcome our LIFT Pastors as they share the gospel us. Their words will help us to see Jesus as our forgiver, healer, listener, encourager, protector, and comforter.

Perhaps it is fitting, as we embark on this Lenten journey, that we embrace Jesus as our comforter. Lent is never an easy journey. It forces us to ponder some of the darker chapters and moments of our sinful life. While it is not easy for us, it certainly wasn't easy for Jesus. Yet, even in the agony of his crucifixion and death Jesus walks faithfully with us. I pray that we may be as faithful to walk with him, to the cross, and beyond, to the glories of new life.

Blessings as we journey together!

Pastor Bailey

SUMMER MISSION OPPORTUNITY - As a congregation we are called the present the light of Christ to the world. As many of us know the world was made a bit darker as much of North Carolina was impacted by Hurricane Helene. Conversations have been shared with Lutheran Disaster Response and with our Lutheran Camps in North Carolina. Not all of the details are set, but we would like to start getting names of those interested in a servant trip this summer. Here's some of the slightly confirmed details:

- Individuals must be 18 years or older.
- Most likely date is the week of June 29 through July 5
- The cost will likely be about \$300 a person.

If you are interested in any way, please let Pastor Bailey know so that we can start to put the rest of the details of this great service opportunity together.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS ARE STILL NEEDED! As we walk this Lenten Road together, we will be reintroducing the role of Worship Assistants to our Sunday morning worship service. Many of you have volunteered, but there is still plenty of room for more of you to be a part of this vital role. *Mark your calendars for a brief coaching session with Pastor Bailey on **Sunday, March 2** beginning at 10:15 am.*

THE BRIDGE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS OUR HELP! On March 1 & 2 we will receive donations for the Bridge of Hope Food Pantry at Hayes Memorial UMC. They are in need of the following items: breakfast cereals, canned meats, rice, dried pinto beans, cans of tomato sauce, pasta, paper towels and diapers. These gifts may be placed in the grocery carts located at the entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you for your help!

THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE! Together we are exploring Martin Luther's Small Catechism. Everyone is welcome take part in our "adult confirmation" class on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. This month we will gather on March 2 and 16. Currently we are exploring Luther's thoughts on the Ten Commandments. Class takes place at the top of the stairs, just across from the elevator in the large Sunday School room.

BOOKWORMS has chosen their first read for 2025! The group will meet on **March 24 at 2 pm** in the lounge to discuss *The 6:20 Man* by David Baldacci. In this novel Baldacci tells the story of Travis Devine who each weekday boards the 6:20 am train to work. During his commute he looks longingly at the homes of the wealthy and dreams of the day when he lives in a home like theirs. All that changes with one phone call. If you would rather not meet in person to discuss this book a virtual option is also available. A Zoom discussion will be held on **March 25 at 11 am**. Please email Maureen at maureenpump2022@gmail.com and she will send you the link.

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

FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE

Bring your donations to worship on **March 15 & 16**. This month we will collect jars of peanut butter and jelly.

A special thank you to Jan Harris for taking our gifts to the Sandusky County Food Pantry each month.

Please place your donations in the grocery carts that are located in the Narthex and by the Baker Street entrance. At the request of the food pantry no glass jars.



MAUREEN'S MONDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will meet at 1 pm in the lounge. This winter we will be looking at the book of Philippians. All women are invited!

LISTENING WITH A SECOND EAR - Everyone is invited to gather with Pastor Bailey to share our joys, sorrows, concerns, celebrations, ideas, and dreams. This month we will gather on **Sunday, March 9**, following worship.

SPOUSAL GRIEF SUPPORT will meet on **March 17 at 6 pm** in the lounge. During this time we share a devotion, prayer and mutual support through discussion. Questions? Call the church office.

GRACE GATHERS is a fellowship group that meets monthly. The next gathering will be on **March 20 at 6 pm**. We will meet at the Chateau Vineyard and Winery in Helena. Please call the church office if you plan to attend.

JUGGLING ACT - Family, career, social life, taking care of a home, are many of the things that women juggle every day. Sometimes it's nice to gather around a meal that is being served to you and chat with other women who are also juggling the demands of life. Juggling Act meets at 5:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month at The Garrison. We will meet on March 25. If you plan to attend please call the church office.



youth MINISTRY

ACOLYTES at Grace serve during the 9 am Sunday worship. We encourage acolytes to sign up at least every other month and dates are available through February. You may sign up using the QR code in this announcement. Acolytes that do not sign up will be assigned a weekend.



HEY KIDS! Kids Zone is for youth in Pre-K through 5th grade and meets during worship. Children are excused following the Children's Message and will return before communion. This year our teachers will be Cornelia Star and Penny Russell.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet on **March 2** at Grace from noon to 1 pm and **March 16** at St. John's from noon - 1 pm.

YOUTH COMMITTEE will meet at **5:30 pm on March 5** in the youth room. Parents & youth are welcome to attend and bring their ideas for activities. A light meal will be served.

FORTS IN THE WILDERNESS

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT | 6-7:30 | AUDITORIUM

CHILDREN AND YOUTH ARE INVITED TO JOIN US AS WE BUILD FORTS EVERY WEEK AND LEARN HOW JESUS HEALS, LISTENS, ENCOURAGES, PROTECTS AND COMFORTS US.

SAVE THE DATE! Our youth will serve the annual Easter Breakfast on April 20 at 8 am.

SUMMER

SAVE THE DATE

2025

OHIO SUMMER YOUTH RETREAT

JUNE 29TH - JULY 2ND 2025

HOPEWOOD PINES (LMC)

ENTERING 6TH GRADE THROUGH ENTERING 12TH GRADE

Summer Camp for all school ages! Summer camp opportunities are available for youth in grades K - 12. If you have a child interested in attending summer camp at Hopewood Pines the week of June 29 - July 2. If you are interested please reach out to Heather at HeatherRHawn@gmail.com. Campership opportunities are also available.

SAVE THE DATE!

FIRST COMMUNION TRAINING will take place on **Saturday, April 12 from 12:30 - 3 pm** at Grace for children in 2nd grade and up who have not already received their First Communion. Youth will then receive their First Communion during our Maundy Thursday worship on April 17.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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

March 1	Steven Lindsay	2240 Smith Rd.
March 1	Anne Richardson	817 Vargas Ct.
March 7	Jerry Letzring	171 E. Co. Rd. 109
March 8	Carol Klohn	1247 N. River Rd., Rm. 219
March 9	Corliss Johnson	1938 Glen Springs Dr.
March 20	Ronald Tuckerman	1055 Co. Rd. 289
March 26	Diane Berryman	1105 Arlington St.
March 26	Benjamin Cooley	1611 Ell Dr.
March 26	Nancy McKeever	1451 Oak Harbor Rd., Lot 3B
March 27	Norman Rife	5212 St. Rt. 101, Clyde 43410
March 31	Donna Garner	140 Thomas Dr.

CRAFT & CROP ~ Crafting for a Cause!

Fundraiser for the Soup Kitchen

March 22, 2025

9 am - 6 pm

Grace Lutheran Church

705 W. State St., Fremont, Ohio

Cost \$15 per person

100% of your table fee goes to support the Soup Kitchen. All crafters are welcome. Please enter at the Baker & Wood Street doors, cross the sanctuary to use the stairs or elevator to get to the auditorium. (Elevator access is closed from 3:30 - 5 pm during worship.) Bring your lunch or run out to pick something up. Payment is due the day of the event.

Questions? Contact Heather Hawn by email at HeatherRHawn@gmail.com or by calling 419-307-1808.

Happy Anniversary

Celebrating 50 or more years of wedded bliss!

March 1, 1969 - Thomas & Patricia Appleby,
2401 Buckland Ave.

March 15, 1974 - Bruce & Marsha Hirt,
29 Pinewood Dr.

March 17, 1973 - Dan & Carol Polter
1015 N. Co. Rd. 220



Dave Ross

Donna Cooley

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.

**FINANCIAL REPORT
AS OF JANUARY 31**

	<u>2025 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2025 BUDGET</u>	<u>2024 ACTUAL</u>
Year to Date Income	\$ 37,854	\$ 30,916	\$ 34,351
Year to Date Designated Released	\$ <u>1,500*</u>	\$ <u>1,954</u>	
Year to Date Total Income	\$ 39,354	\$ 32,870	
Year to Date Expenses	(<u>44,793</u>)	(<u>42,313</u>)	(<u>41,932</u>)
Income less Expense:	\$ -5,439	\$ -9,443	\$ -7,581

*Dedicated Funds transferred in to cover Project Expenses

CHURCH COUNCIL - Minutes February 10, 2025

- Vice-President Annette Fisher will oversee Church Council Nominations. Four (4) seats to be filled. Elections will be held May 3 & 4.
- **MISSIONS/OUTREACH:** no meeting held as they were preparing for the upcoming Valentine’s Day Dinner fundraiser.
- **WORSHIP:** committee will meet on February 19.
- **PROPERTY:** RSS Security Team has begun installation of security system; Northwood Door installed new lock on Courtyard door in office area; thank you to Heather for help with SOS app on organ; bulbs replaced in Pulpit area; GEM called in to service minor issues with Boiler system - corrected broken link in software; replaced service elevator ramp and relocated conduit for ceiling inspection/repair; met with an engineer regarding the service elevator ceiling; looking into Bird Deterrent System for recent bird droppings issue - disinfectant for cleaning will be ordered through Bird X; contacted Fremont Streets division for Baker Street repairs
- **STEWARDSHIP:** no report; planning to meet quarterly
- **YOUTH:** Craft & Crop dates set for March 22 & April 12 from 9am-6pm; Wednesdays in Lent theme for youth - Forts in the Wilderness; First Communion mini retreat date is April 12 from 12:30-3pm; Easter morning breakfast will be served before worship, starting at 8AM; Ohio Synod’s camp for kids entering grades 6-12, June 29-July 2; “Souper” Bowl was attended by 17 and collected \$42 for the Soup Kitchen.
- **Inclement Weather Policy updated:** Soup Kitchen will only close if Sandusky County issues a LEVEL 3
- **Good Friday Fish Fry** will be held April 18 with proceeds going to the Soup Kitchen and Let’s Build Beds

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

When Fremont City Schools are Closed
-ALL activities at Grace are Cancelled

LEVEL 2: Please use your own judgement;
we want you to be safe!

LEVEL 3: WORSHIP CANCELLED
SOUP KITCHEN CLOSED



NOISY OFFERING



First weekend of the Month!

NOISY OFFERING is received the first weekend of each month. The next collection will be **March 1 & 2, 2025.** This collection will be given to the LIFT Let’s Build Beds

project scheduled for later in 2025.

Thanks to your generosity in February we collected **\$180.18** for the Let’s Build Beds project. **“THANK YOU”** to everyone who helps make a **JOYFUL NOISE** each month!

THANK YOU

I want to thank Pastor Bailey for his telephone call and anyone who checked up on me after my recent surgery. You are a blessing to me.

Thank you so very much.
Judy Overmyer

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Clayton J. Bailey, Senior Pastor
pastorcbailey@gmail.com
Maureen Pump, Synod Authorized Minister
maureenpump2022@gmail.com
Nathan Leonard, Organist/Choir Director
nateykeys@gmail.com
Linda Baumer, Office/Financial Administrator
gracefremont@yahoo.com
Tricia Dabrunz, Secretary/Receptionist
dabrunztricia@yahoo.com
Heather Hawn, Youth Minister
HeatherRHawn@gmail.com
Andrea Hirt, Director Noah's Ark Preschool
noahsark.fremont@gmail.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



**DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES
IS WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 12, 2025**

**The newsletter will be
assembled on
Thursday, March 20, 2025.**



**DON'T FORGET
TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS AHEAD
1 HOUR BEFORE
YOU GO TO BED
ON MARCH 8.**

Grace Lutheran Church

705 West State Street
Fremont, OH 43420

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Paid
Fremont, OH
Permit #133

SERVING IN WORSHIP: MARCH 2025

**PLEASE NOTE: DEACONS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINDING THEIR OWN REPLACEMENTS.*

DATE	SERVICE	ACOLYTE	GREETER: NARTHEX	GREETER: BAKER ST	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	DEACONS/ CLOSERS
MARCH 1 & 2	4:00	————	T. O'BRIEN	————	W. BAILEY	————
	9:00	————	L. & B. MCELFRESH	D. ZILLES	S. BRICKNER B. BRADFORD	C. AMOR C. BOUCHER
MARCH 8 & 9	4:00	————	T. O'BRIEN	————	W. BAILEY	————
	9:00	————	T. SCHLING K. WATKINS	S. WATKINS	B. PRASUHN C. BOUCHER	G. JESS A. FISHER
MARCH 15 & 16	4:00	————	T. O'BRIEN	————	W. BAILEY	————
	9:00	————	P. PELPHREY L. HALM	D. & C. POLTER	K. WATKINS T. SCHLING	J. BURMEISTER J. LETZRING
MARCH 22 & 23	4:00	————	T. O'BRIEN	————	W. BAILEY	————
	9:00	————	J. GUTHRIE V. OHMS	L. & M. WIDMER	K. & A. OVERMYER	T. MICHLES R. COOPER
MARCH 29 & 30	4:00	————	T. O'BRIEN	————	W. BAILEY	————
	9:00	K. MOSS	R. HAYNES J. AVERS	J. GANGWER	G. & J. JESS	C. STAR C. AMOR
APRIL 5 & 6	4:00	————	T. O'BRIEN	————	W. BAILEY	————
	9:00	————	K. & A. OVERMYER	D. ZILLES	E. & B. MUFFLER	C. BOUCHER P. KISER

DEACONS

**ASH WEDNESDAY
MARCH 5 - 6:30 PM**
C. BOUCHER
A. FISHER


**MID-WEEK LENT - 6:30 PM
MARCH 12**
J. BURMEISTER, C. AMOR

MARCH 19
G. JESS, R. COOPER

MARCH 26
J. LETZRING, T. MICHLES

APRIL 2
C. STAR, C. BOUCHER

APRIL 9
A. FISHER, C. AMOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>NOISY OFFERING/ BRIDGE OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION</p> <p>9:00 Worship/Communion/Kids Zone 10:15 Explore Luther's Small Catechism with Pr. Bailey 10:15 Worship Assistant Coaching Noon - 1:00 Confirmation at Grace</p>	<p>9:00 Project Day</p> <p>1:00 Women's Bible Study with Maureen</p> <p>7:00 Dartball at Grace</p>		<p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>11 - 1:00 Drive Thru Ashes at Hayes Memorial UMC 2:30 Worship Planning 5:30 Youth Committee Meeting - Youth Room 6:00 Youth Forts in the Wilderness - Auditorium 6:30 Ash Wednesday Worship 7:30 Digging Deeper into Lent with Pr. Bailey 7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11:30 Soup Kitchen</p>		<p>4:00 Worship/Communion/ Noisy Offering/Bridge of Hope Food Pantry Collection</p> <hr/> <p>4:00 Worship/Communion</p>
<p>9:00 Worship/Communion/Kids Zone 10:00 Listening with a Second Ear with Pr. Bailey</p> 	<p>1:00 Women's Bible Study with Maureen</p> <p>6:00 Executive Board Meeting 7:30 Church Council</p>	<p>11:30 - 1:00 Office Closed - Staff Development</p>	<p>G & T DEADLINE</p> <p>5:15 Lenten Supper 6:00 Youth Forts in the Wilderness - Auditorium 6:30 Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:30 Digging Deeper into Lent with Pr. Bailey 7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11:30 Soup Kitchen</p>		<p>4:00 Worship/Communion/ Food Pantry Challenge</p>
<p>FOOD PANTRY CHALLENGE (peanut butter & jelly)</p> <p>9:00 Worship/Communion/Kids Zone 10:15 Explore Luther's Small Catechism with Pr. Bailey Noon - 1 Confirmation at St. John's</p> 	<p>9:00 Project Day</p> <p>1:00 Women's Bible Study with Maureen</p> <p>6:00 Spousal Grief Support</p>	<p>2:30 Joy Circle</p> <p>6:30 - 9 Terra Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5:15 Lenten Supper 6:00 Youth Forts in the Wilderness - Auditorium 6:30 Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:30 Digging Deeper into Lent with Pr. Bailey 7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>G & T ASSEMBLED</p> <p>11:30 Soup Kitchen</p> <p>6:00 Grace Gathers at the Chateau Vineyard and Winery, Helena</p>		<p>9 - 6:00 Craft & Crop</p> <p>4:00 Worship/Communion</p>
<p>9:00 Worship/Communion/Kids Zone 1:00 Terra Choir Rehearsal and Concert Set Up 3:00 Terra Choir Concert</p>	<p>1:00 Women's Bible Study with Maureen</p> <p>2:00 Bookworms - Lounge</p>	<p>11:00 Virtual Bookworms</p> <p>5:30 Juggling Act at The Garrison</p>	<p>5:15 Lenten Supper 6:00 Youth Forts in the Wilderness - Auditorium 6:30 Mid-Week Lenten Worship 7:30 Digging Deeper into Lent with Pr. Bailey 7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11:30 Soup Kitchen</p>		<p>4:00 Worship/Communion</p>
<p>9:00 Worship/Communion/Kids Zone</p>	<p>1:00 Women's Bible Study with Maureen</p>			<p>2025</p>		