

OPERATION

OREO. A hand written card was sent to each of the soldiers. This is just a little note to remind them they are thought of and prayed for daily from their friends at Grace.

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Please place a hedge of protection around each and everyone but especially: SGT Stephen Simkus, Cadet Julian Sanchez and CPL Theodore Ozanski.

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.



Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God

Hebrews 13:16



³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. ³⁵ Jesus wept.
John 11:33-35

These verses from the eleventh book of John are part of a familiar story. Lazarus died and so Jesus is comforting his sisters Martha and Mary. We've heard this story many times. We know that when death occurs people grieve. When someone we love dies we grieve. There are other stories too in scripture where people grieve. What I'm struck by is God's response when people grieve. Here in John Jesus comforts Martha and Mary and he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. Then shortly after Jesus weeps. Jesus weeps likely because no one has grasped him as the resurrection and the life and thus having power beyond death. They don't full grasp who he is and the power that he has. They don't fully get it and so they don't fully love and trust him. Yet they are still grieving and looking to Jesus.

And yet God is there. God is there to comfort Martha and Mary. God is there to wipe away every tear. God is here too today. God is here with us in whatever we face. God is with those experiencing grief like families in Uvalde, Texas. As I prepared to write about joy for June that thought quickly turned to sorrow and grief as so many families are grieving today. We offer prayers for the families affected by tragedy and pray God's presence and peace over them amongst their grieving hearts. Grieving can be so hard but God is present and offers His presence and perfect peace.

Peace,

Pastor Jaci Tiell



Pastoral Care...

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

June Birthdays

Tammie Duncan	1
Madilyn Scheff	3
Colin Duncan	8
Cora Lajti	8
Stephen Simkus	11
Jean Wietelmann	14
Connie Wolfe	14
Megan Marik	17
Dean Crandall	20
Joshua Wolfe	22
Aiden Cordy	27

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Happy Anniversary

Bill/Judy Zimmerman	2
Greg/LaVerne Edwards	10
Ruth/Gary Anderson	13
Karen/Joe Hammel	27

Congratulations to all those listed. If we have missed anyone we apologize. Please notify the office with those names, so we can update our records. Thank You!

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June Gospel Readings...

June 5 - John 14: 8-17
June 12 - John 16: 12-15
June 19- Luke 8: 26-39
June 26- Luke 9: 51-62

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June's Food Pantry Item:

Crackers - 16 oz. box

July's Food Pantry Item:

Soup—10 oz. can

July Gospel Readings

July 3 Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20
July 10 Luke 10: 25-37
July 17 Luke 10: 38-42
July 24 Luke 11: 1-13

In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand like a rock.

Thomas Jefferson

News from Jay & Zina from Slovenia...

Since meeting Matej in December, we have been meeting with him nearly every week, reading the Bible together, and coaching him about the Bible Discovery Group that he has been leading in his village. Every one of those meetings has been at a cafe near his faculty called Barbado, and each week our waitress has been the same. After a few weeks she would simply ask us if we wanted our usual, since she remembered our orders week to week. One week, we asked her the simple question, "How can we pray for you?"

he responded "Wow, I cant believe that you're asking me that. That is so nice!" She was genuinely surprised and thankful that someone would care for her in such a way. We explained to her why we meet together each week to read and apply the Bible to our lives, and that one way we do that is by praying with and for people. She shared that just over the past few weeks she has started trying to reconnect with God. She grew up in a Catholic family, but hadn't been to church for over 20 years. But over the past few weeks God had started drawing her back to himself. The reason for this return was largely due to some stress in her life, and that she was feeling a lot of fear and anxiety. So my teammate Jordan asked if we could pray for her then, and she excitedly said "Yes!"

The next week she told us, "It made my day when you asked to pray for me." And each week since then we have had more opportunities to share and connect with her. One week when Matej was unavailable, Jordan went at our usual time to see her and share a story from the Bible with her. They talked about the woman at the well in John 4. Jordan gave her a copy to take home, and later that evening she wrote him. "I reread the story last night. Beautiful! It tells me the Lord doesn't discriminate and loves and talks to everyone if they want to. And if we 'drink' his water we will live forever and not lack anything. That gives me so much comfort

Just this week she shared how she had some health issues and ended up in the hospital, but because our meetings and prayers, she felt more calm, and she was thankful that she is better now. Please pray for Nina, that the Lord would continue to draw her to himself, that she would be open to more regularly reading the Bible with us, and that she would have some people around her that could join her on this journey toward Him.

Pray for God to continue to lead us to spiritually open students.

Pray for the Bible Discovery Groups that we have seen begin across the country.

Pray for Moldova, as hostilities continue and things get more dangerous in the country and for our family friends, pray for protection and peace.



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.**

July Birthdays

Congratulations... to the following with a birthday during July:

Arnold Foss	1
Karen Bench	4
Alyssa Gerwin	7
Judith Michel	9
Bruce King	11
Michelle Timbrook	11
Jeanette Hanthorn	12
Jeremiah Cordy	13
Chris Klett	16
Kathy Willey	17
David Hanthorn	23
Kaylyn Stahl	23
Kristen Snyder	26
Andrew Marik	26
David Jacobs	28

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Congratulations

to those couples celebrating anniversaries during July:

Joseph & Jeanette Hanthorn	15
Leslie & Kathy Willey	17

Thank You...

from Lutheran Social Services... We want to take a moment to thank you for the hope, inspiration and blessing that you continue to be for our agency. Your gift of \$400.00 is appreciated more than you will ever know.

from ELCA Good Gifts... The \$1441.00 donated for Honey Bees is a very good resource for those to live an abundant life. You are creating new beginnings for many.

World Elder Abuse Awareness

The Ottawa County Task Force on Aging is bringing awareness to World Elder Abuse during the month of June. Every year 5 million older adults, or 1 in 10 are being abused, neglected, and exploited right here in the United States. Experts believe that for every case of elder abuse or neglect reported, as many as 23.5 cases go unreported. We have forgotten our role within our community. A strong community is one that puts faith into action. Honoring, respecting, loving, and caring for members of our community regardless of age are all ways to put our faith into action. In the latest statistics: our county has the highest percentage of Older Adult's 60 + which makes our county a target. *What is elder abuse?* Elder abuse is the intentional or negligent acts by a caregiver or trusted individual that causes harm to a vulnerable elder. The most common categories of abuse are: neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, financial abuse and exploitation, emotional or psychological abuse, abandonment, and self-neglect. *Who is at risk?* In Ohio from July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021 34,996 referrals of abuse, neglect and exploitation were received by county departments. Abuse was alleged in 5,343 of the referrals (emotional, physical, & sexual) Neglect was alleged in 20,449 referrals. (self neglect and neglect by others) and exploitation was alleged in 8,163 referrals. A total of 17,290 individuals were in need of protective services. *What can one person do?* Use your voice to raise awareness about elder abuse. Turn your Facebook **photo purple** on **June 15th**, engage social media, wear a purple awareness ribbon, talk to kids in your life about the challenges that our elders face, visit an elderly person that is isolated, living alone, or in a care facility and think about ways that you can honor your parents, grandparents or disabled family members. **Join us June 15th** to commemorate Elder Abuse Day. This holiday provides an opportunity for our community to live the principles of our faith. Reach out to the older adults in your life and check on their wellbeing. For more info: Julie.Mckitrick@jfs.ohio.gov.

Deacon Schedule for June & July

Lectors

JUNE

6/5/2022	Mary & Mike Schlievert
6/12/2022	Deb & Jeff Boos
6/19/2022	Gary Anderson/Randy Jacobs
6/26/2021	Steve Simkus/Steve Blausey

Judy Zimmerman
Jean Weng
Joan Eckermann
Michelle Timbrook

JULY

7/3/2022	Gene Michel/Alan Wolfe
7/10/2022	Bruce King/Pr Wietelmann
7/17/2022	Jennifer & Mark Haar
7/24/2022	Jean & Merlyn Weng
7/31/2022	Deb & Jeff Boos

John Marik
Nancy Bennett
Mark Haar
Ruth Anderson
MaryLou Kohli

Wreaths Across America Fund-Raiser.

The raffle to benefit Wreaths across America – Ottawa County is planned for June 30, 2022. Funds raised will be used to purchase the wreaths that will be laid on veteran’s graves in December.

Prizes include barrow of booze, hats, t-shirts, can koozies and much more.

Tickets are **\$10 each**. Tickets may be purchased from John Heminger or call 19-855-3614. Winning tickets will be drawn on June 30th and need not be present to win.

Backpacks for Humans

<https://backpacknation.space/>
this 501(c) (3) organization, which serves people in crisis in the Toledo area, has a great current need for **ball caps, sun screen, and chapstick**. Anyone who has extras of these items is urged to bring them to the church and place them in the collection box in the Narthex.

It's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.

Abraham Lincoln

WEEKLY OFFERING 2022

Week 1	\$2,525.00	Week 2	\$1,927.00
Week 3	\$2,367.00	Week 4	\$986.00
Week 5	\$2,982.00	Week 6	\$11,664.00
Week 7	\$910.00	Week 8	\$2,454.00
Week 9	\$2,018.00	Week 10	\$9,028.00
Week 11	\$1,195.50	Week 12	\$2,840.00
Week 13	\$1,425.00	Week 14	\$2,450.00
Week 15	\$3,806.00	Week 16	\$2,934.00
Week 17	\$1,530.00	Week 18	\$2,867.00
Week 19	\$1,751.00	Week 20	\$4,994.00
Week 21	\$1,587.00		
Total	\$64,240.50		



Needed from Offering for 2022 \$145,000 **Budget Gap** (\$80,759.50)
Weekly Goal \$2,789 **Avg. Week** \$3,059

The following report from the **Board of Property** was not available during the meeting but was submitted on 22 May: The Board of Property met on May 8th at 9:30 a.m. with 5 members present. Steve Blausey read last month’s report. Moving on to old business, the spring clean up did happen on May 5th. Although it did rain during this event, the group did press on and did get a fair amount completed. We appreciate everyone’s help to keep our church looking nice. We also discussed hiring a plumber to change exterior spigots around the church building. The May water report is good and the 5 year Water Assessment is complete. The board also decided to hold a specific meeting to discuss parsonage updates and other issues required for the consideration of the sale of the parsonage.

> Moving on to misc. items, a letter was read informing the church that our natural gas supplier will be transferred from Volunteer Energy to Direct Energy on April 15 th. We also received another letter from First Energy about tree trimming on the property.

> In new business, Randy Jacobs and Steve Simkus informed the board that the church has received a bill for drafting, plan submittals, and EPA review fees from McGee’s Technical Water Services for \$800. This will be paid soon. The board also discussed that it would be best that Jazzercise move back to the basement during the summer due to the church services being held in the Fellowship Hall at the same timeframe. Steve will contact Joan for information when services will begin there and will inform Jazzercise. We also set a date of May 20th to repair the soffit at the entryway. We adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

>> Respectfully submitted

> Steve Blausey

GRACE COUNCIL REPORT

This combined June-July issue of the *Parish Reporter* heralds the beginning of the summer season that will be inaugurated this year by Pentecost Sunday on the 5th of June. Pentecost Sunday is when we remember the ancient traditions of the day when the Holy Spirit inspired Jesus' followers gathered in Jerusalem to begin to establish the Christian Church. On Pentecost, we will once again recall the Apostle Peter's sermon that quoted from the Old Testament prophet Joel:

In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people...and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Joel 2:17, 21).

SUMMER WORSHIP PLANS. One year ago, Grace worship services were still being held outdoors. Pentecost 2021 was a special day that featured the confirmation of two young members, the rededication of the restored bell tower, and a Pentecost Picnic that gave Grace members their first fellowship event after a year and one-half of covid-enforced restrictions. This year's Pentecost will be celebrated on the 5th of June in the sanctuary in the midst of a festive array of red geraniums and our memories of Pentecost traditions. On the following Sunday, the 12th of June, worship will move to Grace's air-conditioned Fellowship Hall. Plus, our Choir, which, for the last several months, has blessed Grace's worship services with wonderful choral introits, liturgical leadership, and anthems, will now take a summer break. The Choir will resume its worship participation in September.

COVID RESTRICTIONS. After the omicron surge abated three months ago, we were hopeful that we might finally do away with covid restrictions after more than two years. Unfortunately, our community has recently experienced another covid surge in that has infected several members of the Grace family. Grace's present covid restrictions will have to continue. Masking is optional, and we will continue to use a stationary passing of the peace (no touching), stationary offering, and pre-packaged or bring-your-own communion elements that are opened or touched only by the communicant. The inconveniences of these restrictions are minor and the health benefits to our members, especially to those who are most vulnerable, are significant and will continue, perhaps for many more months.

GRACE ELC HISTORY. The Bible Study in the 19 May *Weekly Message* asked these questions about Grace's History: "Who are the disciples whose courageous actions led to the founding of our Church? What can we do to make sure their activities are revered and remembered?" Grace has a short written history but now might be a good time to review that history and any documentation that is stored away in the church or in our members' memories to update Grace's history for future generations. If any members are interested in participating in a [history of the church project](#), please contact Council President Gary Anderson.

PASTOR JACI'S CALL TO BE GRACE'S PASTOR. It was just one year ago, on the 20th of June 2021, that the Grace congregation voted to issue a call to Pastor Jaci Tiell to be our new called Pastor is a dual call with Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Toledo. That was an important day in the history of our church, and we thank God for the blessings that special day has brought us.

Gary Anderson

Council President

Council Highlights...

Grace Lutheran Church council met via Zoom on May 12, 2022. President Gary Anderson opened the meeting. Pastor Jaci offered opening prayer.

Good news was shared:

*We had two baptisms in May. *Deb and Jeff Boos are grandparents again! June Wyatt Boos was born to Josh and Erica Boos in Georgia on Merlyn Weng's 80th birthday, May 10th. Gary and Ruth Ann enjoyed a wonderful vacation with their children. **Pastor's Report** -conducted two baptisms, attended the Board of Worship meeting, plan to take pictures of shut-ins for the photo directory, and had an awesome Disney vacation with my family.

Board of Congregational Life – Reported by Mary Schlievert

- There will be Donuts for Dads on Father's Day, June 19th. Linda will provide gluten-free.
- No Pentecost Parking Lot Picnic June 5th- lack of manpower and Woodmore graduation.
Will try to plan something for July. Possible Ice Cream Social on Rally Day, Sept. 11, in conjunction with God's Work, Our Hands

To Do/In progress: Father's Day Something in July Rally Day Tuesday, August 16th, 7 pm

Board of Worship – Reported by Joan Eckermann

Old Business We reviewed the Lent and Easter seasons. Gary Anderson shared the positive comments given at the last church council meeting.

New Business

Bobbie is taking vacation days of May 22 and June 5. Our substitute organist will be Audrey Milbrodt. Pentecost is June 5. Joan will make an announcement the week before about wearing red clothing, and there will be red geraniums in the chancel. We discussed worship during the summer months. Worship will move to the air-conditioned Fellowship Hall on June 12. We'll also begin using liturgy setting 10 on that day. The Jazzercise classes will have to be asked to relocate to the basement for the summer so the worship set-up can remain in place. Our CCLI (Christian Copyright Licensing International) license is up for renewal, and Bobbie will take care of that. The cost is \$150.00. Also, Bobbie will now have to send them the dates when it's used and describe how it's being utilized.

We discussed the use of the communion kits and unanimously agreed that we should continue using them for the foreseeable future.

Board of Witness and Mission- Reported by Nancy Pries

Current projects include: God's Work our Hands-Sunday, September 11, Chicken BBQ-Sunday, September 25. A suggestion was made to put information about Grace in with the chicken dinners.

We would like to have a booth at the Elmore Explorer Day, Fall festival. We made a phone call, found out who we had to contact for a date. This would be another opportunity to promote Grace Lutheran with handouts. John had information that Tuesday morning ground was broken by Habitat for Humanity on Ames Street for a home here in Elmore.

The next council meeting will be held on June 9,2022 at 7 p.m.

A motion was made by Randy, second Deb, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting concluded with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Hammel Church Council Secretary

June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>A person always doing his or her best becomes a natural leader, just by example.</i> Joe DiMaggio</p>		10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens	1	10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens	Synod Assembly	Synod Assembly
<p>5 Day of Pentecost 10:30a - Worship in Sanctuary 2:00pm- Graduation @ Woodmore High School</p>	6	10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens	8	10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens 7:00pm - Council	10 Food Pantry 9:00 - Noon	11
<p>12 The Holy Trinity 10:30a - Worship in Fellowship Hall Clyde Bame to preach</p>	13	<p>14 10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens 4p Witness & Mission</p> 	15	10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens	17	18
<p>19 Second Sunday after Pentecost 10:30a - Worship in Fellowship Hall</p> 	20	10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens	22	10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens	24 9	25
<p>26 Third Sunday after Pentecost 10:30a -Worship in Fellowship Hall</p>	27	10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens	29	10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens		

July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<p><i>Liberty is the Breath of Life to Nations.</i></p> <p>George Bernard Shaw</p>						1	2
<p>3</p> <p>Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30a - Worship in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>4</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens</p> <p>7:00pm - Council</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Food Pantry 9:00 - Noon</p>	<p>9</p>	
<p>10</p> <p>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30a - Worship - in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens</p> <p>4p Witness & Mission</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	
<p>17</p> <p>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30a - Worship in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Noon - 6:00pm American Red Cross Bloodmobile</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	
<p>24 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost 10:30a - Worship in Fellowship Hall</p> <hr/> <p>31 Eighth Sunday of Pentecost 10:30a - Worship in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00am Elmore Senior Citizens</p>			

