

Our Purpose?
Bless the World: be God's Grace!

Ministry Announcements for the week of April 21, 2019

Hallelujah!
HE IS *Risen*

TODAY IN WORSHIP!

- ✝ As a gift of grace, members of the prayer team are available for you in the prayer chapel (across the hall from the chapel) following the 9:30 worship.
- ✝ The flowers on the altar today are in honor of the birthdays of Jim Bail & Joshua Harris II, from family.
- ✝ The chancel flowers are in honor of Lauren Csurgo's 18th birthday, from family.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR IN FELLOWSHIP HALL TODAY!

Join fellow parishioners in-between services in Fellowship Hall for some coffee, some conversation and some refreshments.

THANK YOU!

Thank you Tom Berry for playing the trumpet for us today!



KNITTERS WANTED

Do you want to learn how to knit or want to come with knitting ideas and have fellowship and refreshments two times a month?

We will be starting May 22nd in room 3 at 10:00am. A sign up sheet is by the church office.



Hope to see you there!!

~Mary Jo Price

EASTER EGG HUNT A SUCCESS!

This past Saturday the annual Grace Easter Egg hunt took place here at the church. To say it was a mega success would be an understatement! The number of children participating well exceeded last year and God sent us great weather. Fun and fellowship was in huge supply. None of this could have happened without the support of the Grace family. The response to the appeal for candy was overwhelming. The volunteers who stepped up to host this event are what made this all possible. To simply say THANKS does not even start to express the emotions of the committee. All of you are awesome!!!! Until it can be better said or done THANK YOU!

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HEALTHY PEOPLE! HEALTHY PARISH!

Small Steps

Bravo! To all those participating in Small Steps! We are finishing the final week of the program but not to all the healthy changes you have made.

Watch to see who the winners are!

Small Steps 2 coming this summer! More information to come!

Spring Has Sprung (we hope)!

Even though it is not 80 Degrees out the sun can still pack a punch. Don't forget the sunscreen and protective clothing! The effects of the ultraviolet rays are the same all year long!

Save the Date!

Wednesday May 8, 2019 630-730

Fire Training – Dennis Kookoothe , Toledo Fire Department

To protect our people and the parish this is really an important program for all members and for general knowledge. We will be setting fires in the parking lot and will have hands on training in use of fire extinguishers. There is a technique to correctly using a fire extinguisher so come and learn! Dennis will be including information on fire and EMS response. All ushers and members of the Contemporary Service members are strongly encouraged to attend.

INSPIRED BY GRACE CRAFT FAIR—SATURDAY APRIL 27

We have lots of talented Crafters for our upcoming Spring Bazaar. Some of the Crafts being sold at this event include:

Silk floral arrangements, wreaths, T-shirts, handcrafted cutting boards, boxes and wood bowls, unique inspirational fairy and seasonal miniature gardens, vintage jewelry, decorative wine bottles, candle holders, shadow boxes, water bottles, crocheted toys and towels, unique snap and pandora style beads, hand painted wine bottles, painted wood signs, vinyl decals, wine glass charms, homemade dog bones, handmade greeting cards, personalized jewelry, porcelain dolls, refrigerator magnets, baby blankets, bibs, pacifier clips, tag toys, gem trees, resin pendants, pottery and much more!

We have lots of great Direct Sales Consultants too. We have filled spots for Lu-LaRoe, Tupperware, Color Street, Plunder, Papparazzi, Mary Kay, Longaberger Baskets, Scentsy, Tastefully Simple, Premier Designs, Lipsense/senegenca, Perfectly Posh and Wildtree. We still have a few spots open. Just let me know if you are interested!

So whether you shop at the event, volunteer, donate baked goods.... or help in any other way, you will be helping support the suicide prevention and stigma busting efforts of [#InspiredByGrace](#) and WE THANK YOU! (We also are searching for additional members to join our Inspired by Grace Board. Please let us know if this is something that interests you.)

At our Holiday Bazaar in December, we raised \$100 for the GLC youth group and we are hopeful that we will exceed that amount from our Spring Bazaar.

As we approach our upcoming 1 year anniversary of our time here at GLC in July, we are planning a "Thank You" dinner and presentation for any of you who would like to learn about what we have accomplished so far and what we have planned for the future! The date for the dinner will be announced once we can coordinate it with the office. We will also present a check to the youth group at that time.

Please know how very grateful we are for the opportunities we have been afforded here at Grace Lutheran Church.

With gratitude,
Jan and the Inspired by Grace Leadership Team

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ARE WE MAKING JESUS SMILE?

Here at Grace Lutheran Church – Toledo, OH – we are a community. A community of love in Christ. At least that is what we like to think.

How do we love each other? How do we work together to create that community of love? We each have our own gifts. We need to help each other to discover those gifts and to freely express them – to give – to share. It is an amazing, amazing thing played out over and over and over!

We all have different ways of expressing love – different ways of having faith – different ways of doing the exact same things! Often there is no right or wrong. So how do we get along and feel the joy that comes from being a community of love in Christ? One of the main ways people communicate is by spoken word. There are more than 6800 different languages spoken in the world! Here we mostly speak English. But what if we had a family who came from – say – Honduras and only the young father spoke any English at all. They were going to be in this country for a couple of years while he finished college. His wife and two children spoke only Spanish.

Imagine their discomfort as they sat in the pews – enduring the service in a language they didn't yet understand. But then, someone goes to the front and says:

Bienvenidos, a nuestros amigos hondureños. Es un placer que van a estar con nosotros para la veneración de los fieles durante estos dos años. No dejen de comunicarse si hay algo en que les podemos ayudar. Que Dios este con ustedes y los bendiga.

Imagine their delight at being recognized and loved! In their language – even just for a few minutes!

Another way of communication is through music. I am guessing there are probably way more than 6800 different tastes in music! Wow! Music is powerful. Music takes us back to our childhood. Music takes us back to growing up. Music takes us back to many, many memories. Music is soothing. Music is joyful. Music can be many things for us. We are not all going to understand the same language of music.

So imagine the delight when we came into the sanctuary and heard a very upbeat Christian song playing as people gathered for worship on Palm Sunday. People smiled. They spoke to each other as they gathered. What an uplifting feeling. A new memory being created.

When worship started, we heard a most beautiful prelude done by one of the most talented organists ever! As we set our minds on Jesus, we heard music that soothed us and led us. As we worshiped, the comfort of our traditional music and hymns took each of us to different places in our memories – or created new ones.

So often, we are only comfortable in what we know and don't want to try anything new. Well, everything we do was new at one point and we tried it!

We are a community. A community of love in Christ. That means we each use our unique ministries to serve God and each other. Sometimes we need to share our ministries – meaning more than one person might want to be part of a certain ministry, for example, music. Again, there is no right or wrong. We work together.

Jesus wants us to get along – to share – to see and understand each other's way of showing love. There is no place in our community of love in Christ for arguing – for hurting each other. No place at all.

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What joy it would bring Jesus to see us, His children getting along. Speaking with concern and love to each other. Putting others first – self last.

Picture this – Jesus smiling.

Are we making Him smile?

Let us speak with love. Let us sing with joy – no matter what music language we are using. Show patience and respect for those who love traditional music. Show patience and respect for those who love a little bit of contemporary thrown in. We are all God's children. Show patience. Show love. Show understanding.

Mostly – show love in this community of love in Christ here at Grace Lutheran Church – Toledo, OH.

Bless the world: Be God's Grace. Everywhere. Always.

Make Jesus smile.

Colossians 3:14 – “Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.”

1 Peter 3:8 – “Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind.”

Romans 12:16 – “Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.”

Philippians 2:2 – “make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.”

Matthew 18:20 – “For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Have you been reading your Bible? You can pick up your 2019 Daily Bible Reading Program on the table outside the office.

Come on! Enter God's Word with us!

Apr. 21	2 Kings 1-3
Apr. 22	2 Kings 4-5
Apr. 23	2 Kings 6-8
Apr. 24	2 Kings 9-11
Apr. 25	2 Kings 12-14
Apr. 26	2 Kings 15-17
Apr. 27	2 Kings 18-19

RUMMAGE SALE

Youth Group Rummage sale—Saturday May 11, 8am-1pm. Drop off your items the day before, Friday May 10, 3pm-7pm. Thank you and hope to see you there!



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Lutheran Church Growing by Leaps and Bounds!

Sounds a little exaggerated, doesn't it? But it is true!
No, not here in the USA, but in Tanzania, East Africa.

The Evangelical Church of Tanzania (ELCT) is, and has been for a good number of years, the fastest growing Lutheran Church in the entire world. Tanzania is roughly the size of 2 California's, or about a Texas and a half. Yet, the number of Lutherans in that country is nearly double the number of Lutherans in the entire USA, including all denominations of Lutherans. Lutherans got a foot hold in Tanzania when German and Scandinavian Lutheran missionaries began to take the Gospel to the people of Tanzania. The seeds were planted on fertile ground, have grown, and are bearing good fruit.

Dodoma (the city), has been the "stated capital" of Tanzania since it was created in 1962 when Tanganyika and Zanzibar came together under one government to become Tanzania. However, the actual seat of government activity never really moved from the costal area of Dar es Salaam to the east, and to a lesser degree from Arusha in the north. Dodoma is centrally located in the country on a high plateau, providing relatively easy access from all areas, and flat terrain for easy building of infrastructure. Efforts to move the seat of government to Dodoma have been ongoing for a good number of years. With the election of a new President a few years ago, moving the governmental operations to Dodoma became a priority. Now there is a great influx of people and infrastructure moving into Dodoma and the areas around it. A paved highway from Arusha and points north now provide access to Dodoma in about 5 hours, that used to take 10 via dirt roads, or a paved road that ran west and south and looped back to Dodoma. There are plans to upgrade the freight railway from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma, to provide a high-speed rail for passengers that will cut the 8 to 12 hour drive (depending on time of day and traffic conditions) to a little over 3 hours.

Dodoma is also the name of the District and of the Lutheran Diocese (think Synod). Our Northwestern Ohio Synod and the Dodoma Diocese have been in companionship over 20 years. Grace church has been in active companionship with Iringa Road Lutheran Church since 2007. Reverend Simon Mtawa is the current pastor at Iringa Road, and they have just established their third sub-parish. Iringa Road also has an active pre-school program, and continues outreach in many areas, including being a site where social services for the community take place. Iringa Road hosted last year's Tumaini III medical mission to their sub-parish in Mzogle.

Many parishes in the Dodoma Diocese are involved with expansion projects. Building schools, establishing medical dispensaries, constructing hostels, and creating disciples by establishing sub-parishes, are among the important activities taking place. The Dodoma Diocese has a long-range vision as to how it will serve the Lord by serving its people. An aggressive project being spearheaded by the Diocese is the completion of the Dodoma Lutheran College. The college will fill a gap in education between a trade school and a university. Twelve acres of land partially developed were purchased when a partnership to build a school was dissolved. Over \$300,000 US dollars were raised in a short period of time within the Diocese to make the purchase and begin to further develop the site. The Northwestern Ohio Synod and its Global Mission Board have been asked to participate in the effort by helping raise money for men's and women's dormitories needed for students from outside the area who will be attending the college. The budget for the dormitories and related infrastructure is \$200,000.

Dollars for Dorms is a synod wide appeal and will kick off on May 19, 2019 to begin to raise the money needed to construct the dorms.

Expansion projects like this are happening all over Tanzania. God is at work. The Holy Spirit is moving people to action. The love of Jesus is being shared. It's good to be a Christian in Tanzania. It's awesome to be a Lutheran!

For more stories and/or information on how you might become involved, please see Ron Hiatt.

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SHOP ON AMAZON.COM?

Make a little shift to smile.amazon.com. Use your sign-in information and choose Grace Ev. Lutheran Church in Toledo as your charity of choice. A portion of your purchase (same price as on amazon.com) will be donated to GLC.

UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE:

Sunday, April 28	Graduate Sunday 9:30am service
Sunday, May 5	Affirmation of Baptism 9:30am service
Saturday, May 11	Rummage Sale (9am-2pm)
Sunday, May 19	Semi-Annual Meeting
July 15-July 19	VBS
Sunday, August 11	Congregational Information- Sharing Day
Sunday, October 13	Congregational Information- Sharing Day
Year 2020	Grace Lutheran's 120th Anniversary (Sept. 13, 2020)

Sunday, April 21, 2019

Assisting Minister:

Reader:

Ushers:

Fellowship Hosts:

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Bob Haaf

Dan Holzscheiter

Mike Holewinski, Rick Sharp, Laura Rubley,
Grace Peterson

Mary Schneider & Cindy Wood

Sunday, April 28, 2019

Assisting Minister:

Reader:

Ushers:

Fellowship Hosts:

Pete Cook

Kathleen Hunter

Mike Holewinski, Rick Sharp, Laura Rubley,
Grace Peterson

Jan Dustman & Karlene Jaquillard

