

THE GRACE REPORTER

SEPTEMBER 2010

MONTHLY PARISH NEWSLETTER OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

710 E. 17th Ave. – Eugene, OR 97401 Phone #: (541) 342-4844 Email: glc@glchurch.org



RALLY DAY

Sunday, September 12 at 9:00am

Fall is around the corner and Rally Day will be on Sunday, September 12th starting at 9:00am. We will be celebrating Rally Day with the installation of Sunday School Teachers at the service. There will be light luncheon following the worship service with sandwiches, vegetables, fruit, and dessert.

Here are the classes that will be offered:

3 years – 5th grade - Family style class

6th to 8th – Junior High class - Concordia

9th to 12th High School class - Life issues from Concordia

Adult Class Teacher Randy Ronne - Room 5 on Revelation

Adult Class Teacher Pastor Nickel – in Parish Hall with the book of John

**Please come on Rally Day and join us for fun and learning.
And join us for lunch and fellowship after the worship service!**

Adult Bible Classes

- **Pastor Nickel** will lead a class at 8:45am in Parish Hall with the book of John.
- **Randy Ronne** will lead a class on “Revelation – What the Last Book of the Bible Really Means”. The class will start with a review of “Explaining all the Scary Stuff in Revelation” by Rev. Ken Klaus. This will be the only video we will use for this class and this video is the same 4 week session that was presented last spring. After that first four weeks background study we will be using the materials found in the book “Revelation” (What the Last Book of the Bible Really Means) by Rev. Michael W. Newman. Each week we will cover one chapter of Revelation verse by verse. It is my hope that with the background given by the first 4 sessions and the excellent material found in the study book, we can all learn and understand much of the vision written in Revelation. “If you think you have God all figured out, if you are convinced that God’s Word is boring or that you know it all, think again. When you follow Jesus around every corner is something new – new insight, new blessings. The book of Revelation captures that wild ride of life in Christ. Strap yourself in and enjoy your journey through the book of Revelation.”



REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

- + Betty Kirtley, Paul Reffstrup, Jovita Hunt, Ralph & Alice Boring, Bob Sylwester, Judy Rust, Michelle Murphy, Evelyn Jones, Robert Koester (father of Mick Koester)
- + Shut-ins: Jeannine Brauner, Walter & Mary Krumdieck, Frances Bradshaw, Ann Porisch, Margie Murphree, Dorothy Beikman, Evelyn Moore, LaNelda Watts, Kay Johnson, Myrtle Larson, Dorothy Ostermiller

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GRACE

Adult Bible Class – 8:45am

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

* **8:45am** - Pastor Joel Nickel leads a Bible study in the Parish hall.

* **9:00am** – Randy Ronne leads “Explaining all the Scary Stuff in Revelation”.

WEDNESDAY

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

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

Update on the Call Process

On July 30, we received the following letter from Pastor Paul Frerichs, the pastor that Grace Congregation called to be our pastor:

July 30, 2010
Grace Lutheran Church

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Church and the Savior of our souls.

I wish to thank all of you for your prayers and your patience over these several weeks as I have held the Call you have extended to me to serve you as your pastor. They have meant a great deal to me and my family. I realize the great expectation that you have held in your hearts as I have deliberated this Call and sought the guidance of our Lord and His Holy Spirit to come to a decision that is pleasing in His sight.

Having sought the guidance of the Lord through my prayers and the counsel of His people, I have come to the conclusion that it is the will of God that I remain at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Portland. I, therefore, must decline the Call to serve Grace Lutheran Church in Eugene. Please know that this was not an easy decision. Both ministries present significant challenges to foster growth for mission and ministry in order to reach out with the Gospel to their respective communities. It simply came down to answering the question where does the Lord need me the most at this time.

I see incredible opportunity for ministry at Grace, and I pray for God's richest blessings on you and will join with you in prayer that He lead you to the pastor that He desires to serve you.

Shepherding People to Jesus

Rev. Paul Frerichs, Pastor
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Portland, Oregon

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At a Voters' Meeting following church on August 15, the congregation decided to start a new call list. Nominations for pastor are welcome from congregation members until Sunday, September 5. Forms are available in the church office or in the narthex after church for the next three Sundays. You are welcome to nominate a pastor who was on our earlier call list, or nominate another pastor. Please also review the self-study results (also available with the nomination forms) and keep in mind the needs of our congregation.

We will forward the names to the LCMS Northwest District, and they may also add additional names to the list. Then the call committee will start again its consideration of the pastors on the call list.

Pastor Joel has graciously agreed to continue as our vacancy pastor. We thank God for his service among us!

Please continue to pray for God's guidance as He leads us to the next pastor for Grace Lutheran Church.

The Call Committee is made up of the Lay Ministers, six additional members from the congregation and the Executive Director: Todd Baker, Elaine Barbisan, Lynne Coates (chair), Kirk Gunson, Don Harkins, Clarence Henshen, Bryan Hodges, Bob Jones, Dick Jenkins, Arline Link, Matt Prehm, John Stoecker, Paula Walker, Bert Wheeler, and Luda Wiesert. Our advisor is Pastor John Luther.

ATTENDANCE FOR AUGUST 2010

WORSHIP SERVICES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
8/1	Sunday-10am	145
8/8	Sunday-10am	140
8/15	Sunday-10am	143
8/22	Sunday-10am	119

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.

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND ANOINTING

On the fourth Sunday of each month we will hold a semi-private service of prayer and anointing for those who have health concerns. This will be held following the close of the worship service. Those who would like anointing of oil and prayers for the sick should come to the front pews. Pastor Nickel will join you after greeting people at the door following worship.

FIVE CENTS WORTH

Communities across the land have sometimes rejected big box stores because they are a threat to locally owned businesses that have been in the community a long time. Here loyalty and esthetics are virtues more important than price and huge inventory. But we live in a consumer culture where bigger is assumed to be better and the bottom line rules the roost. In the last few decades there have also been some “big box churches” built in many communities, that eschew denominational identification and are known for the number of worshippers they attract every Sunday. Mega churches are identifiable by their big parking lots, projection screens, theater seating, multiple staff, diverse programming, easy listening music, casual style and a paucity of religious symbolism. Some critics have called this “Christianity lite”, catering to those who desire to be spiritual without being religious. You can slip in and slip out of the box, maintain your anonymity, and not much will be asked of you.

While there may be a bit of envy in my “five cents worth”, I don’t believe mega churches are a good model for the future of the church. Sure, their communication skills are admired and mimicked by many denominational churches which have fallen behind in this electronic age. Their savvy grasp of the popular culture can meet people “where they are” and re-introduce Christian ideas to some who have suffered from heavy handed hellfire and brimstone, legalistic religion. But worship must be more than just a spectator sport, religious entertainment, and a vicarious rub up against holiness—put your money in the plate and take home a dose of good feelings. Christian discipleship requires participation in worship and in the life of the church, a voluntary offering of ourselves to the Lord’s call and purpose, and a deepening knowledge of and grounding in scripture. Rather than make things easier for his followers, Jesus made their following more difficult.

The practice of Christianity is a challenge. Up against our culture’s willful historical amnesia, there is a 2000 year history of Christian humanism to study; up against our contemporary, lax moral relativity there is a model of Spirit- inspired spiritual discipline to embody; in the face of popular “bread and circuses” diversions which satiate and dull the conscience there is a prophetic, pragmatic realism to embrace. I resonate with the hymn, “Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun” (LSB #868), especially the line, “Shake off dull sloth and joyful rise to pay thy morning sacrifice”—the “sacrifice” of a contrite heart, a thankful attitude, and a body ready for service in Christ’s name to a needy world. If we don’t know what we stand for, we’ll fall for anything, and the fear-mongers and demagogues are all too happy to take our money.

September is the time when we think of renewing our membership, restarting Sunday school, Bible classes, choir, service activities, campus outreach, and planning a stewardship program to under-gird our church’s ministry. Add to this list the process of calling a pastor and we have a full agenda that begs everyone’s participation. This is “heavy lifting Christianity.”

Pastor Joel

BOARD MEETINGS AT GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

- 1st Monday of the Month:** Property Board – 7:00pm
2nd Monday of the Month: LWML Meeting – 1:00pm
Stewardship Board – 7:00pm
1st Tuesday of the Month: Board of Christian Education – 6:00pm
Social Ministry Board – 6:15pm
Lay Ministry Board – 7:00pm
2nd Tuesday of the Month: LIFE! School Board – 7:00pm
3rd Tuesday of the Month: Worship Committee – 6:00pm
Youth Board – 6:00pm
Parish Planning Council – 7:00pm
2nd Wednesday of Month: Outreach Board – 7:00pm
2nd Thursday of Month: Fellowship Board – 7:00pm
4th Thursday of Month: Campus Ministry Board – 7:00pm

The Lutheran Hour Broadcast

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

Rev. Ken Klaus delivers the messages.

September 5 – “Choose Life” (Deuteronomy 30: 15-20) Many today believe we live in a world where nothing is absolutely wrong or right all the time. But why do they only feel that way about spiritual and moral values?

September 12 – “Looking for the Lost” (Luke 15: 1-7) God wants you, but He wants you on His terms. The divine shepherd is searching for His lost sheep, but that search will not go on forever.

September 19 – “Serve One Master” (Luke 16: 1-13) We have gone from serving one Master to serving two masters: God and ourselves-and we are well on our way to kicking God out of the picture altogether.

September 26 – “The Savior Takes a Sinner Home” (Luke 23:43) Presenting a classic Lutheran Hour message by the Rev. Armin Oldsen, originally broadcast in 1952.

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.

BITS AND PIECES.....

Dear Friends at Grace... Thank you for your prayers, cards and love during my extended time at home. My church family is God's special gift to me. Betty Kirtley

I would like to thank all of you who have asked about my Dad and prayed for him. He went through several months of cancer treatment and chemotherapy, and then finally had surgery on July 9th. He is still recovering, it will take a while, but the first tests have shown him to be cancer free. He appreciates the prayers as all of us in my family do. Thank you, Kari Hovet

I would like to thank to my church family for the gifts and cards I received on Confirmation. Thank up to Pastor Nickel for being our teacher. Hunter Frank

Congratulations to Alivia McCarty and Scott Gibbens who were married on Saturday, August 14, 2010 at the Giustina Ranch in Pleasant Hill, Oregon. They will live in the Portland area.

Newsletter Deadline for the October "Reporter" is Sunday, September 19th. Please turn in your articles to the church office.

Next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 21st at 7:00pm** in Room #5. All Board chairpersons should attend each council meeting or send another representative.

VOTER'S MEETING – **Sunday, October 3rd after the worship service.** The agenda is changing the election on health insurance currently B to C, with the church paying all premiums.

SOCIAL MINISTRY BOARD

If you or someone you know needs a ride to church, please call Brenda Miller at 541-344-5755.

Recycle your newspapers or magazines in the red Mission boxes around town. By recycling in these boxes it keeps about 100 men from the Mission busy each week.

Summer Food Collection***Summer Food Collection!!**

The Food Pantry available for members of Grace is being restocked. Items being collected at this time are commercially canned fruits and hearty soups and chili. If you are able to donate items, please leave them beside the coat rack in the narthex or against the Food Pantry cupboard inside the Nursery door. Thanks. The Social Ministry Board

LIFE! LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

Phone: 342-5433

Email: office@lifeschool.us

Website: www.lifeschool.us

LIFE! Lutheran School 2010-2011 Enrollment... If you are interested OR if you know of someone who is interested in enrolling children at LIFE Lutheran School, please contact the school office at 541-342-5433 to request the school information packet. We have classes for Pre-3/Pre-4, Kindergarten, and 1st through 8th grades. Pre-enrollment is very important to us as we prepare for the 2010-2011 school year. Take time to view the website at www.lifeschool.us

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL will be **Wednesday, September 8th**. Please keep the students, teachers/staff, and parents in your prayers as we start another new year!



ATTENTION ALL DUCK FANS!!!! The 2010 football season is fast approaching. If you are interested in working in the booth at Autzen Stadium or want more information please contact Rob Wiesert at 541-915-7070 or mesuperclean@yahoo.com. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the bulletin board by the LIFE School office.

Announcing the 1st Annual Thrivent Lutheran Night **(Slow pitch Softball Game)**

When: Sunday, September 12th from 1:30pm to 5:00pm
Where: Amazon Park Ball Field – North of 24th & Amazon Parkway
Who: ALL Thrivent Members and their guests
What Supplied: Ball Cap (for first 100 to RSVP) – Ball Field – Umpire – Bats and Balls – Drinks – Desserts

What you want to bring: Softball Mitt(s) – Yourself & Guests – Lawn Chairs – Your Picnic Food & Condiments & Dishes

Please RSVP and let me know how many in your party will attend. Also consider inviting you Church Youth Group as your guest.

To RSVP or for more information please contact:

Randy van Ronne
randy@wlct.info
(541) 343-0327

**Hosted by members of the West Lane County Thrivent Chapter
of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**

CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY IN SEPTEMBER



- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Kerry Ferguson | 15 | Elaine Lower |
| 5 | Matthew Burgess | 16 | Clarke Smith |
| 6 | Kris Calkin | | Gail Schoenherr |
| 7 | Delores Feddersen | 17 | Shannon Burgess |
| | Casey Genthner | | Nicholas Hovet |
| 10 | Barb Ronne | 18 | Nancy Leapaldt |
| | Eric Henshen | | Aaron Baker |
| | Stacy Wilmarth | 19 | ReNae Bopp |
| | Jennifer Parham | 20 | Haley Katich |
| 11 | Julia Shoemaker | 23 | Jackson Ashcraft |
| 12 | Reuben Leapaldt | 25 | LaNelda Watts |
| 13 | Gus McCarty | 26 | Todd Baker |
| 14 | Bert Wheeler | 28 | Jean Frank |
| | Mary Jenkins | | Peter Boysen |
| | William Katich | 30 | Jerry Fibelstad |

CELEBRATING A WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN SEPTEMBER

- 3 John and Pat Gaddis
- 12 Dan and Cheryl Gauche
- 15 Roseann and Steward Cross
- 20 Bill and Judy Blade

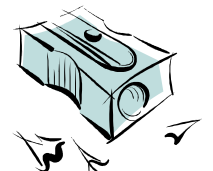
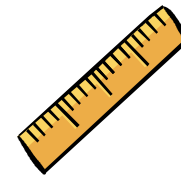


LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

WE HAVE COME UP WITH AN IDEA SOME OF YOU MIGHT PREFER...
WHAT IS IT? LWML is asking for your help in collecting items for the school kits. We need supplies for 500 school bags! If you would prefer to give a donation rather than shop for supplies we would be happy to do the shopping for you! ALSO we are accepting donations to cover the cost of postage (which is @ \$250.00). If you would like us to do the shopping or you would like to contribute to the postage.....please **make out your check to Grace Lutheran LWML** with a notation for school supplies or postage. Below are the items needed for the school kits. There will be a box in the narthex to collect the supplies. If you have any questions, contact Jean Harsch or Dave and Lennie Tritt.

Items needed for each school kit:

- * 2 or 3 - Padded or spiral notebooks of ruled paper (approx. 8½” x 11” totaling 150-200 sheets) – please NO loose-leaf paper
- * 1 - Blunt Scissors
- * 1 - 30-centimeter Ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- * Pencil sharpener
- * 6 – new, unsharpened #2 Pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band (no colored pencils and all one color, preferably yellow)
- * 1 – Eraser approximately 2-1/2” long
- * 12 Sheets of construction paper in assorted colors
- * 1 – Box of 16 or 24 Crayons



**Join the CROP Hunger Walk
Ending Hunger One Step at a Time!**

**Eugene/Springfield CROP Hunger Walk
Sunday - October 3, 2010**

**Registration: 1:00pm Walk: 2:00pm
Alton Baker Park**

**Become an online Hunger Walker or donor.
Visit www.cropwalkonline.org to sign up!**

Messiah's Mansion

Life-size Replica of the Ancient Hebrew Tabernacle

September 18-26, 2010

Free Admission

at Miller Park

(1500 W. 18th St. in Florence, Oregon)

Daily Showings: 1:00pm to 7:00pm

(Tours begin every 15 minutes and last 75 minutes)

This traveling exhibit brings Western Oregon a chance to learn about ancient history through a living museum. Travel back over 3,000 years into the desert between Egypt and the "Promised Land" where more than two million people banded together to build a tabernacle for their God. Each element in the tabernacle had deep significant meaning to the Hebrew people and this tour will bring each symbol to life.

For more information you can call 541.997.3951 or check
Out the website at www.florencesanctuary.com

The Grace Reporter

is published monthly by

Grace Lutheran Church

710 East 17th Ave – Eugene, OR 97401
(located at the corner of 18th & Hilyard)

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Email: glc@glchurch.org

Web Site: www.glchurch.org

LIFE! School Office: (541) 342-5433

Web Site: www.lifeschool.us

Church Staff

Rev. Joel Nickel, Interim Pastor

Peggy Johnson, Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Linda Gurney - Organist, Handbell & Music Director

Olivia Hunt Spangler – Organist/Choir Dir.

Church Office Hours - Weekdays 8:30-12:00 and 1:00-4:30