

GRACE LUTHERAN WEEKLY

December 13, 2009

Grace Lutheran Church
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LIFE! Lutheran School
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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT GRACE

- Today:** **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Pastor's Adult Bible Class – 8:45am
Sunday School – for ALL Ages – 9:00am
Contemporary Worship - 10:00am
Coffee Fellowship – 11:00am
Meeting with Worship Committee & Pastor Nickel – after worship service
LIFE! School Christmas Program – 4:00pm
Youth Confirmation at Marie Callender's at 6:00pm
- Monday: LWML Meeting – 1:00pm
(EVA – 7:00pm)
- Tuesday: Youth Board Meeting – 6:00pm
NO Worship Committee or Parish Planning Council this month
- Wednesday: **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE (note early date due to Christmas)**
Breakfast Bible Study – 6:30am
Women's Bible Study – 10:00am
Advent Supper – 5:45pm
Bell Choir – 6:15pm
Advent Worship Service – 7:00pm
Vocal Choir – 7:45pm
- Thursday: (Oregon Tuba Ensemble – 7:00pm)
- Friday: The Living Nativity – 7:00 to 9:00pm
- Saturday: The Living Nativity – 7:00 to 9:00pm
(E.A.R.S. – 10:00am)
- Next Sunday: **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Pastor's Adult Bible Class – 8:45am
Sunday School – for ALL Ages – 9:00am
Sunday School Christmas Program - 10:00am
Coffee Fellowship – 11:00am
The Living Nativity – 7:00 to 9:00pm

Those activities in () indicate outside groups meeting in the building.

CONFIRMATION – We will meet for Confirmation class **TODAY at 6:00pm at Marie Callender's** restaurant by Valley River mall. We will have a meal together and a brief class. We will conclude by 7:30pm. Pastor Phil



REMEMBER IN PRAYER.....

- + Jovita Hunt, Kathleen Thomsen, Roland Luxford, Ralph & Alice Boring, Myrtle Larson, Judy Rust
+ Shut-ins: Jeannine Brauner, Walter & Mary Krumdieck, Frances Bradshaw, Ann Porisch, Margie Murphree, Mary Good, Dorothy Beikman, Evelyn Moore, Anita Colcord, Jack York

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The Newsletter deadline for submitting articles for the January newsletter is **Wednesday, December 16th** (due to the holidays in December). Please submit your articles to the church office.

USHERS: Please check the “Unavailable Usher Schedule” which is located in the narthex. The schedule for **JANUARY** is posted. If you are unable to usher in January, please mark the schedule or talk to Todd Baker.



HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

- NO Holy Communion on December 20th – due to Sunday School Christmas program
- Christmas Eve – 10:00pm Candlelight Service
- Christmas Day – 10:00am Worship Service
- New Years Eve – 7:00pm Worship Service

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

- * Breakfast Bible Study – Wednesday, December 16th at 6:30am
- * Women's Bible Study – Wednesday, December 16th at 10:00am

MIDWEEK ADVENT SUPPER AND WORSHIP SERVICE

At Grace Lutheran Church
Wednesday - December 16
Supper at 5:45pm / Worship at 7:00pm



MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES AND A SOUP LUNCH

At Messiah Lutheran Church

Messiah Lutheran Church (3280 River Road) will have midweek Advent services and a soup lunch. The services will be held on December 16. The soup lunch will begin at 12:30pm and the service at 1:15pm. The members of Grace Lutheran that would prefer a noon service are invited to attend. The sermon theme for the Season will be “Savior of the Nations” and the topic will be: December 16 – “His Throne”.

ADULT CLASSES ON SUNDAY MORNINGS!

* Pastor Schoenherr's class will in Room #5 starting at **8:45am**.

* At **9:00am**, "What's So Amazing about Grace?" led by Bob Jones in the parish hall.

REMINDER: BULLETIN/WEEKLY DEADLINE – If you would like something in the bulletin or Weekly (blue notes) – please have your information to the church office by **10:00am on Wednesdays!**

ADVENT DEVOTION BOOKLETS.... We have the Lutheran Hour Ministries Advent devotional booklet, "From Nazareth to Bethlehem" available in the narthex. If you would like a copy, please take one home with you.

PORTALS OF PRAYER is a quarterly booklet that contains daily devotions and prayers. The new **January-March** booklet is available on the table in the narthex. Take one home for your daily devotions.

COFFEE SIGN-UP SHEET is posted on the door by the Fireside Room. The Fellowship Board will have coffee hour every first Sunday of the month. Please sign up to help the other Sundays. Coffee and treats will be provided but you can also bring treats if you wish. People need to set up before and clean up after the coffee hour. If you have questions, please contact Kirk Gunson.

FLOWER CHART FOR 2010!! The **new 2010 Flower Chart** is located by the mailboxes in the narthex. If you would like to place flowers on the altar in honor or memory of someone, please sign your name on the Flower Chart for the date you would like. Floral arrangements can be from your garden, a store or from a floral shop. You will receive a reminder the week prior to your Sunday. Please remember to take your flowers with you after the 10:00am service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM – The Children's Christmas Program will be December 20th during the 10:00am Worship service, followed by a reception. The program is entitled "Sing a Song of Christmas", which features traditional Christmas carols and several new, great Christmas songs the children will sing! All children are invited to participate in the program. **Practices will be as follows:** Sunday, Dec. 13 during the Sunday School hour / **Saturday, December 19th from 9:30am to 11:00am** / and Sunday, Dec. 20th during Sunday School hour. If there are students that play a musical instrument and would like to play a Christmas carol for pre-service music, they should contact Linda Gurney.

GRACE YOUTH NEWS

THANK YOU... The Youth would like to thank everyone who purchased cookies last Sunday for their fundraiser. They earned \$225.91. Thanks again! The Youth of Grace

YOUTH FUNDRAISER... The youth of Grace are selling beautiful calendars for \$6.00/each. The calendars are available for purchase on Sunday mornings after church. Please support our youth by purchasing a 2010 calendar!

YOUTH FUNDRAISER... Doing some holiday baking? The youth will have **bags of locally grown, shelled walnut pieces** (from the Hovet's yard) available on November 22. Free-will offering! Please support our Youth and get some walnuts for your baking needs.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER: The Youth will be having a bottle drive to raise money for the youth gathering. Please start saving your cans and bottles. We will announce the date to bring them to church sometime in January.



Our LIVING NATIVITY will take place on the church lawn, Friday, Saturday and Sunday - December 18-20 from 7:00-9:00pm. Please mark your calendar and make plans to be there. We need people! Adults and kids can help as greeters or with refreshments, costumes, or even play a part in the nativity story. There are no speaking parts, nothing to memorize. If you can follow simple directions, we want you. If you just can't come, donations of cookies for refreshments are always helpful. The Living Nativity is a lot of fun and a wonderful way to present the Christmas story to the community. Make it a part of your Christmas tradition. Please sign up when the signup sheets are available, or call Ralph Krumdick, 345-5235 or email at ralphkru@hotmail.com

STRONGHOLD – CAMPUS MINISTRY

Stronghold Bible Study/Dinner meets on **Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm** for a home-cooked dinner and Bible study. This year's leader is Jeff Bolinger. **Stronghold will start up again after the holidays for winter term beginning January 5th.** Questions: contact Jeff Bolinger: bolinger@uoregon.edu or Paula Walker (Campus Ministry Committee) at paula@lanepds.org or gwalker512@comcast.net

Grace members and friends: A sign-up sheet for providing dinner starting up again in January 2010 is on the table in the narthex next to the church mailboxes. Thank you for your willingness to participate!

COOKIES! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! For all the cookies! We really appreciate your generosity and now we ask for your prayers that God use our Living Nativity to bring HIS light and life to Eugene. Thank you, The Outreach Board

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR OUR MILITARY... We made and signed some cards at the Advent Fest this past Sunday. We will be mailing the cards out so if you would like to send a card, please put it on the Parish Nurse table by December 13. Those in the military are:

Brian and Emily Codieck Ross, Army – Lynn and Ralph’s daughter and son-in-law

Casey Gordon, Air Force – Marilyn and Ralph Gordon’s grandson

Micheal Claric, Army – member of Grace

Randy Katich, Navy – Haley’s husband and William’s father

Alex Polley, National Guard – Jody Johnson’s great nephew

Adam Hunt, Air Force – nephew of Dave and Lennie Tritt

Jacob Hunt, Army – nephew of Dave and Lennie Tritt

LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS

Phone: 342-5433

Email: office@lifeschool.us

Website: www.lifeschool.us

LIFE! Lutheran School 2009/2010 enrollment is continuing! Packets are available at the school office. Take time to view the website at www.lifeschool.us. Anyone interested in receiving information about enrolling at LIFE! Lutheran School should contact the school office at 342-5433.

You are invited! Angels, shepherds, Baby Jesus and you: What a combination! Your presence will be a blessing (especially if you are one who enjoys singing Christmas hymns) to all at LIFE! School’s Christmas Program. Come enjoy the program, the cookies, the fellowship, and the Christmas Spirit Sunday, **December 13th at 4:00 PM.** Thank you, Pastor Curry

The Lutheran Hour Broadcast

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

Rev. Ken Klaus delivers the messages.

December 20 – “The Unwanted Gift” (John 1:11)

December 27 – Guest, the Rev. Robert Bugbee, president of Lutheran Church-Canada.

The Lutheran Hour can also be heard on the internet or downloaded onto an MP3 player at <http://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.

WANTED - FLIP FLOPS (all sizes – new or used)

and CHILDREN’S TENNIS SHOES

If the flip flops or shoes are used, please wash in machine with soap and warm water. Tie pairs with bright ribbons. These supplies will be given to the Cascade Medical Team to take to Guatemala in February 2010. There will be a box to drop them off by the Parish Nurse table in the narthex. Watch for sales, check out garage sales, and maybe even clean out your closets. Any questions, contact Jean Harsch or Jody Johnson.

HOLIDAY FOOD COLLECTION***HOLIDAY FOOD COLLECTION**

The Grace Social Ministry Board is collecting food for three Holiday Food Gift Boxes within our church/LIFE School community. After this is done, we will donate extra food collected to the Eugene Mission for their holiday meals. **This food drive will take place between now and Tuesday, December 15th. A large marked collection boxes will be in the church narthex area.** If you would like to make a **cash donation** for meats and other perishable food, please clearly note on your offering check – **“For Holiday Food Collection”**. We are collecting these items:

Boxed stuffing mix (e.g., Stove-top, etc.) Boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes
Canned sweet potatoes or yams Canned Cranberry Sauce
Canned vegetables (mixed, or corn, peas) Gravy Packets (esp. Turkey)
carrots, green beans)

SPECIAL COLLECTION OF NEEDED ITEMS FOR THE EUGENE MISSION

The Social Ministry Board is again having a collection of items this season, especially requested by the Eugene Mission during December. These items are for men, women, and children in their program. **The Mission has expressed many thanks** for our donations in recent years. **This collection will take place between now and Tuesday, December 15th.**

Especially requested are: (Important: except as noted, clean/gently used clothing list – from home & thrift stores – is appreciated as well as new.)

Bath Towels Pajamas (all sizes for men, women, children)
Underwear (new) Diapers (disposable)
Baby wipes Stocking caps
Baseball caps Socks (all types and sizes)
Slipper socks Gloves (jersey for men & knit for women)
Deodorants (small travel size) Bar Soap
Shampoo (any size) Hairbrushes
Razors Cough drops
Shaving Cream (canned) Candy Canes
Toothbrushes Toothpaste (small tubes)

All donations are very much appreciated. Thank you for your help!

"Simply Giving" is moving to "Joyful Response"

Members of Grace - For a number of years our church has been participating in a program called Simply Giving, which allows members to have automatic payments made directly to Grace Church. Because of the economic conditions this "Simply Giving" program will not longer be free for our church. However, a very similar program sponsored through LCEF ("Lutheran Church Extension Fund") is now available to us at no cost. This program is called "Joyful Response". Before the end of the year I will be asking all those participating in "Simply Giving" to fill out the new enrollment forms for "Joyful Response". I would also encourage all other members that are not currently using the program to please consider this form of gifting to our church. It is set up as an automatic transfer from your checking or savings account and is put directly into Grace Church's Stewardship account with LCEF. One of the main advantages for this is you will no longer have to write a check that can be lost, stolen or misplaced. Your donation will go to the church on a consistent basis whether you are at church or away. It saves administrative time and effort because all gifts are consistent and will always go to the designated fund. Payments can be cancelled or suspended with as little as 3 days notice to our church's Financial Secretary, Randy Ronne. Please contact Randy Ronne, Church Financial Secretary, at 343-0327 for more program / enrollment information
