
OCTOBER 2021

Grace Notes

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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*“Grace Lutheran Church is a family united by faith in Christ,
which seeks to grow in that faith and to share it with others.”*

From the Pastor’s Desk . . .

“*They’re baaaack!!!*” 😊 Surely you’ve noticed this month that the **Oberlin College students** are back in town and back in class. It’s about a month later than normal this year, but you can certainly tell when all the “college kids” are back. And it’s not just that we have our regular organist (Oziah) back again, but there are packs of them walking around town all the time. We even have unknown college “strangers” showing up at our church on Sundays.

All this sort of begs the question: **How do we react?** *When the college students return to town, what’s your initial reaction? When you see a college student visit our church for the first time, what goes through your head? What do you DO? What would God want you to do? And to take it one step farther... what about when you bump into one of the random college kids around town – at the grocery store or outside the bank – what then? How do you interact with them then? Do you even BOTHER interacting with them at all?!*

A couple of weeks ago I was outside on the sidewalk in front of the church watching several of my boys as they were riding bikes. A group of college students were walking back toward their apartment with a longhaired dachshund – roughly the size of my shoe. The boys were a little scared and apprehensive about this (“scary”) dog. But I knelt down to pet it and it opened up a five-minute conversation with these college students that allowed me to get to know them a little – and allowed them to get to know me a bit. It was nothing earth-shattering,

but simply a step towards building a meaningful relationship with them. I hope to see them again.

The point in all this is, Christ wants us to love our neighbors and be ready to connect with those around us so that we can share the Gospel with them – which oftentimes is just the kindness of Jesus without any words attached. As I reflect for a moment on our Grace flock, pretty much none of us are exactly like a 21-year-old Oberlin College student. We are all younger or older, with different experiences and tastes and viewpoints. But **everyone needs Jesus** – so we look for ways to connect with others to help connect them to Him.

In Christ,

Pastor Josh

PS I'd still love to get out of the office and **visit** with you in-person. So when you are comfortable and ready for a visit, please contact me and I'll be happy to come over.

September Official Pastoral Acts:

- 5 pastoral care visits
- 4 leadership meetings
- 1 circuit visitor activity
- 2 evangelism visits
- 2 funerals (*Richard Fehlan,*
Allan Homstead)

Upcoming Sermon Texts

Oct. 10	Genesis 18:16-23
Oct. 17	Genesis 19
Oct. 24	Genesis 21
Oct. 31	Genesis 22

Worship Information

Our church pandemic protocols put into place last month will continue this month.

Pastor offers **Private Communion** at church the first Wednesday of the month from 1:00-2:30 pm and 7:00-8:00 pm OR by private appointment. People can contact Pastor ahead of time to “reserve” a time, but “drop-ins” are also welcome. Contact Pastor if you'd prefer a home visit with private communion.

We are in need of more volunteers to be **lay readers** and **greeters**. If you might be willing to serve on Sunday morning in one of these ways, please contact Pastor.

This month we continue the sermon series called **“God’s Grace and Goodness in the Life of Abraham.”**

If you or someone you know would like to receive a mailed hard copy of each Sunday’s sermon, please contact Pastor Josh to be added to that mailing list.

We are in need of a...

GOOD NEWS Stories About What GOD Has Been Doing Among Us

...for next month’s newsletter. Consider how God has been at work around you lately, write up a quick email describing it, and send it to Pastor.

President's Message

Looking forward to the remaining quarter of CY2021, Glen Fridenstine and his Nominating Committee need to replace the President's position for CY2022-CY2023. If interested, chat with a member of the committee when you see one of them in church. Find out what the job description entails. Unlike the President of the United States, you shouldn't age many years "in office"! The Evangelism Deacon is also up for election. Bob Scherry---ably assisted by Ms. Susan Walker---will be stepping down from this needed Council position at year's end, as will Glen from the Vice-President's post. The latter position can be filled by Council appointment, but if interested, please contact one of the committee members listed below.

Grace's current Nominating Committee with Pastor Moldenhauer as chairperson: Bonnie Abricht, Paul Castle, Lee Anne Christner, and Robin Turnbull.

I will also be sending a reminder to Grace's Church Council that their budget "wishes" for CY2022 should be sent to Mr. Karp, our Treasurer, by the middle of October for possible inclusion in the operating numbers for the coming year that Mr. Karp will prepare for Council approval and subsequent presentation to the Voters' Assembly in November. Any suggestions you might have, please place them in Mr. Karp's mail box in the next two weeks.

Fred C. Feddeck

Quote of the Month: "A lie doesn't become truth, wrong doesn't become right, and evil doesn't become good just because it is accepted by the majority."

Rich Warren (An American Baptist Evangelist Christian pastor and author)

Buildings & Grounds Update

1. Super's has started the landscaping around the church, tree removal, bush removal, plant removal, and bushes trimmed. more to be done as the weather cools.
2. Coates Bros. completed the installation of a new downspout on the east side of the church near the air conditioners. Downspout was installed to alleviate gutter overflow during a hard rainstorm.
3. Installed a new banner hook for the long pole, the hook is plastic coated to eliminate marking the wall as the banners are changed during the church year.
4. Picked up some flex seal tape to repair damaged and broken siding on the church building, it should blend in pretty well.
5. New air conditioner for the west side of the sanctuary should be installed soon, all depends on availability as supplies and sizes are very limited.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Monroe

Nominating Committee Update

The Nominating Committee had our first meeting a couple of weeks ago. It's been mentioned in this newsletter, but will be so again. We need to fill important Council positions.

Our "Grace" Church needs all of us to stand up with Jesus. We all need to remember Our Mission here at Grace. It is at the top of every newsletter, on our website and often in Sunday bulletins. *"Grace Lutheran Church is a family united by faith in Christ, which seeks to grow in that faith and to share it with others"*

We need every member of Grace to be here, to do what you do and to share and grow in our faith is Christ.

Council members meet once a month and also quarterly for the Voters' Assemblies. We all work together to help Grace Church succeed in its mission.

Thank you all for being here at Grace.
Lee Anne

<u>October Birthdays</u>		<u>October Anniversaries</u>	
D. J. Honney	10/1	Bob & Lori Izold	10/1
Andy Karp	10/2	Lisa & Larry Lalonde	10/22
Wayne Perron	10/4		
Jen Fehlan-Jones	10/10		
Mike Burt	10/11		
Matthew Moldenhauer	10/16		
McKenzie Swanzer	10/20		
John Thomas	10/24		

* If we accidentally forgot your birthday or anniversary, please tell Pastor and we'll add it to our list.

GRACE 2021 Service Schedule

PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A REPLACEMENT SHOULD YOU BE UNABLE TO SERVE

DATE	Usher	Acolyte	Greeter	Counters	Altar Guild	Lay Reader
Oct. 3rd	Paul Castle	Carter Jones	Lisa Lalonde	Bonnie A. & Lisa L.	Robin Turnbull	Paul Castle
Oct. 10th, 17th	Bob Izold	David Jones	Anita Saathoff	Fred F. & Glen F.	Kathy Knipper	Fred Feddeck
Oct. 24th, 31st	Paul Castle	Reilly Jones	Lee Anne Christner	Bonnie A. & Lisa L.	Karen Huston	Dave Jones

Upcoming Church Events & Dates

- **Elder's Meeting:** Wednesday, October 13th at 7:00 pm.
- **Private Communion Service:** Wednesday, October 13th from 1:00-2:30 and 7:00-8:00 pm.
- **Fall English District Pastor's Conference:** October 18th – 20th in Toledo, Ohio
- **Nominating Committee Meeting:** Sunday, October 17th at 11:20 am.
- **November Newsletter Articles Due:** Wednesday, October 27th
- **Reformation Sunday:** October 31st
- **All Saints' Day:** Sunday, November 7th

Altar Guild Items

New white paraments have been ordered from Kanel Brothers Church Supply in North Canton. These will replace our current set that was damaged during dry cleaning several years ago. We should have the new set in time for the Christmas season.

~Thank you for serving~
~ Robin ~

Children's Ministry

We would like to start a second Sunday School class for kids roughly 2nd through 4th grade. We need a volunteer to start teaching this small group (1-3 kids) Sunday School twice a month. Lesson plans and workbook will be provided. Please contact Pastor Josh if you might be interested.

Evangelism News

Our **church picnic** was held Sept 12, 2021 at the New Russia Twp Pavilion #1, Oberlin. We had beautiful weather, and a nice outdoor Worship Service. You can view pictures from this event on the website and also on our church Facebook page. Our potluck lunch was delicious and plentiful, but unfortunately the bees thought so, too! Games and prizes for adults and children were enjoyed by all.

We have applied for and have received Thrivent Action Teams Funds (\$250) to put together goodie bags for Trick or Treaters. We will include information on our church along with other goodies.

LWL News

I'd like to announce that I am going to try and fill the LWL President position. I hope that this is good news for more than just Bonnie. (That's a joke, so laugh.)

I'd like to thank all the Ladies that helped me put together the report for August's Voters' Assembly.

Also, there is a need for anyone who has items in our upstairs rooms to please let me know what items they are. You can call me, Lee Anne Christner at 440/864-9456 or email me at Secretary4grace@gmail.com. We, Council, are in the process of organizing the space upstairs so nothing gets lost or removed.

LWL is hoping very much to continue our Rummage Sale next summer. However, we can't collect and store any items for the rummage sale until we are much closer to the date of the sale. If you have anything you'd like to donate I sincerely hope you can store and save it for us next summer. We will need lots of help next summer for the rummage sale. I hope many of you can help in same way.

I look forward to talking with as many women of Grace Church as possible for your ideas and involvement with LWL. I'm planning on having a "LWL tea" sometime in early November.

~ Lee Anne