

# The Voice of Grace



May, 2016

**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
100 East Schrock Road  
Westerville, OH 43081

**Holy Communion**  
EVERY Sunday Morning  
Two Worship Services: 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.

**Sunday School**  
for children, youth and adults 9:45 a.m.

*Join us for fellowship and refreshments  
after each service.*

**Vision Statement**  
We envision Grace to be a welcoming Christ-centered community of faith, inviting all, growing in discipleship, sharing in ministries.

**Mission Statement**  
Our mission is to reach out with the love of Jesus to grow disciples and serve our community.



## Church Council Retreat

*by Randy Stoll, Council President*  
Church Council held its annual leadership retreat on April 8 and 9 at Deer Creek.

The Friday evening session included team building, fun and thought provoking discussion facilitated by Pr. Mike Weaver, a pastor at All Saints Lutheran Church.



**Council President  
Randy Stoll**

The sessions on Saturday were focused on the past, present and future of Grace's ministry. Significant discussions were held as council reviewed changes within the ELCA and how the congregation has been kept up to date on the proceedings. Council reviewed the discernment paper prepared last year by a task force made up of members of our congregation. The paper is available for the congregation to read.

Council also discussed the feedback that has been received from the "It's Not Just About Sex" forum. It became clear that future discussions need to take place with the congregation about how we fit within the Lutheran framework to continue and strengthen our ministry at Grace.

### 2016 Church Council

- President.....Randy Stoll  
Ph. 614-882-2962..... rstoll3@columbus.rr.com
- Vice President .....Jeff Brenning  
Ph. 614-218-7983.....jbrenni@att.net
- Treasurer .....John Hicks  
Ph: 614-264-6317..... johnmh3@gmail.com
- Secretary ..... Joanne Figge  
Ph. 614-207-1061.....jcfigge@gmail.com
- Senior Pastor ..... Will Hartfelder  
Ph. 614-882-3026..... w.hartfelder@grace43081.org

#### Members at Large:

- Aaron Bally .....ABally@jumpstartsports.com  
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- Lisa Kuhar..... lisakuhar@gmail.com  
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- Bill Kulju .....kuljub1@gmail.com  
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- Shirley Moleno..... shirleymoleno@yahoo.com  
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**Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.**

*Martin Luther*



**May 5  
Ascension Day  
May 5  
National Day of Prayer  
May 8  
Mother's Day**

**May 15  
Pentecost  
May 22  
Trinity Sunday  
May 30  
Memorial Day**



# PASTOR'S MESSAGE

## An Odd Call to Praise

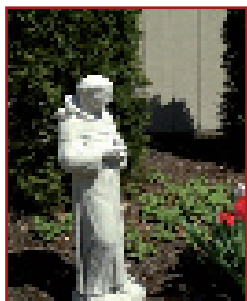
As a kid, my brother and I loved going back to the woods in the Spring to explore. Coming up through the dry, decaying leaves from the autumn before were green shoots and wild flowers: trillium, blood roots, May apples, skunk cabbage, wild violets, mushrooms, plants and tree seedlings we couldn't identify. Thinking back to that time it was fascinating to witness nature coming to life after the cold and snow of winter. Little did we know or give thought to the truth that nature was praising God. We might have felt it but couldn't verbalize it. Praising God was what we did at St. Paul Lutheran on Sunday morning at 10:15.

But scripture's ancient Psalmist knows better. His odd call to praise God not only includes a summons to the angels and people like us, but also all animals, plants and objects on earth.

*Praise God from earth, you sea dragons,  
you fathomless ocean deeps;  
Fire and hail, snow and ice, hurricanes  
obeying his orders;  
Mountains and all hills, apple orchards  
and cedar forests;  
Wild beasts and herds of cattle,  
snakes, and birds in flight;*

*Psalm 148:7-10*

Name that tune\*\* from a well-known carol that echoes the praise of God... *"and heav'n and nature sing....and heav'n and nature sing....and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing."* We've sung it countless times. Is it possible that we've missed one important feature of the carol? Nature sings too! Nature praises God!



I have a small concrete replica of St. Francis of Assisi that resides in our court yard among the plants, flowers and herbs.

Francis is the patron saint of the natural environment so it makes perfect sense that he be there. The story is told that Francis did not speak adoringly *about* flowers. He spoke *to* the flowers, and encouraged them, as though they could understand, to praise the Lord. When walking by a field, he would turn and address stalks of corn, hilly meadows, a running brook, and even the wind rustling through the trees, exhorting them to serve and praise God joyfully.

As our Easter season nears it's end, the season of praise will continue on. With the Psalmist we will voice our "hallelujah's" joining with all creation, animate and inanimate, to participate in praising the God who made heaven and earth....praising the God who redeemed us by giving his son to die for us and raising him up again.....praising God for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Hallelujah!

\*\* tune: "Joy to the World" (as if you didn't know)

Joining you and all creation in praise of God!

**We've sung it countless times.**

*Pastor Walston*



Get email alerts on all the latest Grace news: events, meetings, *Voice* and other happenings!

Confirm your current

email address by sending an email to:

[amy.quinn@grace43081.org](mailto:amy.quinn@grace43081.org)

to be added to our email communication list.

**Stay informed.**

**Are you receiving the Voice the way you want to receive it?**

This issue of the "Voice" may have been delivered to you either through the mail or by email - or perhaps both. If you have a preference as to how you would like to receive the Voice, please call the church office at 614-882-3026 and let your desires known.

If you or someone you know should be on the mailing list and is not, inform the office of that as well.

## Grace Evangelical

### Lutheran Church

has been serving the West-  
erville Community for more than  
107 years. Grace supports lo-  
cal ministries such as the Wester-  
ville Area Resource Ministry, Wester-  
ville Partnership Habitat for Humanity,  
Red Cross Bloodmobile and Westerville  
CROP Walk. Grace also supports Lu-  
theran Social Services programs  
like Faith Mission and provides  
weekly meeting space for  
a Boy Scout Troop and  
three AA groups.

#### Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

100 E. Schrock Road, Westerville, OH 43081

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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Facebook: [facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville](https://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville)

Visit our website at [www.grace43082.org](http://www.grace43082.org)

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Jocelyn Shuman, Preschool Director  
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#### THE GRACE FACEBOOK PAGE

[www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville](https://www.facebook.com/GraceEvangelicalLutheranWesterville)



Send items that you want included  
on the Grace Facebook page to  
Lora Moore at  
[l.moore@grace43081.org](mailto:l.moore@grace43081.org)

### Stewardship Corner May 2016

*This is Christian stewardship!*

It's been said that stewardship is every-  
thing we do after we say 'yes' to God.

Someone has suggested the following as  
an appropriate prayer after the Sunday  
offering has been gathered: 'Lord, no mat-  
ter what we say or do, here is what we  
think of you. Amen.'

What we do with our money holds  
more truth than what we may say about  
it. For example, our checkbook may list  
our priorities more accurately than our  
words do.

#### Wish to Hear it Again?

It is easy to hear a sermon you  
may have missed or you might wish  
to hear again or recommend to another  
simply by going to the Grace website at:  
**[www.grace43081.org](http://www.grace43081.org)**.

When you arrive at the website you:

- 1) click on **"worship"** on the left of the  
screen;
- 2) click on **"Sermons"** on the lower  
right;
- 3) click on **"Listen to a Sermon"**  
in the middle of the screen;
- 4) choose your sermon  
from the menu.

### Little Blessing Preschool

The Little Blessings Preschool is now in the  
process of enrollment for the  
2016-2017 preschool year!



Please share this informa-  
tion with family, friends and  
neighbors looking for a pre-  
school for their 3,4,or 5 year  
old child. Encourage them  
to call to receive information  
and schedule a visit to tour

Little Blessings. Our teachers provide an awe-  
some experience and preparation for children  
prior to entering Kindergarten.



## Blood Drive

Tuesday,

May 10

noon to 6:00 p.m.

Signup sheets will be in the Gathering Space the Sunday before the drive if

you wish to set up an appointment. Or you can sign up online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

**Walk-ins are welcome!**

Give the gift of life.

It means a lot to many people!

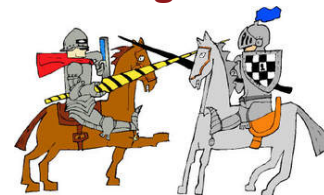
**Let's make May 10 another 'Grace Giving' day!**

## YOUTH AND FAMILY HAPPENINGS

**Sunday, May 15 from 4:30 - 5:30**

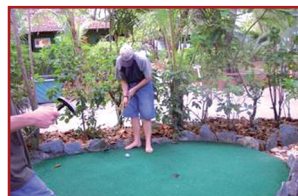
### Youth Night-Red Wagon Jousting:

To celebrate the last day of Confirmation, we'll be playing Red Wagon Jousting and discussing Pride: What knocks us off our high horse?



**Sunday, May 22nd**

### Family Event-MiniGolf:



As an end of the year celebration, we'll be heading over to Westerville Mini-Golf shortly after second service. More details to come.



## A Joyful Noise

Our Next Performance:

**May 22, 7:00 p.m.**

### Arnett Howard and Friends

Arnett Howard and Friends formed in 2004, a year after the end of the highly acclaimed Arnett Howard and his Creole Funk Band.

Arnett performs Thursdays at Mozart's Cafe, 4784 North High Street, in Columbus' Clintonville neighborhood. Through the summer, he and Mike Roberts play Wednesdays at the Barbecue

Shack, 5755 Maxtown Rd., in Westerville, OH.

Although they play every kind of music, from reggae, funk, country, gospel and jazz, the band excels in vintage rhythm and blues, Motown and Stax. Arnett and Friends includes Arnett on keyboards, trumpet and vocals, Bob Davis, keyboards, Mike Roberts, saxophone, Ron Henderson, drums and David Hampton, drums.

**Come join us for an exciting evening of music by one of Central Ohio's very best.**

*A Joyful Noise Concert Series is a ministry of Grace Lutheran Church. This means that every event has been planned, orchestrated and executed exclusively by volunteers*

## Scouts Honored

On April 17, we celebrated with Jacob and Ryan Washburn and their parents the completion of a boyscout project entitled "God and Family." The God and Family curriculum is designed to help youth understand God's role in a healthy family. It provides an opportunity for young people and their families to explore their faith together. Reading about families in the Bible teaches them about God's plan for strengthening families. One part of curriculum is to memorize the 10 commandments.

Congratulations Jacob and Ryan, well done.





## Grace Continues Strong Support of W.A.R.M.

*'Honor the Lord with your substance and the first fruits of all your produce.'* (Proverbs 3:9)

As of April 3, 198.8 pounds of food/hygiene items was delivered to W.A.R.M as a result of the Grace First Fruits Ministry for the month. Year to date the total is 802.2 lbs. Monetary gifts for as of that date totaled \$760.00 which brings the year-to-date total to \$2,898.57. Thanks to all who are making W.A.R.M. a regular part of your regular tithes and offerings. You are a blessing to many.

**This month let's help with the Spring Cleaning by filling the grocery carts with:**

*Cleaning Products, Vinegar, dish detergent, laundry detergent, general cleaning (shop the dollar stores)*

**Also: womens's personal hygiene items (including travel sizes) and baby diapers (size 6) are always needed and welcome.**

*Remember to place ONLY non-perishable items in the grocery carts.*

Remember you can go on-line to Westerville Area Resource Ministry to find the most needed items in addition to those listed above.

NOTE: Checks should be made out to Grace Lutheran Church with a notation on the memo line for W.A.R.M.

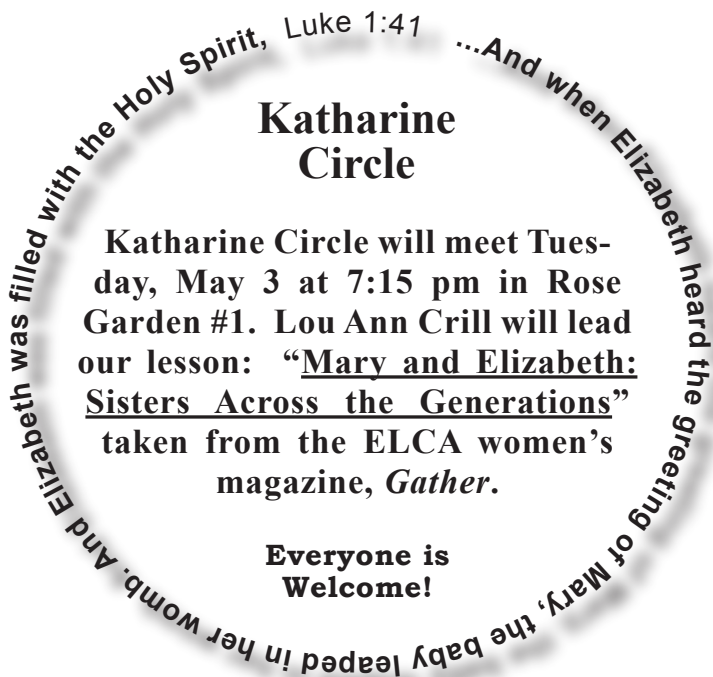
### FIRST FRUITS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteering for the First Fruits Ministry involves one first Sunday of the Month at either the first or second worship service. Information and a sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center. If you have questions call Karen Bale at 614-506-3331.

### First Communion Preparation Class

First Communion Preparation, scheduled for May 20-21, 2016 has been postponed until Fall.

A new date will be decided for October. Parents and caregivers of young children may speak to Pastor Hartfelder or Pastor Walston to learn more. In the meantime watch for the Fall date which will be published in Sunday bulletin and in "The Voice."



### Katharine Circle

Katharine Circle will meet Tuesday, May 3 at 7:15 pm in Rose Garden #1. Lou Ann Crill will lead our lesson: "Mary and Elizabeth: Sisters Across the Generations" taken from the ELCA women's magazine, *Gather*.

**Everyone is  
Welcome!**

### ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

#### "That the World May Know"

The 12 volume study continues in fellowship hall between services at 9:45 on Sundays. These videos, filmed in Israel and the Middle East where Bible events actually took place, weaves together historical, cultural and geographical contexts to reveal keen insights into how people in biblical times understood God and Jesus' teachings.

Even if you have not attended previously, your horizons will be expanded by renowned teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan as he shares his knowledge and understanding of the Scriptures significant for believers today.

This class is facilitated by Bill Kulju

#### Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study "Promised Land"

The Wednesday Women's Bible Study convenes at 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. A new study began on April 13 entitled "Promised Land." Like the Bible Study mentioned above, this study also features Ray Vander Laan. He expertly guides us through the Holy land of the Bible and each lesson illuminates the historical, geographical, and cultural context of the Scriptures.

The series is filmed on location in the Middle East and challenges us to be a true follower of Jesus.

The Bible study is open to all women of Grace and their friends. Pastor Walston facilitates the study.

# May

## BIRTHDAYS

5/1 Kara Dugan Christopher Dychala Cayden Myers	5/11 Marge Cepek Marissa Banks	5/20 Jason Montgomery Ethan Haynes
5/2 Jacob Kotik Austin Yanichko	5/12 Ann Korb Jim Bartholomew Diane Gearinger	5/21 Joann Hensley Cynthia Nordman Randall Saunders Nicholas Hager Richard Wilson Nicholas Giument
5/3 Stephen Miller Dianne Mathess Nathan Faught Jourden Daniels	5/14 Britton Thompson Lindsay Bale Addison Reynolds Andrew Reynolds Benjamin Hoch	5/22 Rita Trunck Rachelle Roll
5/4 Pete Schultz Victoria Trachsel Christine Schroeder Christopher Morelli Owen DeTemple	5/15 Attila Nagy	5/23 Eric Seamon Alexander Reynolds Caroline Young
5/5 Steve Parsio Cassie Cohagen Amanda Gehringer	5/16 Claudette Shannon Lauren Hartfelder	5/24 Nicky Rothmann Stacey Mathess Conor Bachus
5/7 Dorotha Fuhrman	5/17 Lester Mohler Betty Semon Annie Gehlhar Stephanie Weist Eleanor Saunders Charlotte Holmes	5/26 Cheryl Hoffman Joanne Rockwood Edward Hardick Madison Byrns Christopher McGahhey
5/8 Jeanice Alexander Gloria Cochenour Lorraine McMahon Becky Hockstok	5/18 Sara Smith Christopher Gearinger	5/27 Barb Moser Jessica Weist
5/9 Dianne Nelson Connie Brenning	5/19 Audrey Clark Blaine Seitz	5/28 Billie Bower Daniel Haegle Jillian Simpson
5/10 Thomas Fullerton Robert Klingensmith Suzanne Kile Emily Coy	5/20 Donald Slemmer Joann Slemmer	5/29 Marcella Barr Caleb Rowe
5/11 Dorothy Drewes		5/30 Cynthia Bertelsen

## ANNIVERSARIES

5/1 Joanne & Chris Figge Shawn & Deanna Stevens Jeff & Jackie Washburn	5/16 Rebecca & Kevin Young
5/2 Roger & Julie Wells	5/17 Paul & Julie Hotchkiss
5/3 Meredith & Aaron Kessler	5/18 John & Kirsten Hicks
5/6 Amy & Gerald Gehringer Stephen & Rebecca Miller	5/19 Steven & Kelli Bogner David & Sara Yourkvitch
5/8 Phyllis & Joseph Drakulich John & Catherine Hartman John & Christine Kotik	5/20 Katie & Mark Langenderfer
5/9 James & Carol Schlea Gene & Lois Turner	5/22 Robert & Michelle Clark
5/13 David & Kathy Bell	5/24 Ben & Karen Vann
5/14 Tami & John Workman	5/25 Bela & Lois Bernhardt Ted & Angela Ray
	5/27 Ronald & Sharry Hoch Bill & Anne Kulju
	5/29 Lauren & Anthony Funk Jeffrey & Natalie Monroe

**Note:**  
If we have missed  
your birthday or  
anniversary, please let  
the office know so we can  
make a correction.

### Wanna Help?

The Hospitality Ministry is in need of someone to lead the Loafs and Fishes Cafe Sunday morning ministry.

This important service to Grace is an excellent way to not only serve but to meet and become familiar with members and visitors.

Please prayerfully consider helping us continue this important ministry. Contact Mike Shuman at: 614-882-7952, or 614-348-1886, or email [mshuman@speeremechanical.com](mailto:mshuman@speeremechanical.com)

The ministry is also in need of volunteers to staff the Cafe following each service on Sundays. A sign-up sheet to volunteer is located at the Cafe.

### Journey Through the Land of the Bible: Israel and Jordan (Petra)

Pr. Will is leading another trip in late May of 2017! This is your opportunity to join him in the pilgrimage-vacation to remember for a lifetime! Make the Bible come alive as you explore the meeting place of "the three great monotheisms," Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Walk in the footsteps of the prophets, the kings of Israel, Jesus and the apostles. There will be a trip information opportunity between worship services (9:30 – 10:45) on Sunday, May 15th. Location: Fellowship Hall. Space is limited. Your \$300.00 deposit will reserve your place. An information flyer is available at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space. For more information please contact Pr. Will ([w.hartfelder@grace43081.org](mailto:w.hartfelder@grace43081.org); 614-882-3026).



## Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School is May 15. Many thanks to the dedicated teachers who have selflessly given of their time and talent to provide educational and fellowship opportunities for the youth and children of Grace over the past year:

Fred Pfanz	Tami Banks
Jeff Brenning	Randy Stoll
Connie Brenning	Bob Ayers
Dan George	Julie Young
Carrie O'Neil	Steve Young
Kim Haynes	Lisa Kuhar

Thanks to our  
Sunday School Teachers



## Lessons for May:

**Preschool** – What is a Christian (joining with the K/1 class), Ascension, church scavenger hunt

**Kindergarten/1st grade** – What is a Christian, The Golden Rule, Trinity

**2nd/3rd grade** – Martha and Mary, Saul's Conversion, Trinity

**4th/5th grade** – Paul's Ministry and Teaching, Christian Armor, Trinity

**6th/7th/8th grade** – continuation of the DVD series on the Bible: The Epic Story.

**9th/10th/11th/12th/college** – a study on "Why Jesus" (a description of the study follows)

*What tough questions do students have about Jesus? Culture is blurring the lines between different faiths and it is increasingly difficult for students to grasp how their faith in Jesus Christ is unique. This study narrated by David Nasser addresses the tough questions that students have about Jesus and points them back to the scriptural truths about our Savior. It is a great study filmed on location all throughout Israel including teaching from Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Mount of Olives and the Mount of the Beatitudes.*

Dear Will,

On behalf of the Westerville Parks Foundation Board of Directors, we wish to thank Grace Lutheran for the contribution of \$1,000 for the Westerville Bunny Hop 5K. Your ongoing support of the Foundation is truly meaningful to the thousands of Central Ohio residents we serve.

We are proud to announce that with the help of donors like you, we raised over \$25,000 in support of keeping Westerville's parks beautiful, helping local families stay active, and ensuring everyone in need of financial assistance can participate in health and wellness programming. Over 500 community members participated in the 2016 Bunny Hop 5K, making this year's race one of the most successful in Westerville Parks Foundation history.

Again, thank you for your unwavering commitment to the Westerville Parks Foundation. Together we are ensuring that Westerville remains a beautiful and healthy community for everyone.

Sincerely,

Lisa Kluchurosky, Chair  
Westerville Parks Foundation



Reaching out with the love of Jesus to grow  
disciples and serve our community.

Pastor Will,

Thank you so much for the use of Grace Church to hold Dad's service and luncheon. It meant a great deal to our family to have the space to accommodate our needs and those of our guests.

We truly appreciate the hospitality that our family at Grace offered to us in our time of need and mourning. Since Grace has provided this service to our family with no fee, we will be making a general contribution.

Thank you for all your efforts on our behalf.

*The Rearick Family*

Thank  
You!



## Ruth Circle will meet on Monday, May 9 at 1 p.m. in Garden Room #1.

Dorotha Fuhrman will lead Ruth Circle members in a Bible Study from May's issue of 'Gather.'

A business meeting will follow with refreshments.

On June 13, 2016 the Circle members will meet for lunch at a restaurant yet to be determined. All offerings go to W.A.R.M. and Faith Mission as well as other projects.

For more information or questions call Joyce Strung at 614-523-3663.

