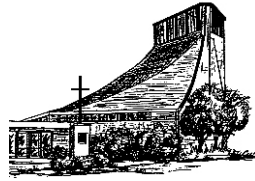


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Message of Grace



Blessings to you and your family.
Drop your family celebration items
or comments in the basket
outside the office or email
office@gracelutheran1.org.
Forms are also available on our
website!

Holy, hidden, & helping breath of God

The Spirit blows where it will—we hear the sound of it but cannot see it. Still, its presence can be felt.

The Lord Christ described the working of the Spirit in the above manner. That remains true today. The Spirit is at work, we don't see the 3rd person of the Trinity, but the power and wisdom draws us toward the will of God.

May 23, 2010 is Pentecost. On that day we will celebrate the birth of the Church when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles and those gathered to hear them speak. What was said and what was heard amazed and turned the world upside down.

As we look forward to the 3rd great festival of the Church year, I invite you to pray that we will listen for, hear and then follow God's will as it is revealed to us. Especially is that true for the young people who will be publicly affirming their faith, for the first time (Confirmation) on that day. Let's pray for the Confirmands both today and on Pentecost. Our request can be that they will know the presence and power of the risen Lord and by His Spirit be inspired to live the Gospel with joy. Pray too that the people of Grace will be empowered to support and invitingly guide these brothers and sisters as they mature in discipleship.

The Holy Spirit is not only drawing individuals to walk in Christ's path, the Spirit is also drawing the Body of Christ that is Grace into renewed mission for God's sake. This will become more and more evident as the Call Committee continues in its responsibility to identify the person God has decided is best suited to come along side Grace and travel forward, with the congregation into the new life and mission that the Lord wants for His people.

The Spirit is alive with the power, wisdom and enthusiasm that makes Pentecost real in our midst. Listen, then, for direction, anticipate the courage to follow and be open to receiving the will to welcome the one who will come to Grace in the name of the Lord.

May the reality of Christ's presence be palpable among and to each and every one of us as we respond to the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Looking forward to birthing a new and empowered church on Pentecost,

Dr. Rob

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...WHAT MORE CAN I DO?

I will do more than belong – *I will participate.*

I will do more than care - *I will help.*

I will do more than believe – *I will trust.*

I will do more than dream – *I will work.*

I will do more than teach – *I will inspire.*

I will do more than earn – *I will enrich.*

I will do more than give – *I will serve.*

I will do more than live – *I will grow.*

I will do more than be friendly – *I will be a friend.*

I will do more than talk – *I will listen.*

I will do more...

The Transition Team is developing a program that will allow each of us to enhance our Discipleship. The **Just One Thing** campaign is offering opportunities to help out with just one thing... Look at the bulletin board in the Narthex and join your fellow members in offering your spirit with Just One Thing. Please join in this terrific ministry as we live out our mission to be Disciples of Christ, in response to God's grace! If you have any other ideas or suggestions that could be offered please see or call the church office.

From the Youth Ministry Team – RINGS

If you are an 8th grader and would like to join RINGS, please come in June! We'd love to get to know you and the climbing wall or the picnic are great opportunities for that.

Saturday, May 2: Highway clean-up! Meet at St. John's at 4pm, walk Rt. 47, and then pizza!

Sunday, May 23: Let's have some fun! What do you want to do? Think about it and we'll make it happen.

Go to www.gracelutheran1.org for more events coming this summer!

Service trip 2010: St. Paul, MN, here we come! **We'll leave on Sunday, August 1, and we'll return on Friday, August 6.** Let us know a.s.a.p. if you're coming!

Our Dinner Theater was a huge success and everyone had a great time! Over 120 people attended. RINGS members served the dinner and between each course they entertained with music, the play and fun jokes. The lasagna was delicious, the dessert was awesome and the performances were great. Brianna and Zak Olson were both great and made us proud. We had five of our younger, future member of RINGS help serve. They were Sandy and Sarah Schenk and Skylar, Blaine and Cameron Bayer and their mom Michelle. We would like to thank you very much for their help. I want to thank the Grace members for cooperating and supporting this event. Our building and members impressed many members of the Woodstock, Hebron and Wonder Lake communities.

Contact: Carol Jean Steadman, kate@stans.com or call 815-338-0490

Thanks to the many helpers and those who donated food, flowers, time and money to the 15th Annual Easter Breakfast. We will be distributing over \$750 to PADS, Genoa City and Richmond Food Pantries and the Grace driveway fund. Thrivent will match a portion of the proceeds, making your donations go even further!

Want to Help with the PADS SUMMER Program?

We again will be offering the opportunity to help out with Summer Pads. A meal will be prepared two times a month during June, July and August for PADS participants. A sign up for food items like hotdog buns, juice boxes, chips, lunchmeat will be out in the Narthex by May 1st. Sue Kubic will prepare the food and PADS will deliver it to their site in Woodstock. If items can be frozen, please feel free to bring them in before the date requested. Please contact me with any questions.

Contact Sue, 815-678-4842 or Curt Bjorklund, 815-675-2765, chbjorklund@hotmail.com

From the Properties Team

Spring has finally arrived. So it is now time to undertake some long needed repairs and projects on our church home here at Grace Lutheran. Your property committee has been reviewing what work needs to be done and has developed a list of projects that we hope to accomplish this spring/summer. We could use help with a number of these projects. If you would like to adopt or help with a project either with your time, materials or a donation it would be greatly appreciated. We will be providing a list of the projects and asking for your support in the coming weeks. If we all work together we can complete the necessary repairs and maintenance work to our church home.

Contact: Bob Ketelsen at 815-307-8052

Mark your Calendars - Rally Day Party September 12th!

Sunday, September 12, 2010 is Rally Day for Sunday School and we are marking the occasion with an all-out, ALL-DAY party! We plan to invite the community at large to come and worship with us and celebrate the kick-off of a new church year in Sunday School. Planned events (so far!) are a **5K run/walk** at Nippersink North Trails (just across 173 from the church), a **chili cook-off**, a **treasure hunt for the kids** and a **magic show**. If you have some great ideas to share or know how to make a party sizzle, **contact Tina Peterson or Sue Kubic**. The more people involved, the more fun we will have! Hope to see you there!



(Praise report from 'Granniemar' Marlene Rygielski after we celebrated her birthday with a surprise cake after first service on April 11.)

It was my Birthday!!!! Thank you, thank you, thank you. What a surprise at church and on---Facebook, cards coming to me in the mail too!!! I love all of you, but I am super thankful for God, prayers, family, friends, all the love. God sure has blessed me!!! Every one of you has a special place in my life and my heart!! By the way I am just pretending to be 70 yrs old!!! Love,

Granniemar

News from Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

WELCA is continuing its work with the ministry **shawls** group which is active in completing shawls to be delivered to local hospitals and areas in need. **Donations of yarn** which you either have available or wish to purchase are more than welcome. Several skeins are needed depending upon the size that is made. If you crochet or knit you may get instructions on making these shawls at your leisure. Quilts are still being tied and knotted and anyone wishing to help may contact Marie Pickering as she is organizing the work in progress and time availability. **Quilts are also being made** and given to the project Linus group for distribution to the local hospitals. The Linus program provides comfort to young children who are patients in hospitals.

The '**Kits for Haiti**' should be in full swing the beginning of May.

We are asked to collect only the following:

- Dark hand towel
- Dark wash cloth
- Metal nail file or nail clipper with file attachment (packaging removed)
- 6 Band-aids ½ to ¾" secured with small rubber band
- 4-5 oz. bar of bath soap
- Adult size toothbrush in original packaging
- Sturdy comb (remove packaging)

Boxes will be placed in the Narthex for collecting these items. The women will collect these items and prepare the kits for shipment in September. Please feel free to donate as many items on the list as you can. Some may have more of one item than another to donate and visa/versa. Please take the time to help in this project. The people in Haiti need our help and support.

WELCA will be honoring Moms, Grandmas and Great grandmas on Sunday, May 9th - You will have to wait and see. Discussions still in the 'think tank' for our Father's Day tribute.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, May 3rd at 7:00 pm at our church. Our hostess will be Carol Steadman.

Please join us at one of our meetings. You may be surprised at how diversified we can be. One month we can be like 'The View', another like 'Oprah', and another like 'Saturday Night Live' or 'Lost'. All this while you are missing Dancing with the Stars or some other TV show - (just wanted to see if you are reading this). We do get projects accomplished for our church and other projects as well and, that's what's important.

Need a ride just call Carol Heuer and arrangements can be made.

WELCA Contact: Carol Heuer at 815-678-7516

From the Outreach Team

Habitat for Humanity workday set for July 17th

Habitat for Humanity is building another house in Harvard off Sage St., and we are scheduled to work on Saturday, July 17th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Work scheduled for that day is installation of roof sheathing (or shingling) and installation of exterior windows and doors. We are seeking 12 people 18 and older to help us with this workday. Tina Olson will be conducting sign-ups in the Narthex in the next few weeks.

If you are unable to help build, could you possibly help provide some food for the workers that day? There will be 20-24 people all together, and if you can bring some water or some food to feed our volunteers, it would be greatly appreciated!

We Are the Church needs you!

As you may remember, Outreach is constructing a 3D representation of the church to illustrate to our new pastor and to each other the people and groups that make up Grace Lutheran Church. Construction of our 3D model of our church is underway and we have gotten many postcards from our families. We will begin constructing the walls of the church soon, so if you haven't gotten a card in to us, please do so soon. If you need help with your card, just let Tina Peterson know.

The next phase of the project will begin soon. Members of the Outreach Team, Carolyn Bolman, Curt & Chris Bjorklund and Tina Peterson, will be contacting our groups (choir, WELCA, Men's Group, etc.) to begin a shingle for the roof of our church. We will need one shingle for each group, and the shingle will consist of a group photograph (with caption) and the following information: **The name of your group, where and when you meet, what your group does (this could be a mission or it could be current projects), who the main contact is if someone would like to join your group and one thing your group would like all of us to know about you.**

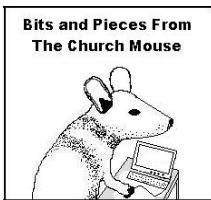
Outreach Café

The **Outreach Café** had a really nice turn-out in March and will be open next on Sunday, April 25th. The Cafe this month will be featuring coffee by Roman Roast Organic Coffee. Based out of California, and owned and operated by Norma and Danny Roman, Roman Roast is 100% organic Costa Rican coffee roasted by Norma and Danny one pound at a time. They own and operate a 20 acre coffee farm in Costa Rica, along with Norma's family. If you are interested in purchasing Roman Roast, just sign up in the cafe and we will see if we can get enough people to consolidate an order. We also hope to be featuring eggs from local farms this month.

One goal of the Outreach Cafe is to encourage our people to participate in outreach activities. God has His purpose for each and every one of us. If you or your group would like to raise money for an outreach event or activity, please contact Tina Peterson at 815-678-4335 and the Outreach Team will consider inviting you in to operate the cafe one Sunday and using the proceeds to help fund your activity. Curt Bjorklund and the PADS volunteers will be operating the cafe in May (May 23rd) and all proceeds will go to helping to fund the summer PADS program.

Contact: Tina Peterson, tinap59@hotmail.com or at 815-678-4335

May 2010						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Growing in Faith: For many young people, the milestone in their life of faith is confirmation—when they publicly affirm their baptism. Affirmation of Baptism, May 23rd. Pray for our confirmands. For more about confirmation, go to http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Women-of-the-ELCA/Lutheran-Woman-Today/Articles/2009/June/Affirmation-of-Baptism.aspx.</p>						<p>1 9:00 am Confirmation Learning Event</p>
<p>2 8:00 am Holy Communion Service 9:30 am Holy Communion Service 10:45 am Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>3 7:00 pm WELCA</p>	<p>4 9:30 am MCC Art Class 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>5 7:00 pm People of Praise</p>	<p>6 11:15 am Young at Heart</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 Same as above</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 9:30 am MCC Art Class</p>	<p>12 7:00 pm People of Praise</p>	<p>13 Newsletter article deadline</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 Same as above</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 9:30 am MCC Art Class 6:30 pm Preschool Graduation</p>	<p>19 6:30 pm Day Care Graduation</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 PENTECOST Same as above Confirmation 9:30 OUTREACH CAFÉ 8:30-11:00</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 9:30 am MCC Art Class</p>	<p>26 7:00 pm People of Praise</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 Same as May 2</p>	<p>31 Memorial Day Observed</p>	<p><i>May 30th, the 5th Sunday in May, we will have a special Service of Healing. Look for more information in the announcements and bulletin. To read about this service, go to http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Women-of-the-ELCA/Lutheran-Woman-Today/Articles/2009/October/Wholeness-and-Peace.aspx</i></p>				



Bits and Pieces from The Church Mouse

Wow! All this beautiful weather and then we get winds, cool weather and forecasts of frost. I'm afraid to go outside – I may be 'Gone With the Wind' and lost forever. I can look outside though and spring does not wait. The flowers are just beautiful to see and every now and then when the door opens, I get a glorious whiff and some pollen along with it. Now, I'm sneezing and blowing, but my ears are still perky and always eager to beam in on chit-chat. At church they call it NEWS. I can't complain about crumbs as this church has the best ever. Always something going on with food and, the best part is that I can store it away for those lean days. I do hear a lot about new collections and donations for many charities new and old that the church supports. Always ways to help and support those less fortunate which this church does big time. I have been hearing about individual groups wanting to help each other with their projects so that more support is given. Perhaps the news is getting out that all must come together to support each other and that one cannot stand alone and remain strong. When you are asked to help or volunteer your services, please step up to the plate and say 'Yes'. In some areas we need to add some younger models to our crew as some of the older models need repairs now and then - not the equipment#?#?*. Everyone is busy today, the younger ones with two jobs, kids, games, etc. and the older folks who are slower but still trying to keep up like they are in their prime. It's a sign of the times and all must get involved to take a part in what God has given us to take care of. This includes your church. A big thank you to all who have already stepped up to the plate and continue to serve.*

Many of the functions and happenings at our church are posted or written about in our Sunday bulletin or Newsletter. Great way to keep in touch. The Young at Heart Senior Group will be meeting at our church on Thursday, May 6th at 11:30am. A Pot Luck luncheon will be provided by members whose last name begins with the letters N through Z. The program will be provided by the Spring Grove 5th grade singing group, which should be a real treat for the seniors. I am assigned to crumb cleanup.

That's All for Now Folks. Keep your ears tuned in for more goings on and happenings.

Praise Report: Marlene Rygielski had a big birthday in April and many of us enjoyed cake and got to give her a birthday hug. Thank God for Marlene's loving spirit and for Tina Peterson for helping us to celebrate!

Do YOU have a praise report? Bring it to the church office or email office@gracelutheran1.org.

Don't Forget to – Save those pull tabs from cans. Now that the warmer weather is approaching, don't throw the pop or beer can away without saving the pull tab. You can provide a financial benefit to families of very ill children at the Ronald McDonald facility in Milwaukee.

Don't Forget to – Save those Sentry receipts and drop in the box provided in the Narthex. For every dollar we receive \$.01 and some matching funds from Thrivent. These monies are collected and distributed to our Richmond and Twin Lakes food pantries.

Don't Forget to – Help and provide whenever you can when collecting for a fund or cause. We never know when an emergency or disaster may strike **us**. Recent events show and tell us like it is.

Don't Forget to - Remember our shut ins and those needing our prayers for comfort during some difficult times. A card a phone call or even a visit can be the best medicine for someone just needing that little something extra.

What a special month it is to honor and to thank our past and present Armed Forces personnel who have given, and are giving, the ultimate in service to their country. To be away from family and loved ones and to give the ultimate sacrifice is a remembrance we should cherish and hold dear in our hearts forever.

Dates to remember:

May 6th - Thursday – National Day of Prayer and Nurses Day;

May 9th - Sunday – Mother's Day;

May 23rd – Sunday – Pentecost Sunday and Confirmation – wear red!;

May 15th - Saturday – Armed Forces Day;

May 30 – Memorial Day;

May 31st - Monday – Memorial Day observed

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE MAY 2010

Position	May 2 - 8:00	May 2 – 9:30	May 9 – 8:00	May 9 – 9:30
Lector:	Marty Heynis	Kim Bokan	Pam Johnson	Tina Peterson
Assistant:	Nancy O'Connor	Tom Weaver	Dave Popenhagen	Clark Atwater
Computer:	Ken Lapinski	Linda Poehlein	Phil Gianinni	Katie Arizzi
Acolytes	Bryce Wagner James LeJeune	Dana Cece Sarah Bassett	Sarah Schenk Rachel Spencer	Jillian Townsend Alexis Haley
Counters:	Deb Oelert & Pat Petersen		Don & Colleen Vineyard	
Position	May 16 – 8:00	May 16 – 9:30	May 23 – 8:00	May 23 – 9:30
Lector:	Dave Nor	Pat Petersen	Marty Heynis	Elise Livingston
Assistant:	Sue Dubs	Dave Oelert	Andy Mayer	Kelly Steadman
Computer:	Denise Lemke	Chris Bjorklund	Marty Heynis	Art Stoike
Acolytes	Michael Borst Chase Woods	Taylor Woods Morgan McAndrews	Eric Krause Sam Spyra	Jarod Lemke Cole Baker
Counters:	Dennis & Edel Ervin		Chris Bjorklund & TBA	
Position	May 30 – 8:00	May 30 – 9:30	Altar Guild for May	
Lector:	Pam Johnson	Mark Greenleaf	Shari Coutteau, Jan Heynis, Donna Stoike	
Assistant:	Nancy O'Connor	Tom Weaver		
Computer:	Ken Lapinski	Linda Poehlein	Visit our Website: www.gracelutheran1.org	
Acolytes	Bryce Wagner James LeJeune	Steven Coutteau Will Marshall	Look up member photos, phone numbers and addresses. Password: martin	
Counters:	Ron & Sue Chandler		Get on our email list. Send an email to office@gracelutheran1.org to let Sue know you want to be added to the list.	

Visit our Website: www.gracelutheran1.org. You'll find congregation news, special service times, contact information, links to the Daycare and more. Look up member photos, phone numbers and addresses.

Get on our email list to receive special service and event information. Send an email to office@gracelutheran1.org to let Sue know you want to be added to the list.

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 Sunday Services and Classes
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Sunday Worship: Regular
Services at 8 and 9:30 am
Coffee & Fellowship: 9:00 am
Adult Bible Study: 10:45 am