

November 2009

GRACE SPOTLIGHTER

Important Dates

Nov. 1 - Reformation/All Saints

Nov. 8 - Voters' Assembly

Nov. 22 - Anniversary Sunday

Nov. 25-26 Thanksgiving

RECOLLECTION OF GRACE FOUNDING

By Gene Wirsing

(The following is a digest of an recollection written in conjunction with our 50th anniversary as a congregation. The full article can be found on our Grace web site.

It hardly seems 50 years have gone since about 2 dozen of us met the first time in a classroom at the old Auburn Elementary School. Auburn was ripe for a new mission church. The bulk of those present were members of either Zion, Beaver or Trinity, Monitor. We needed to think and pray about whether to proceed.

A month later with approximately 35-40 people present, a motion was offered, unanimously approved, to organize a mission congregation in the immediate Auburn area.

We needed 3 "founding" officers. When I was nominated for treasurer I tried my very best to get out of it. I was too young, too inexperienced, didn't have the time, etc. Pastor Bickel (*from St. John, Amelith*) got me aside and said "Gene, take this, I promise you that you will never regret it. There are only a very few people who will ever have an opportunity like this".

To this day I thank God for Pastor Bickel's persuasion. J. Elmer Schmidt was elected chairman, Carl Nuffer secretary and myself treasurer. I believe there were about 60 members signed on as we began the work of a new congregation.

We were told a pastor Robert Kavasch had been assigned to us. Then also a pressing need was the location of land to locate. Trinity was gracious to allow us their 8:00 a.m. time slot so we could hold our services in their sanctuary. What an exciting time. Every step was breaking new ground.

Out of the blue Ernie LeVasseur said he heard we were looking for a place to build our church. Well, in short order J. Elmer, Carl and I were standing in the middle of a farm field (*owned by Ernie and Henry Rosenbrock*) with only one big tree on the entire place. I suspect we were standing right about where the altar stands. It was a "Godsend" for us. We agreed on \$12,000 for 8-1/2 acres. The Mission Board gave its approval and we were in business.

Now we ran into a major obstacle. The Mission Board policy was to develop a "church only". We adamantly held to the position "No School - No Church". After seeing our strong resolve, the Board relented and allowed the inclusion of a four classroom school.

A major undertaking Pastor Kavasch spear-headed was a stewardship drive with the goal of every member committing a weekly/monthly "first fruits" pledge. This was an entirely new concept for most if not all of us. He started with each of the officers, going one on one with each of us until he had 100% participation

The "Pledge Sunday" ended as a booming success. Pastor Kavasch had a saying "We can't force someone to give, but we can make him feel pretty uncomfortable about it", and it worked.

In looking back, one must marvel at how God's hand was evident in guiding us through some of those seemingly insurmountable challenges. In those early days, the church office was in the basement of Pastor's house. The bulk of meetings were held there as well (on occasion at the Auburn Hotel). Congregation membership increased dramatically. The school opened initially with the



lower grades only. They were taught by principal Mr. Leroy Laeder and Miss Lunann Leifer.

In my heart Grace will forever be our Church. I often think back to those words of sainted Pastor Bickel. "Gene, you will never regret it." Oh how I thank God for Pastor Bickel's encouragement. I wouldn't trade the Grace experience for anything, other than my family. I cherish it as the most significant thing I have done in my lifetime - to the Glory of God!

PASTOR HAKES TO PREACH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

The third of our special 50th anniversary celebration Sundays, scheduled for November 22, will be especially exciting for us.

Former pastor of Grace, Rev. David Hakes, will be our guest preacher for this third in the series of 50th anniversary celebrations marking a half-century of Christian ministry at Grace Lutheran Church, Auburn.

Pastor Hakes faithfully served here from 1974 to 1991. He currently serves as intentional interim at Immanuel, Bay City. As an interim pastor he assists congregations during times of vacancy / transition. Since retirement from Saint Michael, Richville, he has done interim ministries at Lutheran churches in Harrison, Pinconning, Standish, and Bay City.

Our first two anniversary celebrations in September and October were outstanding occasions to remember God's blessings to our church. We continue our thanksgiving for these gifts in the special anniversary service now scheduled for November 22 at the 10:30 worship hour.

IS THE SKY FALLING?

And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky". And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day. — Genesis 1

I confess I have been (more than) a little pessimistic these days. Like Chicken Little my concerns have been, let's say, broad and a little overboard. To begin with, I read about the Sept. 28th vote in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany to reject accepting the Augsburg Confession of 1530 as one of its fundamental documents. In the secular world, due to the financial crisis, housing bubble, etc., the national economy in general and the Michigan state economy in particular are going through some very difficult times. We're now in our ninth year of the war in Afghanistan and our seventh year in Iraq. And don't even get me started on so-called "Global Warming," "climate change," or whatever they're calling it these days. (Didn't God say, "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease"?) So what about the sky? Is it falling?

In a word...no. First of all, Jesus Himself said, "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." But if you're like me and have sinned by worrying, let us all take comfort in the Law & Gospel that Our Lord preached in His Sermon on the Mount.

"Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

So, what are we to do? Repent and believe! Confess your sins before God and believe in the Gospel. Rejoice that through Holy Baptism your name has been written in the Book of Life. "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you," go about your life's work in the joy and confidence that you're a forgiven sinner and this world is not all there is. Martin Luther once said, "But with a man who belongs to an everlasting kingdom all is well and it is fitting that he should dance through life forevermore."



Let's dance.

Pastor Wade Seaver

GOD PREFERS MERCY OVER SACRIFICE



1 Samuel 15 tells about King Saul who kept the plunder of sheep and oxen contrary to a clear command of God. In spite of impressive protests he was sparing these animals for sacrifice, the Lord wasn't impressed. For Saul, this was spiritual "make-believe." Insistence that he intended to acknowledge God was pious baloney.

That sounds like observing a Thanksgiving which emphasizes God's generosity but leaves sin and grace ignored. Another kind of imaginary thanksgiving Jesus spoke about. He pictures the self-righteous Pharisee praying in the temple, "I thank you, God, that I'm not like other men." Thank you; thank you. But read Matthew 23 and see how Jesus condemned such Thanksgiving.

Those who brag on themselves better see whether they have fallen from grace. They don't thank God for his merciful Son, Jesus Christ, because they don't feel they need him.

A fake Thanksgiving isn't worth taking off to celebrate and is contrary to the good pleasure of God who despises ingratitude in the lives of His creatures.

Cain didn't succeed with offerings because, unlike Abel, there was no trusting faith in the promises of God's grace. But I'll grant him this: at least Cain attempted to offer an outward expression. Many today don't even show that degree.

Blind to sin, they are blind to God's mercy and unappreciative of his grace. The only thing the spiritually dead see is a bigger warehouse they dream of having to store all they have acquired.

How different from the Christian heart and home. Yes, we acknowledge ourselves forgetful and ungrateful, but that is not the new man in Christ restored daily by baptism. To observe Thanksgiving, is to know the reasons for it, things many others wouldn't dare to list. As a child of God, the Christian places this reason first for his thanks: I have been forgiven my sins by God through Christ.

If we want to know what it means to live in thanks, consider the memorable Thanksgiving on Mount Ararat when Noah and his family gave thanks to God after the misery of the flood. And then there was Job who gave thanks even during the greatest hardships, "The Lord has given and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord," he said.

The strange irony is that Christians receive strength in Christ even to thank God for things we wish would be removed but God prefers to remain. The psalmist writes, "It is good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees." (Psalm 119:71)

Hard times don't convert people, but hardships impress us with our weakness. That's when God's Word is so wonderful and comforting to us. Adversity tests faith. But under the promises of Christ we learn to give thanks even for bitterness because we are learning God's faithfulness.

How could St. Paul bear the strain of that thorn in his flesh he asked God three times to remove? He realized it kept him dependent on God's grace. Because of this, he could even thank God for something he didn't pray for. In that same confidence and gratitude may we be granted a blessed Thanksgiving and ever thankful hearts.

Pastor Reed

OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK FOR GRACE SCHOOL TOPIC OF UPCOMING VOTERS ASSEMBLY

Grace Lutheran School also celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Since 1959, hundreds of boys and girls have been blessed as students of our school centered in Jesus Christ. From the very beginning of our congregation, Christian parents and church members have considered Lutheran education indispensable for the indoctrination of children into the saving faith and for providing unparalleled primary school education.

We have often heard future educators who have received graduates from Grace indicate they know these students came from a Lutheran school. Their preparation for life and educational foundation has been invaluable.

Thorough communication and collaboration is essential as the next chapter of our school is undertaken. All our members who have valued and supported the best in Christian education have a stake in Grace School.

With Mr. Peter Fredrich's retirement at the end of this school year after 35 years in the classroom, the Board for Elementary Education has been early in shaping possible plans with the intent of being proactive. Therefore, the upcoming Voters' Assembly scheduled for November 8, will give you a preview of some options and recommendations from the board.

Since no further collaborative efforts are currently being considered with Trinity, Monitor, Grace will continue as the parish parochial school we have always been. We have outstanding teachers and committed parents. We have a history of consistent congregational support. And we have a valuable ministry to children, each one of whom is precious and our Lord's sight.

The Voters will have an opportunity to ask questions about the proposals and profile coming from the School Board. No decisions will be made in November. However, a possible special meeting before the end of the year will consider staffing, enrollment, financing, and facility factors.

We thank God for our school and its strengths. As Mr. Gene Wirsing said of the founders of Grace; their position from the beginning was "No School - No Church." That spirit remains at Grace. Please make plans to be with us for the upcoming voters assembly between services on Sunday, November 8.



Thanksgiving Services

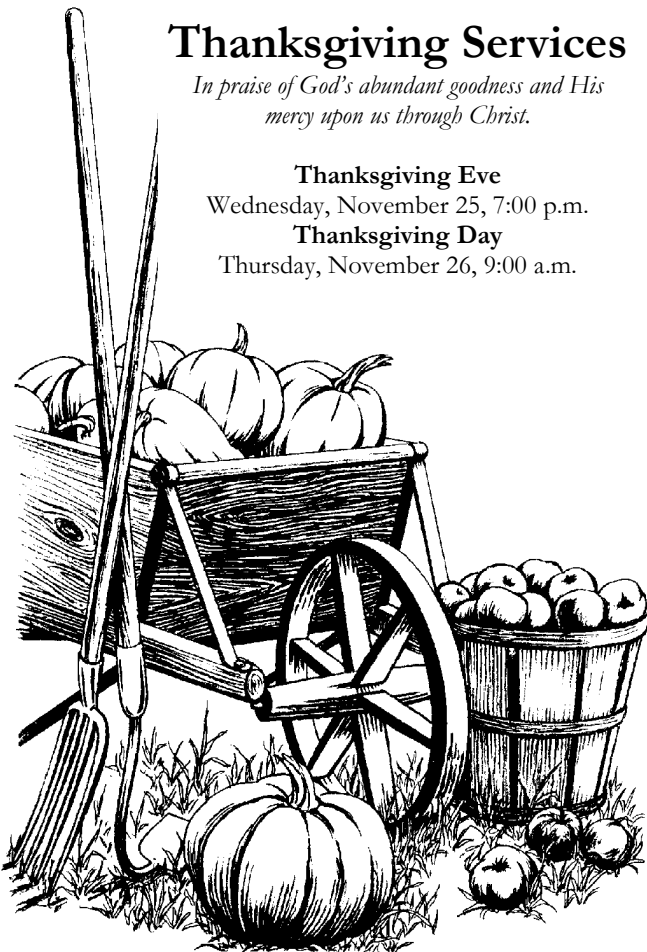
In praise of God's abundant goodness and His mercy upon us through Christ.

Thanksgiving Eve

Wednesday, November 25, 7:00 p.m.

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 26, 9:00 a.m.



The Future is Now
In partnership with
Fan into Flame

In celebration of 125 years of blessings, the Michigan District has established three initiatives:

- Intentional Mission Development: \$5,000,000
- Recruiting and Deploying Professional Church Worker Students: \$5,000,000
- Partnering with LCMS World Mission: \$3,000,000

The **Future is Now** in partnership with **Fan into Flame** provides opportunity for congregations and members of the Michigan District to bestow a thank offering for the blessings received from our Lord. Each of us should rise to these continuing challenges, and make a difference for the future that can only happen through shared purpose and common goals.

Through this joint effort, we hope to:

- Add Missionaries in the field
- Provide funding for new ministry starts, leadership training centers, and new schools
- Build new seminary facilities
- Respond to opportunities and emergencies

The Michigan District is honored to be able to help reach the lost throughout the world as we work to share the gospel with the lost throughout our District. Our prayer is that each individual, congregation, or church group will help make a difference that can only happen through shared purpose, common goals and commitment to growing Christ's Kingdom.

Cough ... Sniffle ... Sniff: Keeping the Flu Bugs at Bay

by Peter Fredrich, Principal

Birds and pigs, type A or B, H1N1, fever, aches, and/or vomiting—just what is flu and how might you prevent it? Flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by a virus. Because it is a virus, antibiotics are ineffective. In fact, antibiotics can make it harder for your body to defeat the virus because they target healthy as well as harmful bacteria.

Health departments pay close attention to the spread of flu virus for several reasons. First, we may be overdue for a pandemic (an epidemic that covers a large area of population), and second, we live in a time where travel to other countries is quick and frequent, giving viruses a free and efficient ride everywhere. The last pandemic, in 1918, took an estimated 20 to 40 million lives, so it is easy to see why governments and health departments want to stay on top of flu viruses.

A flu virus can get its name from the animal in which it originates. If a virus stays within a species, it would not be a problem for us. However, viruses can mutate, and once humans are able to catch a virus from an animal, the virus poses a threat. It can become an epidemic if the virus mutates to a form that can travel from human to human. We cannot “catch” a swine flu virus from eating pork, but we can be infected from being around people already infected with the virus. Also, a person sick with a virus can be infectious from one day before symptoms begin to up to five days after. This is a relatively large window of opportunity to spread the virus.

Be offensive – To use a well-known sports phrase, the best defense against the flu virus is a good offense. Once you catch the virus, there are a few remedies that can lessen the effects. The best way to beat it is not to catch it. Add these suggestions to your flu-fighting repertoire: God does not promise that we will be spared illness ... He gives us guidelines as a measure of His love for us. The health and strength with which He blesses us is a reminder of His grace and mercy. His love and protection are always with us.

Vaccinations: Scientists work months ahead of flu season to predict

which viruses will be most likely to spread for the coming year. They devise and prepare vaccinations to give your immune system the antibodies it needs to seek and destroy the flu virus. It is partly a guessing game, so it is not 100 percent effective, but vaccinations represent your best bet in preventing flu. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends children from ages 6 months to 18 years receive a yearly flu vaccination. Check with your doctor about whether a vaccination is the best course of action for your child. A vaccination takes at least two weeks to be effective, so get this done in advance of flu season.

Keep those hands clean: If the flu virus had to depend on air alone to get from one human to the other, it wouldn't stand much of a chance. Flu viruses have their own form of public transportation; our hands provide them with a free bus ride. Hands touch things that have been sneezed or coughed on and then touch mouths, eyes, and noses. From there, it is a short hop, skip, and a jump to invade our immune system. Scientists estimate that 80 percent of all infections are contracted through our hands. Everyone can use a review of proper hand-washing techniques—you need water, soap, friction, and ample time. Teach your children to lather up with soap and water. Then they need to scrub for enough time to physically wash the germs away. If they can scrub for the duration of one verse and a chorus of “Jesus Loves Me,” they will be able to wave bye-bye to germs as they are rinsed down the sink. It is especially important to wash hands before eating.

Keep those hands down: Gently remind your child to keep his hands away from his nose, mouth, and eyes. This can be an enormous challenge but one well worth the effort.

Stay healthy: Proper dieting, exercising, hydration, and sleeping are the best way to fight a virus. Don't keep healthy children

from going outside in cold weather, as breathing fresh air is better than staying inside where the air is more likely to carry germs. Make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather.

Stop the spread: Once a flu virus has invaded your school or community, there are ways to keep it from spreading. First, follow your local health department's guidelines regarding sick children staying home. Even if your child does not have the flu, adding a new virus or bacterial infection into the school air can greatly complicate things. Also, if your child is recovering from the flu and goes back to school too early, he or she is at risk of picking up a bacterial infection that can be even worse than the flu. No one likes to miss work or school because of illness, but if sick people stay home until they recover, there will be fewer missed days because of illness for everyone. Second, teach your child to use a tissue when coughing or sneezing and to throw the tissue in the trash. Children are not always good about having tissues on hand, however, so it also is good to teach them to use their “arm pocket” or elbow.

Some seasons the current flu virus barely gets any press. Other years the media fills the air with warnings of what is to come. Regardless of what this year brings, we can be certain of this: Our heavenly Father loves us, knows what is best for us, and will protect us.

The Board of Elementary Education has been evaluating the current and future needs of our school. The three circumstances that come into play are the declining enrollment of our student body, the current financial situation of our congregation, and the reduction in staff with the retirement of the principal. We began with a discussion of what is the purpose of our school – that being, to provide a quality Christ-centered education to our children! We discussed five options for the 2010 – 11 school year. They were, close the school, operate a pre-school through grade 5, operate a pre-school through grade 8, operate a kindergarten through grade 5, and operate a kindergarten through grade 8. We examined logistics, staffing, financial advantages or disadvantages, pros and cons, and how would a decision

impact our congregation and students. After thoroughly and openly discussing all options, they will be recommending to the Executive Board that for 2010 – 11, we operate a kindergarten through grade 8 school, staffed by 2 ½ educators. Grades K – 4 would be together and instructed by 1 ½ educators. Grades 5 – 8 would be together and receive instruction from one educator. The Executive Board will evaluate the Board's recommendation and make a recommendation of their own to the Voters' Assembly on November 8. No final decisions will be made until a special Voters' Assembly is called for some time in December.

Volleyball is underway. This year, the Bay/Mid League is trying a co-ed team. Thanks to our coaches, referees, and line judges for their volunteering. Games are played beginning at 5:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For a listing of games, consult our web site, look under school and then sports schedule.

The first quarter marking period ends on November 6. Parent/teacher conferences will be scheduled for the evening of November 11th and in the afternoon and evening of November 12th and the afternoon of November 13th if necessary. All parents will be scheduled for an appointment with their child(s) teacher. Classes will end at noon on both November 12h and 13th.

Thanksgiving is November 26th, and there will be no classes in session November 25th, 26th, or 27th.

Junior High Highlights

Seventh grade math will continue with the exploration of percent. Our learning will focus on finding the percentage of a number, finding the percent one number is of another number, finding the percent of increase or decrease, and finding a number when a percent of it is known. Eighth grade algebra studies continue working with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of rational numbers. We have completed a reading of the U.S. Constitution in its entirety. Although this was a time consuming task, a complete reading and discussion is necessary to get a full understanding of our democratic form of government and how it works. The Constitution guarantees every citizen certain rights. Along with these rights comes the responsibility to preserve, protect, and defend them. Our religion instructions have brought us to the point where Christ has called the twelve Apostles. As He begins his ministry, Christ tells many parables - an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. Science explores genetics - the study of how offspring inherit characteristics from their parents and how the DNA determines these characteristics found in the chromosomes. The students will soon begin preparing

for their first oral book report in language. This presentation, given in front of the class, helps eliminate one of the greatest fears of most people, public speaking. My students are using our computer lab several times each week. Their typing skills are really improving. We are working to improve their words per minute ratio as well as accuracy. Practice pays off and, as we all know, it's a skill everyone needs to master.



Taking a break from those speed typing tests!



October Fire Prevention Month

Fire Fighters from Auburn-Williams fire department came on October 15th to teach our students about fire safety.



Nate spraying the fire hose

First, they talked to the students about items that only adults should handle such as: lighters, candles, and gas cans. Next, they helped the students practice how to check a door to see if it is safe to go out during a fire. Then one of the fire fighters put on all of his fire fighting gear so the students could see and

hear what a fire fighter looks and sounds like with all the equipment on. Finally, the students toured a fire truck and got the chance to squirt the hose on the fire truck. Our younger students were especially excited to find out the one of the fire fighters, Paul Wood, is the son of their Sunday school teacher, Gail Wood. It was a very exciting morning!



Showing how the fire equipment works

Miss Rudick's Class

We are quite busy and into our routine in our classroom. The kindergarten students have learned the routine very quickly. Sometimes they seem to know the routine better than the 1st and 2nd grade students. Keep up the good work Sarah, Nate, and Allyson!!!

We had quite an exciting time when our local fire fighters came to teach us about fire safety! It is always fun to have them visit and teach us!

In Religion we have just finished studying God's plan for Moses and the people of Israel. The students just completed their "Moses" books and are beginning their "Dozen" books as we continue to study about the Israelites and the 12 tribes.

In science we are studying and observing all types of living things.



Learning about all living things.

We are learning how all plants have roots, stems, and leaves. We have also learned that some plants also have flowers.

In social studies we are talking about all the different workers within our schools. We are also beginning to learn about maps and how to read them.

Review work is completed in math and reading. We have now moved on to more chal-

lenging things.

In math the kindergarten students are learning to identify their numbers to 20. 1st grade students are learning more about patterns, calendars, and comparing numbers. 2nd grade students are working more with 2-digit addition and subtraction.

In reading the kindergarten students are learning to identify capital and lowercase letters. They are also beginning to learn high-frequency words such as: "the", "and", "I", "am". 1st and 2nd grade students are reading longer and more challenging stories.

We continue to enjoy having Mrs. Reiss come to read to us. We also love having Mrs. Lance come so we can practice reading to her. May the Lord continue to bless each of you throughout this year.

Gledhill Gators

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father.

Fall has fallen as temperatures drop and the trees are brushed onto God's palette. Trees are preparing for a long slumber, but things are cooking right along here at Grace. Students are continually active in learning about their lives as young Christians and placing their trust in Christ Jesus. Just as the Father has blessed them with thirsty minds, we are providing them with the knowledge to utilize that gift.

The students were presented, once again, with a wonderful presentation from our local fire department. The representatives were knowledgeable, patient, and accommodating to the students. It is always a fun experience for the students.



Lachlan driving the fire truck

As we await the arrival of the Science Kits, we

press on with our curriculum of soil, minerals, and natural resources. The students are very inquisitive and eager to extend beyond the text book. I enjoy the challenge.

I am especially excited about the Social Studies unit we are working on. We are learning about pioneers, founders, and the history of a particular town in Florida. The students will learn about primary sources and secondary sources pertaining to historians. They, in turn will become historians for the town of Auburn. They are going to love it!

The original stories that the students are writing are starting to come in for final publication. They are incredible! If you caught the last issue, they were all required to include in their stories the same elements as far as main character, setting, and problem – with some varying details for consistency. Aside from that, they make the story their own. I am very proud of their efforts!

Ironically enough, all three grades are doing similar Math units. They are each in lessons of measurement. They move from linear, to liquid, to physical, to conversions. All at difficulty-levels relative to the grade level, of course.



Working Hard, Doing Math

I was pleased to take my students on our first field-trip this year. We went to see the film, *Where The Wild Things Are*. But not without studying the book first. We discussed the qualities that earned it the Caldecott Medal in 1964. We looked at the illustrations and followed the story line and related it to the feelings and imaginations that they have, so that they could better relate to the character – both in the book, as well as the film. Upon our return, we tried to recall as many points from the film that were consistent with aspects of the book. It was an enjoyable experience for all the students.

We near the close of the first marking period. We ask your continued prayers and support for our students – your children, and our staff. Blessings to all.

Memorials



Soli Deo Gloria

Given in Memory

Charlotte Nuffer

By

Jim & Gloria Kundering
Lucille Koehler
Bob & Olive Schmidt
Sharon Kayden
Lloyd & Shirley Atton
Gordon & Marge Marner
Lee & Cherye Krueger
Bob & Brenda Krystosek
Rita Reiss
Earl & Irene Schmidt
Walt Barber Family
Ellen Reiss
Rosemary Bush
Mike & Gayle Hnautiuk
Rose McNally
Loretta Reinecke
Pete & Cindy Fredrich
Polly Behmlander
Dorothy Stieve
Jim & Rhonda Klann
Debi Stieve
Ruth Roth
Gary & Mary Jane Neuman
Barb & Jan Hofmeister
Bruce & Judy Lance
Dave & Paula Wegener
Elmer & Irene Taglauer
Elmer & Barb Reiss
Paul & Linda Varner
Dale & Sharon Pickelman
Shirley Wegener
Duane & Lynn Schmidt
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Chapman
Joanie Pickelman
Kim & Dan Snover
Larry & Kathy Eichinger
Rosie Taglauer
Bonnie Cole
Don & Darlene Pfannes
Edna Wittbrodt
Marion Zupin & family

Les & Shirley Gray
Jim & Paula Zoller
Bernadine Budzinski
Ron & Mary Naumowicz
Darlene Miller
John & Rosalie Schmidt
Mr. & Mrs. Don Wirsing
Leonard & Shirley Kraatz
Les & Virginia Behmlander
Donna Geneseo
Ron & Tarry Parker

Floyd Hall

By

Robin & Linda Bebeau

Norman Walter

By

Don Wackerly
Bill & Elaine Schmidt

Wilma Sauer

By

Polly Behmlander
Elmer & Irene Taglauer

Jerry Rodriguez

By

Ruth Roth

Janet Feinauer

By

Polly Behmlander

Dolores Beck

By

Rose McNally

Our Next 50th Anniversary Service Mission Ministry

The next special anniversary service will be held on Sunday, November 22 at 10:30. The emphasis of our service will be Mission Ministry. This is particularly appropriate because of the mission status of our congregation in its early days.



We will host former Pastor David Hakes as our guest speaker, and a choral group from Concordia, Ann Arbor, under the direction of Mr. Brian Altevogt. A short devotional service will take place at 8:00 am, the main emphasis being placed on the 10:30 Divine Service.



Following the service, we will hold a potluck lunch in the gym. You are asked to bring items for the lunch according to the following directions: A-F cold salad, veggie tray, fruit salad, G-L main dish, M-S hot veggie or potato, T-Z dessert. Ham, rolls, and drinks will be furnished. A short program will follow.

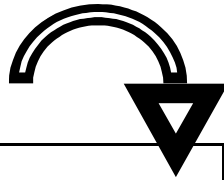


Annual Auburn Area Community Christmas Sing-A-Long

The Community Sing-A-Long will be held on Sunday, December 6th starting at 5:30 pm. We are hosting this yearly event at our church in connection with our 50th anniversary celebrations. All Grace members are invited to participate in the choir that will be formed from the various churches from the Auburn area. Rehearsals will be conducted on November 1st, 8th, and 29th at the Auburn United Methodist Church. Rehearsals on the 22nd and December 6th will be held at Grace. All the November rehearsals will extend from 2:00 to 3:00 pm. Questions ask Tom Wegener.



Notices



Valley Lutheran Holiday Bazaar

Bake Shoppe & Luncheon
November 7, 9:00 – 3:00 pm.
Luncheon 11:00 -1:00 pm
Craft Tables for rent, Call Paula 989-280-8401

St Lorenz Fish Fry

Friday, Nov. 13, 4-7 p.m.
At St. Lorenz School
Adults \$8.50 Children (4-12) \$4.50
Under 4 –free
Take – Outs \$7.75 at circle drive area. If dining in park in the east parking lot by gym.

Holiday Bazaar

St. John Midland
505 E. Carpenter Rd.
Saturday, November 7th
9:00 am.-3:00 pm.
Lunch and other food available

Grave Blanket and Wreaths

Zion Lutheran Church of Beaver Township will be holding it's annual grave blanket sale November 14-22. Hours on Saturday, November 14 and 21 will be from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm. Hours on Sunday, Nov. 15 and 22 will be from 8:30 am until noon. Hours on Monday to Friday, Nov. 16 to 20, will be from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. A variety of grave decorations will be available as well as wreaths and swags. If you would like more information or would like to place a special order, call 662-4170 or 662-4650.



“Christ Have Mercy - How to Put Your Faith in Action”

You are invited to join the members of St. John, Amelith for Christ Have Mercy an afternoon with Rev. Matthew Harrison, Executive Director of LCMS World Relief and Human Care. The afternoon seminar is Sunday, Nov. 8th from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at St. John. A light supper will be served at 4:30 p.m. Freewill offering designated for LCMS World Relief will be taken. Rev. Harrison's book “Christ Have Mercy” will be available for purchase.

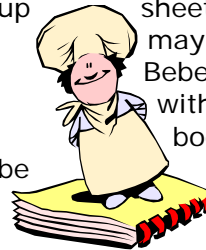
Amazin” Grace 50th Anniversary Cookbook

Taking Orders for Grace Anniversary Cookbook
As we celebrate our 50th year, we reflect on how God has blessed our congregation with faithful pastors who preach Christ crucified. Being good Lutherans, eating together centers around many of our activities and we're taking orders for our 50th Anniversary Cookbook - **Amazing Grace**. featuring some of those potluck dishes you've enjoyed through the years. The book has over 200 pages of recipes from our Grace family and friends and sells for \$12.00. Place your order before Wednesday Nov. 4th. A sign up

sheet is available at the Usher's Desk. You may also contact the church office, Linda Bebeau, Sue Roth or Virginia Behmlander with your order. You may pay for the books when they arrive, which should be around November 15th.

The profits raised from this cookbook will be sent to the worldwide radio ministry of Issues Etc who faithfully provides Christ Centered Cross Focused talk radio for today's thinking Christian. Their ministry reaches across the globe and has converted many people to faith in Christ. Our congregation is currently a member of the Issues Etc. 300 Club and receives on the air advertising as well as a listing in the online journal promoting our Christ centered confessional congregation.

Thank you to all of you who contributed your recipes and a big thank you to Sue Roth and Virginia Behmlander for all their help creating this book. -- to Christ be the glory!!



Grace Christmas Ornaments



Our youth will be selling Grace 50th anniversary commemorative Christmas ornaments. These beautiful keepsake ornaments from Bronner's will be sold in December for \$10.00 each. Look for a sign up poster in the narthex to reserve yours. You may also want to order some for your family members. They make great gifts!

Directory Address Update

We are working on an update for our phone/address directory. Please let the office know if there has been a change of phone, address or e-mail so that we may be as current as possible. This would also include children that have moved into other areas or new addresses. Any questions please call the office at 662-6161.

“Valley Lutheran Booster Fruit Club”

“Valley Lutheran Booster Club is selling Florida Indian River seedless oranges, pink grapefruit and tangelos. Money raised will help support the Music, Drama, and Athletic Programs. Deadline for receiving orders is Friday, November 13th. Orders can be picked up Saturday, December 5th at Valley Lutheran from 7:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. Place your orders by contacting any Valley Lutheran student or call Valley Lutheran at 790-1676 or Bill Ankoviak at 781-5796.” Prices are as follows:

- \$21.00- 20# carton Indian River Navel Oranges
- 21.00 - 20# carton Pink Grapefruit
- 28.00 - 40# carton Indian River Navel Oranges
- 28.00 - 40# carton Pink Grapefruit
- 22.00 - 20# mixed Indian River Navel Oranges/Pink Grapefruit
- 29.00 - 40# mixed Indian River Navel Oranges/Pink Grapefruit
- 21.00 - 20# carton Tangelos



VLHS Fall Instrumental Concert



The annual VLHS Fall Instrumental Concert will be held on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the school gym. The evening will include performances by Valley’s Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band and Symphonic Band, as well as other small ensembles, under the direction of Miss Lindsay Meyer. There is no admission charge and a free-will offering will be taken to support the music program. Contact Miss Meyer at 790-1676 (ext. 41) with any questions. We hope you join us for an evening of glorifying God through music!

“Hope Rising 2009”



Join us for a concert featuring NEWWORLDSON, Matt Moore and Livingstones. Saturday, November 7 at 7:00 pm at the State Theatre, 913 Washington Avenue, Bay City for more information call 989-892-2660. Tickets are \$6.00 at the box office or see Ray Garcia.

Anniversary Albums

We have completed the distribution of the anniversary albums to all our members and have plenty left. If anyone wishes to purchase additional albums for \$5.00 each, you can see one of the anniversary committee members or the church secretary.



Will You Please Help Us?

This is a list of persons who were confirmed at Grace as a youth in the past 50 years that we were unable to locate. If you have any information or any way to contact these individuals, please call Judy Lance at 989-662-6785 or email to brucelance@hotmail.com.

Thanks. The number after the name indicates the year of confirmation.

Pam Smith 61, David Bleck 62, Craig Osteen, Larry Quintel, Dale Smith 63, Carol Bleck, Paula Hart, Margie Quintel 65, Allen Rosekrans 67, John Tiede 69, Denise Tiede, Kimberly Joslin 72, Ginger Cohrs 76, Craig Evans, Anita Warner, 78, Mile Elowsky 79, Cory Livingston 81, Kevin Forester, Angie Hrcka, Fran Livingston 82, Rachel Kuch 83, Donna Brothwell, Brad Gafke 84, Jason Hayward, Michelle Brothwell, Steve Herman, Vicki Hrcka, Scott Wisner 85, Carla Merrill 86, Randy Jammer 90, Joy Valley, Steve Battle, Kelly Dove, Melissa Gokey 94, Matt Beyersdorf 02, Caitlin Schafer 06.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 (H.C.) & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School	2 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	3 7:00	4 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Worship Holy Communion	5 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Jr. Confirmation	6	7 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
8 8:00 & 10:30 (H.C.) Worship 9:15 Voters Assembly 9:30 Sunday School	9 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	10 7:00 Board of Elders 7:30 School Board	11 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Worship	12 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Jr. Confirmation 1/2 day Parent/ teacher conf.	13 1/2 day Parent/ teacher conf.	14 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
15 8:00 (H.C.) & 10:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School	16 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	17 7:00 Board of Elders	18 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Worship Holy Communion	19 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Jr. Confirmation	20	21 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
22 8:00 & 10:30 (H.C.) Worship 9:30 Sunday School Anniversary Celebration Potluck Dinner	23 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study	24 7:00 CPPTL Meeting	25 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eye Service NO SCHOOL	26 9:00 am Thanksgiving Worship NO SCHOOL	27	28 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
29 8:00 (H.C.) & 10:30 (H. C.) Worship 9:30 Sunday School	30 7:00 Executive Bd					

November
Grace Church Calendar

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



November

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

1 Olivia Mantei, 1 Kendra Meyer, 3 Jonathon Clarey, 5 Wendy Arnold, 5 Judy Kuch, 5 Allen Ousterhout, 5 Dale Pickelman, 9 Dylan Jean, 9 Kevin Mularz, 9 Wilmar Schmidt, 10 Ervin Kuch, 10 Roxanne Lone, 12 Hunter Bickham, 13 Cameron Hundley, 13 Marcia Keidel, 14 Constance Gengler, 14 Marvin Wegener, 15 Cindy Dominowski, 15 Jason Dominowski, 15 Robert LeBeau, 15 Brandy Schmidt, 16 Rebecca Lynch, 16 Elmer Taglauer, 18 Nathaniel Hakes, 18 Craig Harrison, 21 Susan Greenleaf, 22 Elaine Schmidt, 23 James Dietlein, 24 Eric Keidel, 26 James Kunding, 26 Dawn Steward

ANNIVERSARIES

2 Earl & Irene Schmidt, 4 Ken & Jan Reisig, 11 Rob & Kathy Feinauer, 22 Elmer & Barb Reiss, 28 John & Iris Dominowski