

---

May 2018

# Grace Notes

## Grace Lutheran Church

310 West Lorain Street,  
Oberlin, OH. 44074  
440-775-3271

Pastor Josh Moldenhauer  
Graceoberlinpastor@gmail.com

[www.gracechurchoberlin.wordpress.com](http://www.gracechurchoberlin.wordpress.com)

---

### *From the Pastor's Desk . . .*

The **VALUE OF A VISION**: Home renovation projects can be a dangerous thing. It's easy to start off trying to fix a little something over here... and then decide part of the way through that you'd also like to change something over there as well. It's easy to get discouraged half way through a project when you're tired and sore and the kitchen is all tore apart with nothing there all the way down to the studs. You wonder sometimes if it'll ever get done. Sometimes you want to just give up or move on to some other (*and easier*) project. The **value of a vision** is that it keeps you on track (*not getting distracted into doing other, less important tasks*), gives you an encouraging picture of the final destination (*the beautifully renovated living space*), and helps to direct you to all the individual steps along the way necessary to get to that destination (*like demolition, wiring, plumbing, hanging new drywall, mudding, etc.*). That's why having a clear vision can be so helpful when it comes to doing a home improvement project – especially a BIG one.

And the same is true when it comes to a congregation like ours. Visions have value. They keep us on track (*and not just doing any "church-y" thing that sounds good at the time*), give us an encouraging picture of the final destination (*a growing, thriving congregation in Christ*), and help direct us to the individual steps along the way to get to that destination (*our Objectives and Action Items*).

The new Vision for Grace is "**WHERE CHRIST IS GROWING IN US AND THROUGH US.**" Our goal is that Christ would be our driving and animating force as individuals and together as a group. We want more people to be saved (come to faith) and to grow in their faith. The key to making that happen is Jesus Christ. It is His work inside us that creates and sustains faith, helping us to bear fruit for God.

The value of this Vision is that it keeps us centered on Christ and growing in Him – while we learn to avoid all the temptations and distractions all around. It also gives us a look at our destination – people with healthy, strong faith in Christ living out that faith in their daily lives by the things we say and do. It’s a wonderful snapshot of an ideal future – yet through Christ working in us it can and will happen. That’s the value of a vision – especially one centered on our Risen Lord and Savior.

In Christ, Pastor Josh

**April Official Pastoral Acts:**

- 4 sick/shut-in visits
- 2 private communions
- 2 pastoral care visits
- 1 hospital visit
- 1 leadership meeting
- 1 circuit visitor activity
- 1 funeral (*Jean Palmer*)

Ever struggle to know how to go about forgiving someone or repairing a broken relationship??? Join us this month for the **Sunday morning Adult Bible Class** as we continue our study of **FORGIVENESS**.

There will be a short **Acolyte & Usher Meeting** on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary following the worship service. It’s a chance for anyone who is or who might like to be serving as an acolyte or usher to review all the duties of those jobs.

It’s that time again...to update our Grace Lutheran Church **PRAYER CHAIN**. Situations change; some people may no longer be able to serve on it, while other people may want to join. Simply put, the Prayer Chain is a way for our congregation to get prayer requests out quickly so that we can be offering intercessory prayers for those in need. Jan Mertz has graciously agreed to be the new head of this. If you would like to be on the Prayer Chain by **phone**, please contact her or Pastor by the end of May. If you’d like to be added to the Prayer Chain by **email**, please contact Jan Koepp or Pastor. Thank you.

## May Birthdays

Bev Hines	5/04
Alex Calco	5/06
David Gerstacker Jr.	5/09
Logan Folley	5/12
George Martin	5/15
Kathy Sklarek	5/18
Susan Walker	5/20
Erin McKinley	5/23
Kathy Knipper	5/27
Elijah Moldenhauer	5/31

## May Anniversaries

Jeremy & Shelly Kovach	5/2
Wayne & Donna Perron	5/14
Dale & Megan Swanzer	5/25
Ron & Jan Mertz	5/29
Ken & Robin Jones	5/31

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

## *From the President*

It looks like Spring has finally decided to show up. The colder weather just didn't want to give up this year but warmer temperatures are finally hanging around.

This month we are having a Voters' Meeting and also a meeting to go over a new vision for the focus of the Church. I encourage members to attend each of these meetings.

A quick update on the Parsonage work which I will be going over in more detail at the voters' meeting. The furnace and AC compressor replacement is complete. The kitchen cabinets were scheduled for installation on April 27<sup>th</sup> and the windows are scheduled to be installed May 1<sup>st</sup>. The flooring installation is still to be scheduled. This work is resolving problems we have discovered and taking care of much needed updates.

## *Evangelism Report*

Check out the Outreach Bulletin Board in the hallway to see the May Mission of the Month: **Rural and Small Town Mission and Ministry**. This LCMS ministry is made up of small town congregations like ours that seek to work together to share ideas and strategies for how to maximize their mission and service to others, while also offering encouragement. Give it a quick read next time you're at church (or for those of you receiving this by email, simply click on <https://blogs.lcms.org/2014/missing-mayberry/> to read it). Perhaps it will raise up some ideas for things we could do or try here at Grace...

## *Altar Guild News*

Have you ever thought about serving on Altar Guild? If you are interested, let me know! I would be happy to share with you what we do.

Serving in May: Colleen Karp

~ Robin

## *Women's League News*

Hosting the May 19 Community Free Hot Meal will be Donna and Wayne Perron.

Coffee Hour during May will be served by:

- 7 Karen Fridenstine
- 14 Carolyn Husted
- 22
- 28 Jan Limpert

The women's breakfast will meet on Thursday May 24 at 9:30 at the Oberlin Kitchen located on South Main Street.

LWL will once again participate in Love INC (Love in the Name of Christ) annual Clothe-A-Kid for School Program. Information will be received late May or early June. Forms will be available in the Sunday bulletins.

There will be an important meeting for LWL in early May -- date to be announced. Lots of important items and dates to discuss.

Another reminder: LWL annual rummage sale is scheduled for August 31 and September 1. Please save your items for our only money-making project. Good place to get rid of our "we don't need this anymore" after finishing your spring cleaning. All money earned goes toward worthy causes.

The third Saturday of each month members of Grace Lutheran Church hosts the Free Community Hot Meal. Our church council has graciously set up a fund to help support those who wish to host the meal but perhaps need a little financial support. Just keep your receipts and give to Andy Karp for reimbursement. Thanks council! We still need volunteers for the months of November and December.

Carolyn Husted

## Daily Bible Readings

1-May - Ezekiel 14-15	1-Jun - Amos 6-7
2-May - Ezekiel 16	2-Jun - Amos 8-9
3-May - Ezekiel 17-18	3-Jun - Jeremiah 1
4-May - Ezekiel 19	4-Jun - Jeremiah 2:1-19
5-May - Ezekiel 20:1-29	5-Jun - Jeremiah 2:20-37
6-May - Ezekiel 20:30-49	6-Jun - Jeremiah 3
7-May - Ezekiel 21-22	7-Jun - Jeremiah 4
8-May - Ezekiel 23-24	8-Jun - Jeremiah 5
9-May - Ezekiel 25-26	9-Jun - Jeremiah 6
10-May - Ezekiel 27-28	10-Jun - Jeremiah 7:1-26
11-May - Ezekiel 29-30	11-Jun - Jer. 7:27-8:22
12-May - Ezekiel 31-32	12-Jun - Jeremiah 9
13-May - Ezekiel 33:1-20	13-Jun - Jeremiah 10
14-May - Ezekiel 33:21-33	14-Jun - Jeremiah 11-12
15-May - Ezekiel 34:1-16	15-Jun - Jeremiah 13-14
16-May - Ezekiel 34:17-31	16-Jun - Jeremiah 15-16
17-May - Ezekiel 35	17-Jun - Jeremiah 17
18-May - Ezekiel 36:1-15	18-Jun - Jeremiah 18-19
19-May - Ezekiel 36:16-38	19-Jun - Jeremiah 20-21
20-May - Ezekiel 37:1-14	20-Jun - Jeremiah 22
21-May - Ezekiel 37:15-83	21-Jun - Jeremiah 23
22-May - Ezekiel 38-39	22-Jun - Jeremiah 24
23-May - Ezekiel 40	23-Jun - Jeremiah 25
24-May - Ezekiel 41-42	24-Jun - Jeremiah 26
25-May - Ezekiel 43-44	25-Jun - Jeremiah 27
26-May - Ezekiel 45-46	26-Jun - Jeremiah 28
27-May - Ezekiel 47	27-Jun - Jeremiah 29
28-May - Ezekiel 48	28-Jun - Jeremiah 30
29-May - Amos 1-2	29-Jun - Jeremiah 31
30-May - Amos 3-4	30-Jun - Jeremiah 32
31-May - Amos 5	

# May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 • Confirmation 7 pm	2 Elder's Meeting 4 pm	3 • Mental Illness Support Group 7 pm	4	5
6 • Worship 10 am • Grace Church Vision Discussion 11:40 am	7	8 • Confirmation 7 pm	9	10	11	12
13 • Worship 10 am • Voters' Meeting 11:40 am	14 • Council's Meeting 7 pm	15 • Confirmation 7 pm	16	17 • Mental Illness Support Group 7 pm	18	19 • Free Hot Meal 5 pm
20 • Worship 10 am • Acolyte & Usher Meeting 11:40 am	21	22	23 • Confirmation 7 pm	24 • Women's Break- fast at Oberlin Kitchen Diner @ 9:30 am	25	26
27 • Worship 10 am • Adult Bible Class 11:40 am	28	29 • Confirmation 7 pm	30	31		

**Upcoming Important Dates:**

- May : LWL Meeting Coming Soon
- June 24: Confirmation Sunday
- Aug. 31 - Sept. 1: LWL Rummage Sale