

GRACE SPOTLIGHTER



Mr. Jeff Gledhill

GRACE BEGINS 49TH ACADEMIC YEAR

Over many years, Grace has been blessed by thirty-eight different educators. Some served briefly. Six served ten years or more. This year we add two more to the faculty.

In August, the Voters approved a recommendation to contract Mr. Jeffrey Gledhill to fill the vacancy created by Miss Schroeder's departure.

Mr. Gledhill is a member of Trinity Lutheran, Midland. He attended St. John Lutheran School as a student himself. In pursuing a degree, Mr. Gledhill attended both Concordia University, Ann Arbor, and Concordia, Chicago, but ultimately became a 2005 graduate of CMU with elementary education certification.

He has been involved in various education settings, most recently teaching a fifth grade in Fayetteville, NC. He has particular interest in language arts and music. He is married to Peggy. They have three children.

Mr. Gledhill will be teaching the 3-4 grade home room this year. We encourage all parents to gain his acquaintance and take full advantage of every communication opportunity.

With changing demographics, the Grace Board of Education also observed we need the services of a qualified part-time educator to teach portions of the 2nd and 5th grade curriculum. It was not feasible to replace Mrs. VanSickle with a full-time teacher. The solution was to engage Mrs. Ellen Arnold three days a week (Mon-Wed-Fri).

Mrs. Arnold is a career Lutheran educator known to many at Grace. She is a 1971 graduate of Concordia Teachers College, Seward, NE, and has many years of experience in Lutheran schools, including Trinity, Monitor. She also welcomes participation of parents any time they have questions.

We are proud Grace Lutheran School has always maintained an especially high academic standard. It is one marked attribute we prize. However, the central purpose of our school is the instruction and nurture of our children in the Lutheran faith.

The witness of Christ in the lives and

lessons of our teachers, the devotion of our families, and Christ-centered learning denote ours as truly a Lutheran school. Mr. Gledhill and Mrs. Arnold join Principal Peter Fredrich, Miss Annette Rudick, and Pastor Reed, our called workers, in the vitally important task of sharing Jesus Christ with the young people of our church.

Please keep our school, its precious students, its consecrated teachers, and all our families in your prayers.



Mrs. Ellen Arnold

RENEWAL OF WORSHIP PARTICIPATION

SERVICES CALL FOR FAITHFULNESS AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE.

Sunday, September 7, begins the customary Sunday worship schedule of two services each Lord's Day. Sunday worship was consolidated during the summer, but that schedule concludes with the Labor Day weekend.

There are benefits to a combined schedule. One service affords all our people time to be entirely together. Singing is more hearty when God's house is full. Communication with others outside the formal worship time is easier with less likelihood of missing each other.

However, two services (along with the increasingly popular Wednesday evening worship) gives more flexibility of schedule to you. Senior members often have a strong preference for one or the other service time. Some rise early and others prefer the late hour in order to "get going."

The Board of Elders has not proposed any adjustment in the schedule. However, it must also be noted that there is no reason members of Grace should not fully occupy two services. Regular presence in worship is the faithful expression of all those who confess Christ and value His Word and Sacraments.

No congregation can be proud of a 25 to 30 percent attendance on a given Sunday. We cannot be indifferent that our worship participation is no better, indeed may be less than the average of many congregations elsewhere. To be sure, we can point to factors which explain or excuse that sad fact.

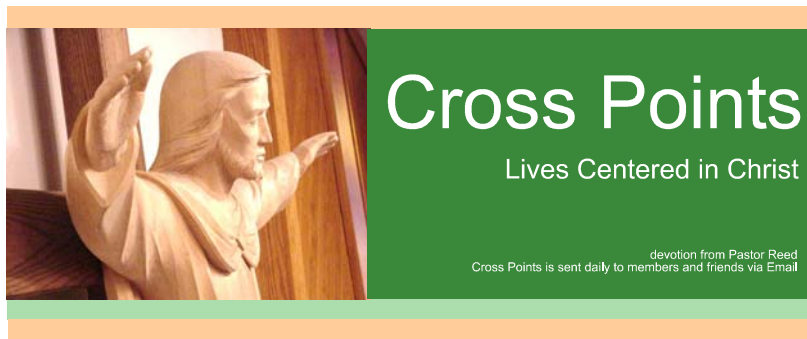
Our attention however, should only be the questions which matter. Is Christ present in His house distributing His gifts of forgiveness, truth, grace, and peace?

Is God's Word rightly declared? And are the sacraments celebrated according to Christ's institution? If the answers are yes, then we need to redouble our encouragement and expectation of each other to receive continually what God gives.

The approaching golden anniversary year for Grace urges us to reach further to welcome back those who have not been frequent in their worship. We have the duty to lovingly admonish one another and place the Scripture's priority on time with our Lord. For those distant from us, we need to convey them into the care of a church where they will worship.

Love and accountability for each another make re-doubling our efforts essential. Please include this concern in your prayers and review your own practice and commitment as we celebrate the blessings of Christ each week.

— Hebrews 10 —
Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.



KOINONIA — UNITY IN CHRIST

There is an affection which binds Christians which cannot be duplicated by any other human association. But to call it affection or even love isn't a sufficient description. It is more profound than friendship, more intense than brotherhood. And the translation here of "partnership in the gospel" hardly conveys what St. Paul really means when he expresses the deep yearning and gratitude he felt for others who share the righteousness of Christ with him.

It is unity in Christ.

It is no less than sharing one body, one life, and one future, inexorably bound to Jesus Christ and one another. Unlike friendships which may develop over time or camaraderie which could take years to bring about great trust or closeness, this unity (*koinonia*) of Christians is an identity fully delivered in that first moment of baptism when a person is given faith in Christ.

It is complete and perfect the instant God the Holy Spirit works faith in the heart of a new Christian by the Gospel. On Day One right through to the present, what a joy it is to know we have fellow believers, genuine brothers and sisters in Christ, all of whom are equal partakers with us in God's grace.

The apostle evokes deep emotions when he recalls this unity among Christians. He is moved by the sweetness of having such inseparable Christian friends. It is only right that we hold other believers sacredly in our hearts. The church is not a place of strife or rivalry but of harmony, unity, and concordia. We share one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all. We pray for each other, embrace each other, forgive each other, and desire for one another only what is fruitful and overflows with Christ.

On Sunday, August 17, when I was so graciously given by you, my Christian friends, so many thoughtful expressions upon my 25th anniversary of ordination to the public ministry, I thought of this passage from Philippians. Sue and I are grateful indeed for the generous gifts. The retreat to Traverse City and gift cards for dinners will all be thoroughly enjoyed. And for them we thank all of you sincerely. The kindness of those who thought to mark this milestone and the generosity from all of you is humbling. Thank you all so very much.

But it re-enforces most the realization that we are partners and co-workers in this life and ministry. If your kind gifts are for anything I have done, then they are far too much because I have done nothing. Christ does it all. What have any of us done except be recipients of His treasures?

St. Paul says it correctly in this text, "*He (that is Christ) who began a good work in you will bring it to completion —*" He began it. He will finish it. Our Lord Jesus is the architect and essence of our one life together. He works all the good we have. He pours out the forgiveness, the mercy, the hope, and the peace we receive. He is the one who will preserve and protect us through life and through death.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your *partnership in the gospel* from the first day until now.

And I am sure of this, that *he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ*. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1:3-11

We are His own body. That is how we are united.

As always, when you hear your pastor announce forgiveness, know it is not his word but the Word of Christ. When your pastor distributes the Body and Blood of Jesus to you for forgiveness, know this feast is celebrated across the whole church where the repentant cling to the words of our Savior. It's not the pastor's doing. It is our Lord's banquet of life given for you. And when we bow together in gratitude for the gifts God has showered on us, we know those gifts belong to us all.

Of course, not all serve as pastors, but the Office of the Holy Ministry is God's gift to the whole church. Not all of us are gifted in particular tasks or talents, but each is employed for the common good - and thereby are blessings to us all.

So also your thanks. I cannot say how much it means to me personally. But I also know every gratitude and credit belongs to our Lord who ultimately makes it ours by making us members of His own body. Who can comprehend such a marvel of unity and grace!

So, it is my prayer that His love will abound more and more in you as we approve what is excellent and come to the day of Christ filled with His righteousness, to the glory and praise of God.

God bless you. And thank you!

Pastor

“Feed my lambs. Take care of my sheep. Feed my sheep.”

Principal’s Report

By Peter Fredrich

All airlines have very detailed and strict guidelines for how passengers are to act, especially in emergency situations. One emergency situation is when passengers need to access the oxygen masks. The unwavering procedure is that adults traveling with children are instructed to have their own oxygen masks functioning and then they take care of the children’s masks. The obvious reason for this is that if the adults become disabled, the children will suffer and may even die.

While physical lives are at risk in airplane safety, spiritual lives and eternity are at stake if adults

do not grow spiritually. In John 21: 15 – 17, Jesus provides specific direction for the ministry Peter is to undertake. The first directive is to “Feed my lambs.” This illustrates Jesus’ concern for the “Little Ones.” To “feed” means to find good food.

The second injunction is to “Take care of my sheep.” Sheep here means adult Christians. Hebrews 13:17 reminds Christians that they should live their lives in such a way that makes the accounting process a joy and not a burden.

The third charge is to “Feed my sheep.” To “feed” is to continue to instruct. It points to the fact that adult Christians are to continue to grow and become teachers as Hebrews

5:12 teaches. Mentioning sheep two or three times does not minimize the concern for children. In fact, it enhances the ministry to children. Adult sheep that are well cared for will do a much better job of nurturing the lambs in the flock.

Parents who are well fed, spiritually and lovingly nurtured through Word and Sacrament can enjoy an intimate relationship with our loving Lord. This will be illustrated in their lives as well. They will also help their children to see and feel the tenderness of our gracious Lord. Knowing and experiencing the gracious love of God in their day-to-day activities will help the whole family live full and joy filled lives of service to Him.

JUNIOR HIGH HIGHLIGHTS

It is indeed a pleasure to see a classroom full of bright faces as we begin a new chapter in the lives of our junior high students. I welcome our 15 students. The bright lights of the sixth, seventh and eighth grade are: **Bailey, Laura, Matthew, Abbie, Travis, Melissa, Terry, Allyse, Brendan, Diondra, Ben, Mick, Joshua, Dylan, and Bethany.** Together we look forward to an exciting year. The start of a new year means the start of a new curriculum for our junior high students. Old Testament history unfolds God’s plan of salvation and focuses on the power of the Holy Spirit working through God’s Word to strengthen His people for the challenges of living and sharing their faith. Pastor Reed focuses on the doctrinal aspects of our church as he instructs the students in Confirmation four days each week. Our language textbook emphasizes the clear, concise instruction in the use

of Standard English. There will be an abundance of exercises, sentence diagramming, and composition that are related to the grammatical points being studied. In studying earth science, the students will learn about the land, water, and air that make up the planet on which we live. The series will help them become acquainted with our wonderfully created world, and other planets in space. In order to properly prepare our eighth graders for high school mathematics, we have accelerated our math studies a bit. The eighth graders will study algebra, while the sixth and seventh graders prepare for that by examining pre-algebra. The high schools want our graduates to have some background in algebra so that as their high school years unfold, higher-level mathematics can be taught. This is all in an effort to better prepare our students for the new state guidelines for high school

graduation. American History will cover the colonization and settlement of North America by various groups of people from Europe. It is interesting to note that most new settlers to this land came in search of religious freedom. We are blessed to have current, up-to-date textbooks that provide us with “modern” American history. We will continue to use the very successful Accelerated Reading Program. Students read from a selected list of over 4000 books. Upon the completion of the book, a series of comprehension questions are answered on the computer. The students then receive points for correctly answered questions. Points are accumulated on a quarterly basis and a grade is earned based on the total number of points. The reason this program is so successful is that students read books that interest them, while still building important comprehension skills.

Miss Rudick's Classroom

We have come to the beginning of another school year. This is a time to rejoice in all the blessings our Lord has bestowed upon us.

Our classroom set up will be a bit different from the last 4 years. Kindergarten and 1st grade will continue to be with me all day. 2nd grade will be going with Mrs. Arnold on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for reading, language, spelling, and social studies. It should be a fun and exciting time!



I would again like to extend the invitation to any congregational members who would be interested in coming to read to our class during story time. I have many books to choose

from in the classroom or you may bring in your own book to read. Our class has really enjoyed having Mrs. Reiss come in to read to them. If you are interested in this project, please contact me. Thanks!!!

Thank you to Judy Lance who has volunteered to come in and have our students read to her. Judy has been doing this for several years now. This has been very beneficial for students to have that extra time reading aloud to another person.

Our students really enjoy Mrs. Lance and feel very comfortable reading to her.

I look forward to another exciting year of school! Our brains are refreshed and we are ready to get back to work with a renewed spirit. It is important to get children back into their routine both in school and at home. Remember, a good night's sleep is always important for a productive school day. Also, take time for your child to eat breakfast. A child with a rumbling stomach will not be able to concentrate as well on his or her school work. Finally, begin thinking about how many after school activities your child will be involved in. After school activities are wonderful, but it seems that sometimes our children are involved in so many extra activities that they are constantly going somewhere and have very little "down time" at home with you.

I pray our Lord's blessings on this new and exciting school year!

FYI The E-mail addresses for our new teachers are mrgledhill@graceauburn.org and mrsanold@graceauburn.com. Any questions send them an e-mail.

Our first soccer game is September 11 against Midland St. John

The **24th Annual Michigan District Walther League and Young Adults Reunion** will be held on Saturday 27, 2008, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Lodge. Invite your Walther League & Young Adults friends for fellowship, merriment, reminiscing and a hot chicken buffet dinner. Speaker is Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Ahlersmeyer, President of Concordia University, Ann Arbor. Send your reservation and check for \$16.15 per person payable to Elna Kempff, 2252 Mallard Dr. Reese, MI 48757 or call 1 989 868-9921 by September 18. Please include list of names and addresses with maiden names where applicable.

Valley Lutheran News at a Glance

VLHS Entertainment Book Sale Books are currently on sale from any Valley Lutheran student or at the school office. A special price of \$20 is available. Contact any VLHS student, the VLHS office at 790-1676 or Lori Milroy at 790-1795.

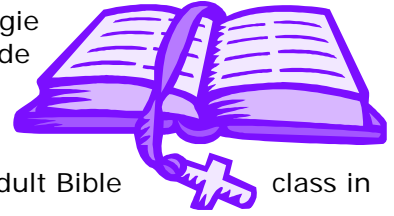
Volunteer Position at VLHS Anyone interested in tutoring special needs students should contact Lisa Meyers at 790-1676 or lmeyers@vlhs.com. Schedules are flexible and can be as little as one hour per week.

Cell phone recycling: Valley Lutheran High School is collecting used cell phones. VLHS will be paid by a recycling company for each cell phone. Accessories are not necessary and broken phones are also accepted. Phones may be dropped off at the high school, or given to any VLHS student. If you have any questions, please call Lori Milroy at 790-1795 or e-mail parentorg@vlhs.com

Parish Education

Our fall Sunday School and Bible classes begin on September 7th at 9:30 a.m. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help!

Gayle Wood will be teaching our Preschool – 1st grade students. Angie Meyer, Merry Lee, and Sarah VanTol will be teaching our 2nd – 4th grade students on a rotating basis. Ernie Weiss, Deb VanTol, and Tammy Hyatt will be teaching our 5th – 8th grade students on a rotating basis. Jeff Sugden and Linda Bebeau have volunteered to lead Youth Bible study. Tom Wegener and Connie Gengler have volunteered to lead adult Bible



class in addition to Pastor Reed's class.

Our Preschool – 8th grade students will begin each Sunday with an opening devotion in the gym. This devotion will be approximately 10 minutes in length. Our Youth and Adults are welcome to join us for opening.



There are still some jobs for people to do other than teaching. We will need people to arrange for snacks, make copies, monitor the classrooms to see if anything is needed, and someone to make sure the kids sign in at the attendance chart.

Anyone interested in any of these jobs or team teaching an Adult Bible class, Youth, or any of the Sunday School levels, please contact Annette Rudick or Gayle Wood.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH SPECIAL ACCOUNTS FUNDS: (DEDICATED ACCOUNTS)

- Church Memorial
- School Memorial
- Altar Flowers
- Choir
- Common Project
- Capital Improvement
- Debt Retirement/ Church Extension Fund
- Endowment Fund
- General Fund-Special Accounts
- Hand Bells
- Library Fund
- Lutheran Hour-Saginaw Valley
- Parking Lot Fund
- Scholarship (Concordia Compact)
- Sunday School
- Together in Mission (TIM)
- World Relief
- Vacation Bible School
- Youth Group

These are the funds set up for Memorial-Special Accounts. Please do not simply "create" a fund for your Memorial offering. Do not designate your offering to any other funds, especially those outside our congregation. If you want to contribute to another organization, please make your contribution directly to them, and not through the Grace Memorial Account.

Please remember, when you designate funds to a special account, it stays in that fund. You can contribute to the General-Fund-Special Accounts that will help with immediate congregational needs. Thank you.

Thrivent Match Update

As of August 31
our pledged
Amount for the
Thrivent
match is
\$16,750.00
This brings us
very near
the half way point
of meeting
our ambitious goal
of \$30,000
by December 31.
Thank you to all
who have seen
the benefit
of this matching
program
sponsored by
Thrivent Financial
for



Last Chance to Sign Up!!

Kick Back and Scrap VIII

September 12-13, 2008

**Grace Lutheran, Auburn
To benefit 7th & 8th Grade Spring, 2009
Trip to Washington D.C.**

**Saturday 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. \$35
Includes: breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks,
beverages, prizes and vendors on site and**

VENDOR BUCK\$

**Friday night 6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. \$15
Includes: dinner, pop, prizes, limited vendors
Leave your cropping supplies on site for Saturday**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Phone _____

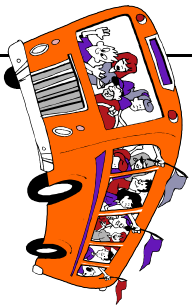
E-mail _____

Seat me with _____

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Make checks payable to Grace Lutheran

Mail registration to: Carol Harrison 5833 Carter Rd Freeland MI 48623 Questions call Carol at (989) 695-4760 or email at CarolHarrison@msn.com



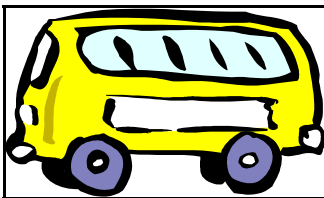
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 (H.C.) & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School Kick-Off	8 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	2 First Day of School 9:30 Opening worship	3 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 Worship	4 7:00 Senior Choir	5	6 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
7 8:00 (H.C.) & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School Kick-Off	8 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	9 7:00 Ladies of Grace 7:30 School Board	10 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Anniversary Meeting	11 7:00 Senior Choir Soccer vs. Midland	12	13 8:00 am Women's Bible Study Kick Back & Scrap VIII
14 8:00 & 10:30 (H.C.) Worship 9:30 Voters Meeting	15 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	16 7:00 Board of Elders Soccer at Amelith	17 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Worship	18 7:00 Senior Choir Soccer vs. Zion B.C.	19	20 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
21 8:00 (H.C.) & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Bible Study	22 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	23 7:00 C.P.T.L. Meeting Soccer at Trinity	24 7:00 pm Worship	25 7:00 Senior Choir Soccer vs. St. Paul	26	27 8:00 am Women's Bible Study Soccer Invitational at Zion Beaver
28 8:00 & 10:30 (H.C.) Worship 9:30 Bible Study	29 7:00 Executive Board	30		<div style="background-color: #2e5c5c; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <h1 style="margin: 0;">September</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Grace Church Calendar</h2> </div>		

Grace Lutheran Church and School
303 W. Ruth Street
Auburn, Michigan 48611

Rev. David H. Reed, Pastor
Mr. Peter Fredrich, Principal

Return Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage
#19 PAID #19
Bulk Mail



September

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Curtis Fiebke, 1 Bruce Lance, 1 Alisha Mularz, 3 Daniel Card, 3 Chase Jezowski, 4 Patrick Kraatz, 4 Maxine LeBeau, 5 Charlotte Nuffer, 7 Violet Koehler, 7 Robert Schmidt, 8 Dale Ruff, 8 Gregory Schmidt, 9 Megan Mularz, 9 Jessica Ruff, 10 Larry Bauer, 10 Mark Geneseo, 11 Judy Pfundt, 12 Audrey Stagra, 14 Steven Feinauer, 14 James Klann, 14 Michael Klann, 15 Brenda Krystosek, 15 Elmer Reiss, 16 Eric Alexander, 16 Pam Horneber, 17 Leslie Gray, 17 Karen Rauschenberger, 17 Sarah Lone, 18 Rayferd Ralph, 18 Kaylee Roebuck, 18 Shirley Wegener, 19 Haleigh McNally, 19 Sally Netkowski, 19 Oscar Wegener, 20 LeRoy Taglauer, 20 Shirley Trestrail, 20 Sarah VanTol, 22 Paul Kalitta, 23 Janet Dietlein, 23 Ashleigh Lone, 23 Jazmyne Jezowski, 24 Joy Marotzke, 24 Olive Schmidt, 26 Linda Jean, 26 Margaret Kent, 26 Kenneth Wegener, 27 Ann Petrosky, 28 Doreen Hetzner, 29 Elliot Hopcroft

Anniversaries

2 Kim & Brenda Gray, 10 Richard & Karen Burch, 11 Douglas & Ginger Behmlander, 12 Russell & Kathleen Pickelman, 14 Roland & Ellen Reiss, 15 Kim & Betty Herbolzheimer, 24 Jeffrey & Catherine Sugden, 25 John & Pamela Whalen, 30 Michael & Carol Bickham Sr