

THE GRACE REPORTER

APRIL 2011

MONTHLY PARISH NEWSLETTER OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
710 E. 17th Ave. – Eugene, OR 97401 Phone #: (541) 342-4844 Email: glc@glchurch.org



LENT

Lent Worship Services

Wednesday Evenings

April 6, 13

Supper – 5:45pm Worship Service – 7:00pm

Lent Worship Services at Messiah Lutheran Church

Soup Lunch – 12:00pm Worship Service – 1:00pm

For those who would prefer to attend a service during the day, Messiah will offer a soup lunch and Lent worship service on **Wednesdays – April 6, 13**



HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY – April 17 at 10:00am

Palm Crosses and Procession – with Holy Communion

MAUNDY THURSDAY – April 21 at 7:00pm

Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY – April 22

Noon – Seven Words from the Cross

7:00pm – Tenebrae Service

EASTER SUNDAY – April 24

Service of Baptismal Renewal – 7:00am

Breakfast – 7:30am to 9:00am

Menu: Ham & Cheese Strata, Scrambled eggs, Hash browns,
Ham, Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy, Fresh fruit, Juice, Coffee

(Fundraiser for the 2013 National Youth Gathering)

Sunday School – 9:00-9:45am

Faith Walk for children and adults followed by an Egg Hunt.

Worship w/Holy Communion – 10:00am

Special Music including trumpets, bell choir & vocal choir



Easter



REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

+ Clarke Smith, Luther Beecroft, Naomi Baker, Delia Lundeen, Vernell Freitag,
Diana Ashcraft, Jean and Norm Frank, Eunice Jensen, Paul Reffstrup, Bernice Kunkel,
Phyllis Brauner, Jovita Hunt, Judy Richmond, Robert Koester (father of Mick Koester),
Ken Bird (friend of Judy Klupenger)

+ Shut-ins: Betty Kirtley, Walter Krumdieck, Frances Bradshaw, Ann Porisch, Margie Murphree,
Dorothy Beikman, Evelyn Moore, Kay Johnson, Myrtle Larson, Alice Boring, Dorothy Ostermiller
+ OUR SYMPATHY to Pastor Joel Nickel and his family on the death of Susan Nickel on
Saturday, March 19th. A Memorial service was held for Sue yesterday. Please keep Pastor Joel
and his family in your prayers.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE

Adult Bible Class – 9:00am

Sunday School – 9:00am

Worship -- 10:00am

Coffee Fellowship after Worship Service

* Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st & 3rd Sundays each month.

* Contemporary worship is the 2nd Sunday of each month.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE

SUNDAY

ADULT BIBLE CLASS - Begins at 8:45am

+ Pastor Noel Koss leads a Bible study in the Parish Hall beginning at 8:45am.

+ Randy Ronne leads a class on "The Study of Revelation" at 9:00am in Room #5.

WEDNESDAY

* 6:30am Breakfast and Bible Study in Rm. #5 at 6:30am

* 10:00am – Women's Bible Study in Rm. #5

ATTENDANCE FOR MARCH 2011

WORSHIP SERVICES

Date	Service	Attendance
3/6	Sunday-10am	141
3/13	Sunday-10am	114
3/20	Sunday-10am	136

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Attendance for March 2011

Date	Children/Youth	Adults	Staff	Offering
3/6	8	26	4	\$11.40
3/13	7	20	4	\$21.00
3/20	6	25	4	\$19.00

Sunday School mission offerings will go toward support of 1) our Compassion child, Hendrik and
2) Terry & Janet Borchard, Lutheran Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea

Dear Christian Friends.

The 19th century African American spiritual asks the question: *Were you there when they crucified my Lord...? Sometimes it causes me to tremble...! Were you there when they crucified my Lord?* Truthfully, we must answer: *No. We were not there.*

Except, we can imagine the scene. Mel Gibson tried very hard to capture it for the movie-going audience. In graphic detail, we can still see the images crossing the screen of Jesus, Peter, Caiaphas, Annas, Pontius Pilate, Judas, Mary, and others. We can feel the anguish, the sorrow, the anger, the fear, the painful suffering, the despair, the confusion. But we were not there. We know of the plight of others. We sympathize with those suffering from natural disaster and from the ravages of war. We may not be there, but we pray for those who are hurting from the effects of issues out of control.

In most cases, we ourselves have not been hampered by the long list of atrocities and abuse that some of our country's poorer peoples have suffered over the years. Racial inequality and stereotypical cate-gorizing have not touched the many of us. We've been relatively insulated from such tyranny.

We do have our own personal health issues to contend with. And the continuing economic slump in the country has all the earmarks of a general depression not unlike what our ancestors endured through the 1930's. Not knowing if we will or can take our next breath of fresh air without difficulty, or if we'll be able always to put food on the table can cause us to squirm a bit.

Following the Good Friday scene sociologist Anthony Compollo reminds us comes the Easter event! And thank God! St Paul the apostle proclaimed it by inspiration of God the Holy Spirit in this fashion: *We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His.* Romans 6.4-5.

There you have it! Even though we weren't there, we were! By means of the miraculous washing of Holy Baptism, we have been united with Christ Jesus into His death on Good Friday that all our sins would be drowned and die away, and a new man in Christ come forth to arise on Easter Sunday morning!

Now, we can say: *Because I (it's a very personal confession) am united with Christ in a death like His, I am also united with Christ in a resurrection like His! Because Christ lives, I shall live also! I still may be a little ragged around the edges; I still may have much sin that clings to me; I am not yet perfect! But I know that when this life ends, I shall be with Christ in the eternal reaches of heaven forevermore! He is my Savior, and my Lord.*

It's like saying a mighty *Yes!* to the question "*Were you there when He rose up from the grave?*"

Thank God! All glory be to Jesus. Amen.
Pastor Koss

Call Process Update

On February 27, the Voters' Assembly instructed the Call Committee to issue a call to a seminary graduate. The Call Committee met on March 3 to review five different profiles of seminary graduates, sent to us by the NW District office. We decided that telephone interviews were not needed, and let the district know our preferences among the five possibilities. We have sent the call documents to the NW District office.

The call documents have now been forwarded to the Council of Presidents Placement committee. This committee is working with the placement officers of the two LCMS seminaries--St. Louis and Fort Wayne. They are in the process of "slotting" candidates for the particular calls that have come in. At the Council of Presidents' meeting in early May, Pastor Linnemann (as well as other District Presidents) will have an appointment with this placement group to review their recommendations. At that point, following the appointments with all of the District Presidents, the call services at the two seminaries will be held where the placements will be issued. Then they will inform the congregations of the outcome.

We won't have a firm answer from District until then. If we receive any information in the meantime, the Call Committee will report it to the congregation. Thank you for your continuing prayers!

Emerald Zone Spring Rally: *Being with Jesus – Living on the Edge*

Saturday, April 2nd

at St. Luke Lutheran Church in Oakridge

Registration begins at 9:30am & the Rally begins at 10:00am

Lunch will be provided.

For the ingathering please bring the following items for our Street Corner Ministry: all cans and containers need to be single serving, easy open/pop-top type & shelf stable cans/pouches of tuna, canned meat, Vienna sausages, canned chili/stew, soup w/meat, pasta w/meat, veggies, fruit cups, granola bars, snack size Snickers Bars, small boxes of raisins, peanut butter & crackers, cheese & crackers, small packs of cookies, pudding cups, bottled water (16.9 oz), unscented bars of soap, tooth brushers, toothpaste, small packets of tissues, disposable razors, Gospel of John booklets, Portals of Prayer (small) outdated is fine, cans/single serve bags of dog food. We put these items in plastic shopping bags along with a Bible verse. St. Luke members keep these bags in their cars and hand them out to people standing on street corners asking for help.



EASTER LILIES AND BLOOMING PLANTS

If you would like to give an Easter lily or other blooming plant to decorate the church on Easter morning, please have them at the church on Saturday, April 23rd!

You can pick up your plant from the church after Easter (please put your name on the plant), Also, please remember to bring cut flowers to decorate the cross on Easter morning. You can bring your flowers with you for the cross when you come on Easter morning.



BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education is looking for VBS Director. If you are interested or want more details please contact Tammy Smith, 541-344-2412.

Are you interested in hosting or starting a small group Bible study in your home or at the church? The Board of Education is willing to help advertise or provide topics for your group. Please contact anyone on the Board of Education: Tammy Smith, Terri Kirkpatrick, Dan Gauche, Ralph Krumdieck, Mary Jenkins, or Kari Hovet.

REQUEST - If you would like to donate items for the Easter egg hunt, please bring individually wrapped small candies and place them in the appropriate basket in the narthex.

Schedule for Easter Sunday:

Sunday School - Faith Walk for children and adults 9:00am with Egg Hunt to follow.

Thoughts from the Board of Education: In a recent bible study, the question was asked, “Why do bad things happen to good people?” The leader, said the real question should be; “Why do good things happen to bad people?” As I thought about this question, who does the bible say are good people? In Mark 10:18 Jesus says, “No one is good – except God alone.” As we continued to study Isaiah telling Judah that they were going into captivity, God was going with them and to bring them out. The book of Revelations to churches that are struggling while being persecuted by the Romans and the Jewish leaders and God is with them. God shares with us that good people struggle and that God is in control. Good people are still sinners and deserve death based upon Romans 6:23 “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life.” Why then do the people around us say that we are good or bad? As we grow in Christ and have a closer relationship with God, we start to reflect Christ to those around us. Are we good? According the Word of God, the answer would be no. In the eyes of the world the answer could be yes. As we get ready to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior. What ways do we grow in the Lord to be able to reflect His love, compassion, and servant attitude to the world? As we spend time with other Christians in bible studies, worship, prayer, and fellowship, we can then go out into a struggling world to share Christ with them. At Grace there are multiple opportunities to grow to go out into the world to share the gifts we have received.

Sunday Morning 9:00 a.m.

Psalms – taught by Pastor Koss

Revelations – Room 5 taught by Randy Ronne

High School Class – Youth Room studying Revelations

Junior High Class – Concordia Growing in Christ

3 yrs – 5th Grade – Firelight series

Wednesday morning – Men’s bible study and breakfast at 6:30am

Wednesday morning – Women’s bible study at 10:00am

While there is still no great answer to why good or bad things happen that we can comprehend, we need to remember the gifts and blessings that we receive from God our Father, Jesus Christ our Savior, and the Holy Spirit and who is in control.

YOUTH NEWS



COMING SOON – EASTER BREAKFAST sponsored by our Youth!

Once again this year, we are asking members to donate food and beverage items (money donations will be gladly accepted too) for the breakfast. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Decide what you would like to donate, sign your name on the sheet corresponding lines, and take the small reminder tags for the items you plan to donate. The Youth fundraiser breakfast this year is to raise funds for the youth to attend the National Youth Gathering in San Antonio in July 2013. Thank you for your help!

Grace Youth Board

CAMPUS MINISTRY/STRONGHOLD NEWS

Welcome to Grace, College Students! Our college-age group, **STRONGHOLD**, will be starting up again on **Sunday, April 3rd**! The group will meet **AFTER WORSHIP** on Sunday mornings, 11:30am-12:30pm, for lunch and Bible study. Our new Stronghold leader is Aaron McGinn, a senior at UO. Study will be on the book of Philippians. Bring your own Bible, or you are welcome to use one at the church. We look forward to having you join us! God’s blessings as the end of winter term fast approaches!

Paula Walker (gwalker512@comcast.net) Aaron McGinn (amcginn@uoregon.edu)

GRACE MEMBERS—WE NEED LUNCH FOR STRONGHOLD! **Beginning Sunday, April 3rd**, Stronghold will move to Sunday mornings after worship and coffee fellowship. The group will be led by Aaron McGinn, a senior at UO who is from Salem. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex (on the small table by the mailboxes) to provide lunch for our students. Let’s start small. Prepare lunch for 5-6 students. It will be easy to bring on Sunday mornings and leave in the kitchen for the group’s meeting. Please mark it “Stronghold”. What a great outreach ministry to our young people! Thank you for participating in this practical way of “feeding our college students as they feed on God’s Word”. Paula Walker

OUTREACH BOARD

LPSC 4th Annual "Born to Run/Walk Challenge"

The Outreach Board is sponsoring the Lane Pregnancy Support Centers 4th Born to Run Challenge to be held **Saturday, May 21st** at Maurie Jacobs Park in Eugene. If you would like to participate, please contact Arline Link at 541-747-1079. The Outreach Board will visit the LPSC at 142 East 13th Ave on Wednesday, April 6 at 5:30pm. It will help us understand the needs of women in a crisis situation. We have a box in the narthex for donations to help after the baby is born, i.e., diapers up to 24 months (4 & 5 sizes), “Onezees”, pajamas, towels, baby clothes, maternity clothes, etc. If the Lord puts it on your heart, please be part of this effort to help women in crisis.

BITS AND PIECES.....

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE... The Newsletter Deadline for the May “Reporter” is **Sunday, April 17th**. Please submit your articles to the church office.

Next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 19th at 7:00pm** in Room #5. **All Board chairpersons** should attend each council meeting or send another representative.

To My Grace Family - Thank you for your prayers, cards, flowers, concerns, and getting me moved into my home. I'm at my house in Springfield regaining my strength. I'm truly blessed, my cup runneth over. My address is: 1318 Quinalt Street, Springfield, OR 97477. Phone: 541.505.8929. Betty Berg

New Address for Mildred Clifford: 372 Parkwood Circle – Greenback, TN 37742-2342 Mildred moved in March to live with her daughter in Tennessee.

Save your clean plastic bags for making yarn to crochet mats for the homeless. There is a box in the narthex to put your plastic bags. If you would like directions on how to make the yarn or mats, or have any questions, please see Jean Harsch. **CAN YOU CROCHET?** If you would like to crochet the mats, please contact the church office or Jean Harsch.

If you have an Emergency please let the Church Office know at 541-342-4844 on Monday through Friday. On the weekends, Saturday/Sunday, please call Bert Wheeler at 541.747.1442.

THINGS YOU CAN DO THAT WILL HELP THE CHURCH OFFICE

Please notify the church office of changes!

- When you move, please call and tell us your new address, phone numbers, email address, etc.
- When there is a sickness or death in your family, please inform the church office.

SPRING CLEANING WORK PARTY

Saturday – April 16th at 9:00am



We will be cleaning inside and doing yard work. **Everyone is welcome to come and help.** The following jobs need to be done: dusting, getting cobwebs, washing windows, mowing, edging, weeding, etc. If you have any edgers, leaf blowers, brooms, rags and buckets – any supplies you can bring with you, it would be appreciated.



LIFE! LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

Phone: 342-5433

Email: office@lifeschool.us

Website: www.lifeschool.us

LIFE! Lutheran School enrollment for 2011-2012! With many of the public schools closing their doors after this school year, if you know of anyone looking for smaller class sizes, share with your family and friends about LIFE School. We have classes for Pre-school through 8th grades. Thank you for your prayers and support of LIFE! School. This important ministry continues because of the love and support of people like you! There are brochures available at the school that you are welcome to pick up and give to families who would benefit from sending their children to LIFE! Please contact the school office at 541-342-5433 to request the school information packet or if you have any questions. Also check out our school website at: www.lifeschool.us.

FUNDRAISER – LIFE School has been asked to host one of the concession booths at the Matthew Knight Arena. The remaining event and needs are:

Saturday, April 2 – 7:30pm (Professional Bull Riding).

This is a privilege for us to serve and yet receive a portion of the profits from sales. In order for us to man the booth we are asking for 12 volunteers per event to help out. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the school lobby. Check your calendars, sign up and enjoy the fellowship. If you have any questions, contact LIFE parent Rob Wiesert at 541-844-2107 or at 541-915-7070.

LIFE Family Connections has been moved to **Friday, April 8th starting at 6:00pm.** There will be pizza and soup served for dinner. Come with your family and enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship.

GRANDPARENTS DAY is Friday, April 29th. For many years this has been a very special day of celebration for the students and their Grandparents.



CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY IN APRIL



- 1 Kristin Gunson
- 2 Austin Frank
- 4 Wayne Feddersen
- 5 Joshua Mundfrom
- 8 Kody Woody
- 11 Jamie Farnham
- 12 Shawn Cross
- 13 Mindy Parsons
- 15 Kay Renken
- 17 Shawn Feddersen
- 21 Randy Ronne
- 22 Michelle Murphy
- 24 Ralph Gordon
Pat Gaddis
- 26 Jan Bachhuber
- 27 Ann Porisch
Luella Behrends
- 28 Betty Libke

CELEBRATING A WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN APRIL

- 3 Kathleen and Roger Kirkpatrick
- 7 LaVern and Beverly Henshen
- 11 Luther and Dorcas Beecroft
- 13 Gus and Barb McCarty
- 17 Bob and Donna Geisler
- 24 Todd and Tricia Baker
Anna and Cris Nibblett

The Lutheran Hour Broadcast

Sunday Mornings – 8:00am ---- on KKNX – 840 AM

Rev. Ken Klaus delivers the messages.

April 3 – “Making sense” (John 9:1-3) To our logical minds, sin “A” should deserve punishment “B”. But God’s grace doesn’t work that way.

April 10 - “Dead Men Tell No Tales (John 12: 9-11) As any swashbuckling pirate will tell you, “Dead men tell no tales!” However, Jesus’ friend, Lazarus is the exception. He tells us who Jesus is.

April 17 – “Special Secret Sins” (Isaiah 53:4) Jesus knew about that secret sin you try so hard to keep hidden. He carried it to the cross and left it there.

April 24 – “Easter Makes Life Worth Living” (Luke 24: 1-11) Guest Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz. Rev. Seltz says Easter is not about sinners being motivated to do better. Rather, the Holy Spirit transforms lives as He moves people to trust in the risen Christ.

The Lutheran Hour can also be heard on the internet or downloaded onto an MP3 player at www.lutheranhour.org. If you would like to listen to The Lutheran Hour message and need assistance with the above options, please call Barb Ronne at 343-0327.

Equipping You Through Mission U Webinar

On the second Saturday of each month MISSION U presents its hour-long Special Speaker Series from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. (CST). This "live," in-depth training features expert speakers in the areas of evangelism or outreach, who share their knowledge in speaking the Gospel to others in challenging cultural or social contexts or to a specific group. These interactive training opportunities offer participants an excellent training session to ask questions of the speaker and share their own individual concerns.

On April 9th Director of Christian Outreach Tina Jasion of the Southeastern District of the (Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod?) will discuss how to be "Generously Sowing Seeds of HOPE." Encountering someone filled with peace and hope, especially in times of difficult or tragic circumstances, makes one wonder how can I get what they have. This webinar will explore how the way we live our lives can be an act of evangelism, where our charitable expression of peace and hope will draw others closer to us-and to the reality of God in our lives.

Each Special Speaker Series webinar is completely free to MISSION U students and the public alike. Complete info can be found at <http://www.whatsmissionu.com/speakerseries.asp>. and this is also where you'll go the morning of a webinar. Go to "Login to view the Training Webinar" at the bottom of this screen. Don't see the link? Don't worry. It surfaces the morning of a scheduled webinar. If you have already registered, please enter your username and password. If you have not yet registered, you will be directed to a registration page. It's really that easy. Just get to a computer on the second Saturday of the month and join in the conversation! Questions? Just e-mail missionu@lhm.org. Mission U is sponsored by Lutheran Hour Ministries

JOIN THE ELDER HELP TEAM – Our volunteers help seniors remain living in their own homes, independently and with dignity. Volunteers help seniors with shopping and errands, trips to medical appointments, reading correspondence, and friendly visiting. There are so many seniors needing just a little help and a little time to keep living vibrant lives. If you would like to help in this important work please call Carole Ford, Elder Help Coordinator at 541.682.3793 or email Carole at cford@lcog.org

CAMP LUTHERWOOD

22960 Hwy 36 – Cheshire, OR 97419

Phone: 541.998.6444 Email: office@lutherwood.org

On-line registration is now available for all summer camp programs. Register early so you don't miss out on the dates that work best for you. Summer brochures and Registration Information are available on the Youth bulletin board in the narthex. Remember to pass this along to your friends and bring them to camp with you!

Hiring Summer Staff for 2011 – Get ready for the summer of your life. Be on the 2011 Summer Staff at Camp Lutherwood. Applications are available NOW. We are looking for people 18 years and older to serve for 9-10 weeks. Yes, you will be paid and yes, it does include your food and housing for the summer! Get applications online at www.lutherwood.org

Support Camp Lutherwood – There are several ways you can support the ministry of Camp Lutherwood. See which ways work best for you:

- . You can give a cash donation **online now** (www.lutherwood.org) or mail at address above.
- . You can be a camper yourself and invite others to be campers.
- . Your congregation can become an Association congregation by an annual budget donation of support.
- . You can include Lutherwood in your estate plans and include Lutherwood in your will.
- . You can be a faithful prayer warrior for the camp.
- . You can participate in our Spring work days **April 16** and **May 7**.

Consider how you can be a faithful support of the ministry of Camp Lutherwood.

The Grace Reporter

is published monthly by

Grace Lutheran Church

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(located at the corner of 18th & Hilyard)

Church Office: (541) 342-4844

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LIFE! School Office: (541) 342-5433

Web Site: www.lifeschool.us

Church Staff

Pastor Noel D. Koss, Interim Pastor

Peggy Johnson, Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Alan Lewis – Principal at LIFE! School

Linda Gurney - Organist, Handbell & Music Director

Olivia Hunt Spangler – Organist/Choir Dir.

Church Office Hours

Weekdays 8:30am - 12:00 and 1:00pm - 4:30pm