

Rally Day



The
Piecemakers
have made 90
backpacks that
will be available

for assembly as school kits for Lutheran World Relief. Members of the Grace Family who want to support this annual benevolence project will be able to take backpacks and fill them with the required items. The backpacks will be available again this Sunday, August 1, 2021, together with lists of the articles to be placed inside. Read the instructions carefully. The return date for bringing the completed backpacks will be Sunday, September 12th

Build a Bed. Change a Life.

St. Peter Lutheran Church in Martin is partnering with **Let's Build Beds** to serve children in Northwest Ohio who are in need.

- 1) Donate time
- 2) Donate money
- 3) Donate twin bedding
- 4) Pray for this ministry.

The build is planned for September 11, 2021 from 9 to Noon at **St. Peter Lutheran Church**

17877 W St. Rt 579, Martin. The goal is to build 50 beds with 60 volunteers. To sign up to help or donate call 419-836-8903 or 567-483-0056 or sign up on line:

<http://tinyurl.com/letsbuildbeds>



Greetings in the name of Jesus,

Soaking up the sun.... Summer is winding down and many of us are gearing up for the school year. I'm excited to get back to the routine of school and yet I'm sad that summer and warm weather will soon be turning to fall. Our kids enjoy spending time outdoors as much as we can while the weather is warm particularly at parks and the splash pad near us. Some you may enjoy fishing, boating or just being on the water. I know we have many avid cyclists in the congregation who go for lengthy rides on their bikes. Many of these activities just aren't as enjoyable when the weather turns. Some of us might literally be attempting to soak up the sun as long as we can before summer comes to a close.

As I reflected on that I thought about how we too ought to be soaking up the Son. We too ought to be intentionally spending time with the Son. It's good for us to spend time with Jesus. To soak up our time spent in his presence. Some ways we can do that are through prayer, worship and study. Some people use early morning as a time to set aside to spend time with God, others may find a walk in nature is a good time, others might set aside time before bed. Any time is an acceptable time to soak up the Son. So as summer comes to a close and the weather turns remember the two suns/ sons that are good to soak up.

Abide in me, and I in you.

John 15: 4

In Christ,

Pastor Jaci



Did you know...?

There is a drawer in the Narthex to receive Christian literature. Area churches also collect and deliver Bibles and books to our pickup point. The literature goes to Christian Resources International in Fowlerville, Michigan. This helps send containers to foreign countries in need of Bibles, libraries and people who want to read God's word.

There is also a drawer for collection of: greeting cards and craft supplies for Luther Home of Mercy, bar soap, quilting fabric, and food pantry. Help these organizations to spread the word and love of Christ.

Tell me and I forget.

Teach me and I remember.

Involve me and I learn.

Benjamin Franklin

...August Gospel Readings...

August 1 -	John 6: 24-35
August 8 -	John 6: 35, 41-51
August 15-	Luke 1: 46-55
August 22-	John 6: 56-69
August 29 -	Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Pastoral Care...

In the event of a need for pastoral support or care, please contact Pastor Jaci Tiell 419-215-8370 or pastorjacitiell@aol.com

Thank You's...

.....**from Light House Sober Living...** Thank you for your gift of \$369.14. Your gift will help the Ottawa County Community Foundation in its mission of "Doing Good. Forever" in Ottawa County.

...**from Evangelical Lutheran Church in America...** Thank you for your generous gift of \$2014.00 to the ELCA ministries through ELCA Good Gifts. Through your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA, you are sharing amazing grace with others. You are helping people around the world feel the transformational power of God's love.

.... **from Evangelical Lutheran Church in America...** Thank you for your gift of \$430.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response Asia-Pacific Response. Your generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters here in the US and around the world. These gifts enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

.....**from Lutheran World Relief...** Thank you for your generous gift of \$430.00. Your gift has helped stop the spread of coronavirus. Your love is protecting families right now.

...**from Veterans Matter...** Thank you so much for your gift of \$497.96. Your gift gets us that much closer to housing our 5,000th veteran. You are helping veterans like DM who recently moved into a safe and permanent home. DM originally became homeless after losing his job and was unable to pay rent. He had no family or friends in the area, so he went to the homeless shelter. He was identified as a veteran who served in the Army as a paratrooper, but had no idea he was entitled to VA benefits. He was referred to his local HUD-VASH program to assist with housing. Veterans Matter was able to fund a security deposit and first month's rent.

...**from The Family of Bobbie Sorg...** To members of Grace. Thank you for your kind words on the loss of our dear Bobbie! She will be missed.

...**from LOMO...** Thank you so much for your help! We were able to go swimming, climb the rock wall, go zip lining, play gage ball, go to the craft cabin, and play lots of games. Thanks again. Brooklyn

...**from The Bunny Bunch 4-H Club...** The Club would like to thank the congregation of Grace for the use of your facility for meetings for the last few years. Your thoughtfulness was truly appreciated. Unfortunately, the club has disbanded, so we are donating our treasury.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Week 1	\$2,375.00	Week 2	\$2,207.00
Week 3	\$2,569.00	Week 4	\$9,917.00
Week 5	No worship	Week 6	\$7,769.00
Week 7	\$7,111.00	Week 8	\$1,490.00
Week 9	\$3,146.00	Week 10	\$2,913.00
Week 11	\$1,800.00	Week 12	\$3,069.00
Week 13	\$952.00	Week 14	\$3,440.35
Week 15	\$2,579.00	Week 16	\$1,987.00
Week 17	\$1,432.00	Week 18	\$2,487.00
Week 19	\$1,610.00	Week 20	\$2,309.00
Week 21	\$1,787.00	Week 22	\$1,327.00
Week 23	\$7,090.00	Week 24	\$1,785.00
Week 25	\$2,374.00	Week 26	\$1,442.00
Week 27	\$2,797.00	Week 28	\$1,567.00
Week 29	\$2,305.00	Week 30	\$1,932.00

Total \$85,568.35

Needed from Offering for 2021	\$150,000	Budget Gap	(\$64,431.65)
Weekly Goal	\$2,884	Avg. Week	\$2,852



Tithes and offerings



Get in Touch with Grace...

www.graceelconline.org is our web site. Check out the new site.

Joyce has gradually been returning to working Tuesday thru Thursday in the church office. (usually morning hours) I am checking messages, email, and mail everyday. Write us with concerns or announcements at graceelc@gmail.com. Got a prayer request? Email it to the address above or call the office and leave a message. 419-862-3630.

+ + +

Happy Birthday

Congratulations...to the following with a birthday during **August**:

Brady Buhrow	3
Carole Jacob	7
Jean Weng	13
James Schnabel	17
Patricia Shaffer	20
Katherine Duncan	21
Marilyn Crandall	24
Genise Dangler	25
Chris Tornow	26
Kylie Cordy	28
Karen Schlievert	30

Congratulations to those couples celebrating anniversaries during **August**:

Meghan & Tim Pirk	4
Merle & Ruth Haar	23
Mark & Jennifer Haar	25
Charles & Linda Stewart	29

Happy Anniversary

Hi Grace Family,



What a joy it will be to come together for in-person worship once again! I know we've missed seeing each other face to face but I thank God for His grace in guiding us through these challenging times. Our Grace family has been faithful, resilient and innovative as we've come up with new ways to get things done. My special thanks to Rachel and Joan as they've joined me to lead singing and offer special music for our services. I'm pleased to welcome our choir members back to resume singing anthems on Rally Day, September 12th. Our first rehearsal will be Tuesday, September 7th at 7:00pm in the choir loft. All who would like to sing are welcome to join us.

Stay safe and keep a song in your hearts!

Blessings, Bobbie

Attention Altar Guild Members

We're moving back into the Fellowship Hall this Sunday. As of now we will still be using the packaged communion wine and wafer so no glasses to wash, there will be the chalice, etc, that Pastor Jaci uses for communion.

There is no flower chart yet, so I don't know of any flowers to put out and no parameters to change. We do have several artificial sets of flowers that can be used.

The old schedule I have for the rest of the year is:

August	Shirley Damschroder & Ruth Haar
September	Mary Schlievert & Jennifer Haar
October	Linda Jacobs & Jean Weng
November	Joan Eckermann & Linda Stewart
December	Deb Boos & Jean Weng

If changes are needed please let Jean Weng know.

August/September Worship Workers:

	Deacons	Lector
8/1/2021	Gary Anderson/Randy Jacobs	Rachel Beeler
8/8/2021	Jean & Merlyn Weng	Nancy Bennett
8/15/2021	Rachel Beeler/ Deb Boos	Mike Schlievert
8/22/2021	Mark & Jennifer Haar	Mark Haar
8/29/2021	Deb & Jeff Boos	Ruth Anderson
9/5/2021	Steve Blausey/Steve Simkus	John Marik
9/12/2021	Gene Michel/Alan Wolfe	Mary Lou Kohli
9/19/2021	Bruce King/Dave Wietelmann	Steve Blausey
9/26/2021	Mary & Mike Schlievert	Jean Weng

STUDENT SEND OFF

The Northwestern Ohio Synod is sponsoring "Student Send off at RESET ARCADE @ 27250 Crossroads Parkway, Rossford, Ohio on August 5, @ 6:00pm. Let's celebrate young adults embarking on new adventures in college, high school. Students will have the chance to connect with leaders from campus ministries at BGSU, UT, OSU, Terra State, Wright State, Capital University and Wittenberg University, meet with fellow students & enjoy free pizza, arcade games, lawn games and fellowship. Current college students, youth exploring college options, families and pastors are all welcome as we bless the young people in the area. RSVP @ <https://bit.ly/3eLNG31>

August Food Pantry Item from Grace is:

Tuna 6 oz. cans.



Food Pantry dates for August are:

Friday, August 20, 2021

Saturday, August 21, 2021

9:00 - Noon



Love. Grow. Serve.



Jay, Zina & Ari Travel to the USA

Celebrating God's Faithfulness

While we have many different things to do this summer in the US, the one that brings the most joy to us is connecting with each of you, and sharing and celebrating God's work in Slovenia. Just before we left, we gathered as a team to write the names of the students that we had been reading the Bible with last year, then share the stories of how God has been at work in their lives, and pray for them. These stories are not the only ways God is working through our ministry and through your prayers and investment, but it is our privilege to share them with you.

When Jesus entered into Jerusalem during the Triumphal Entry, his disciples were praising him and crying out in loud voices, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest" (Luke 19:38). The Pharisees told Jesus to rebuke his disciples' shouts of praise and worship. Jesus responded by saying, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out" (Luke 19:40). We are praying that the people represented by these stones would cry out in praise to Jesus, that they would truly follow him and help make disciples for Him across Slovenia.

We will be going to Texas August 4-30, to continue to connect and share with you. We will be connecting with you soon as we try to fill our short time there. Please join us in praying for our time there, that God would connect us with new referrals and ministry partners that will invest in Slovenia prayerfully and financially. Praise God that He has provided us with housing, a car, and car-seat while we are there. We are overwhelmed by your support and care for us on these trips.

We have one more important celebration to share with you, and that is the news that Zina has finally received her green card, and is now a permanent resident of the US. This is the end of two years of prayer, persistence, and patience to get through the process, and we are very thankful to finally have it and be ready to move on to the next steps. Thank you for your prayers with us in the process, and we hope that you too can celebrate the good news!

Operation Oreo...



Please keep all of the military in your prayers, but especially: SGT Stephen Simkus and Cadet Julian Sanchez.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to Operation Oreo to help offset the cost of shipping and also the contents of the Goody boxes —just mark “Op Oreo” on the memo line of your check.

If you have a name to add to our list or if you have any questions about Operation Oreo, please contact Jennifer Marquardt.



The Values We Share...

+ Worship weekly. + Invite others to join us.
+
+ Embrace one another. + Keep on learning. +
+ Give regularly and generously. + Be good stewards and willing servants. +



Council Minutes

July 15, 2021

Council President Gary Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm on Zoom. Pastor Jaci offered a prayer to start the meeting.

Good News reports included our new Pastoral relationship that began July 4, 2021; a new supply pastor relationship on July 11, 2021; Linda Stewart is doing well after surgery; and Michelle and Josh Wolfe are the proud parents of a new baby boy, Beckett James.

The minutes of the June 17, 2021, council meeting were approved as presented. Highlights included \$10,700+ income over expenses, the checking account is healthy, and there is \$26,000+ in the maintenance fund. The financial report was approved as presented. The 2021 budget was revised to allow for Pastor Jaci's compensation package, as well as an increase in the amount allocated for supply pastors. We paid a slightly higher church mutual insurance premium of \$4,000. The bell tower restoration project is complete and came in under the amount that was approved by the congregation. Well done, board of property! Much discussion ensued on how and when to utilize the bell during worship. Pastor Jaci was tasked with determining the use of the bell during the Lord's Prayer. A Blessing of the Backpacks for students returning to school will take place on Sunday, August 29, during worship. The baptism of Mia Pirkel, daughter of Meghan (Haar) and Tim, is scheduled for Sunday, September 26, during worship.

Nancy had no report for the board of Education. She stated she has had difficulty getting volunteers to serve on the board.

Steve reported that the next board of Property meeting will be August 5 at 5:30 pm at church. The required water quality testing unfortunately received a negative report. Randy ran a lot of water and then ran a second test to submit. Hopefully the problem is that since we have not been in the building the water has not run very much. We will have to see what the results of the 2nd test are. Jazzercise is adding a class Mondays at 6:30, so we will be getting an additional \$65 a month rent starting in September. Steve extended thanks to Merlyn, Randy for doing a lot of extra work at church; and to Steve Blausey for sharpening the blades on a rotary mower to use in the courtyard. The Fellowship Hall will be set up for the Senior Center lunches and those tables will stay up for Sunday worship. Since we no longer have a custodian, every member will need to step up and help out to keep things clean and tidy. The security system is being looked at and maybe more cameras will be added.

The board of Witness and Mission met on Tuesday, July 13. Amy reported that Jay Herman will give a report on his missionary work with CRU on Sunday August 1. There will be a presentation and video. He, Zina, and Ari will be returning to Slovenia on September 10. There will be a chicken BBQ on October 3 following worship. The recipient will be decided by holding a raffle on Rally Day, September 12. The winner of the raffle will get to choose the beneficiary! Backpacks are being sewn by the quilters and will be distributed beginning July 25. Members can pick up the backpacks, fill them with required items (lists will be in the backpacks), and return to church by Rally Day. These school kits will then be donated to a distribution center.

The next Council Meeting will be Thursday, 19 August, at 7:00 pm. We will most likely meet in person at church!

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schlievert
Secretary Pro Temp



Dear Grace Members,

The Board of Worship is pleased to announce that Grace will return to indoor, in-person worship beginning on Sunday, August 1, 2021, at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. After much discussion we have developed the following plan for our in-person worship:

1. In-person summer worship services at Grace will begin at 10:30am to accommodate Pastor Jaci's dual partnership with Bethlehem Lutheran. We will hold services in the Fellowship Hall for the summer months (move to the Sanctuary TBD). Once a schedule has been created for the remainder of the year between Bethlehem and Grace, we will announce any time change to the congregation.
2. The sanctuary will be set up with rows of chairs and tables in the Fellowship Hall.
3. The FM transmitter will continue to broadcast services on 94.1 FM for those who are unable to or prefer not to enter the facility for worship right now. Please allow the parking spots in front of the office entrance to be reserved for those congregation members. When we move to the Sanctuary, parking spots in front of the main church entrance will be reserved.
4. Grace will continue to utilize the emailed worship service and hymn sheets for those who wish to continue using their hand-held devices or print them each week. Printed copies will be made available (as we have done during drive-up worship).
5. Hymnals will be available for use during the service and congregational singing will be permitted.
6. We will continue to schedule two deacons for each Sunday. Deacons should arrive early to make sure everything for the service is ready. Deacons will continue to hand out worship bulletins and hymn sheets and take head counts each Sunday.
7. Deacons will not pass the offering plates during the service. Instead, the offering plates will be stationary at the entrance to the church. Deacons will remind members to place their offering in the plates either before or after the service.
8. We will resume having a rotation of Lectors who read scriptures each Sunday.
9. Grace will continue to do a sharing of the peace during the service; however, it will be different from our pre-Covid sharing of the peace. Pastor Jaci will still instruct the congregation to "share the peace of Christ" with one another and to which the congregation will respond "and also with you," but congregation members are encouraged to wave, smile, give a 'peace' sign with your fingers, etc. to other congregation members and refrain from moving around. Congregation members may share peace by embracing their own family members should they choose to do so, but the sharing of the peace will be brief (as it has been during drive-up worship).
10. Grace will continue to utilize the communion kits as well as allow congregation members to continue to bring their own communion elements that will be consecrated during the service (as they have been during drive-up worship). The rows of chairs will be spaced further apart so that Pastor Jaci can move between the rows (as opposed to congregation members going forward for communion) to administer communion to congregation members. For the foreseeable future, we will utilize the kits (and members bringing their own elements) for communion and will re-evaluate our procedures for communion in the future.
11. Chancel Choir will resume weekly anthems beginning on Rally Day (Sunday, September 12, 2021.) The first Choir practice will be held on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 7pm. Rehearsals are at 7pm each Tuesday.



President's REPORT

REPORT OF THE GRACE COUNCIL

Significant changes have come to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church during July and August of this year. Our church is entering a new era in its life and history. We called a new Pastor, entered into an exciting new partnership with Bethlehem Lutheran Church in East Toledo and, as of the 1st of August, will have returned to indoor worship.

Pastor Jaci Tiell is Grace's New Called Pastor. When Pastor Mark Wentz resigned his call at Grace in August 2019, we began a "call process" to determine who would be Grace's next called pastor. Pastor Jaci Tiell first became our Interim Pastor in September 2019. Our call process began with a series of Congregational Discovery sessions in February and March of 2020. Those sessions were designed to involve the whole congregation in discerning God's mission for our parish. Achieving balanced budgets for 2020 and 2021 helped us realize that Grace could support a part-time Pastor but not a full-time Pastor.

The Council nominated a Call Committee that was formally elected by the Congregation during its 30 August 2020 meeting. The Call Committee met frequently in late 2020 and early 2021 to draft a **Ministry Site Profile** (MSP) that is a formal part of the ELCA call process. By April and May of this year, the work of the Holy Spirit and the vision of Grace's Call Committee came together in the development of an innovative pastoral leadership plan. With the encouragement and blessing of the Northwest Ohio Synod (NWOS), the Grace congregation voted, on the 20th of June, to call Pastor Jaci as its part-time Called Pastor. This new call is based on a partnership through which Pastor Jaci will also serve as a part-time Pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran. On the 22nd of July, Synod Bishop Daniel Beaudoin formally installed Pastor Jaci in this 'partnership call' during an Installation Worship Service at Bethlehem. Pastor Jaci Tiell is the new called Pastor for Grace and Bethlehem. **Thanks be to God!**

The work of the Call Committee was concluded when Pastor Jaci was installed as our new called Pastor. We wish to extend a sincere thank you to the members who served on that committee: **Amy Simkus**, co-chair; **Matthew Haar**, co-chair; **Karen Hammel**, **Randy Jacobs**, **John Marik** and **Ruth Ann Anderson**.

Return to Indoor Worship. Now after 62 weeks of outdoor worship, Grace's Board of Worship and Council made the decision to return to worship inside the church, starting on the 1st of August. Worship inside won't be the same because the threat of covid infections still exists. Seating will be socially distanced. Offering plates will be available but they will not be passed. The passing of the peace will be done without people moving. Communion elements will be blessed, but they will not be distributed in the traditional way. (*Detailed instructions for the return to indoor worship were prepared by Grace's Board of Worship and published in the last two **Weekly Messages** in July.*). The covid crisis hasn't gone away but with so many of our members now being vaccinated, we are able to take this important step by once again being able to worship inside our church. **Again, thanks be to God!**

Gary Anderson

Council President

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30am - Worship Fellowship Hall	2	3 10a - ESC 7:00p - Congregational Life	4	5 10a - ESC 5:30pm - Property Board	6	7
8 10:30am - Worship Fellowship Hall	9	10 10a - ESC 5:00p - Witness & Mission	11	12 10a - ESC	13	14
15 10:30am - Worship Fellowship Hall	16	17 10a - ESC	18	19 10a - ESC 7:00p - Council	20 Food Pantry Open 9:00 - Noon	21 Food Pantry Open 9:00 - Noon
22 10:30am - Worship Fellowship Hall 6:00p - Boy Scouts/ Fellowship Hall	23	24 10a - ESC Parish Reporter DEADLINE	25	26 10a - ESC	27	28
29 10:30am - Worship Fellowship Hall 6:00p - Boy Scouts/ Fellowship Hall	30 Woodmore Schools First Day 	31 10a - ESC				

You are never too old to set another goal or dream a new dream

C.S. Lewis