

THE MESSENGER



February

2008

Worship Schedule
Sunday: 8 AM and 10:30 AM
Sunday Church School for all ages:
9:15 AM

**Grace Evangelical
 Lutheran Church**

216 North Wooster Ave
 Dover Ohio 44622-2948

Phone: 330-343-6915

Fax: 330-602-0263

Church E-Mail:

gracehappens@gracedover.org

Pastor's E-Mail:

pastor@gracedover.org

Website: www.gracedover.org

Pastor Jim Lewis, Senior Pastor

Pastor Marlin Drake, Visitation Pastor

Lent: to give up, to take on, or to Simply Live

Believe it or not, the season of Lent is already upon us and with it a call to examine our lives according to God's calling. Traditionally, Lent has for many included the discipline of giving up and taking on. People will be giving up everything from meat, sweets, and television to foul language, complaining, and procrastinating. Many more will take on spiritual disciplines of Bible study, worship, fasting, and prayer. But before we all get carried away with another task to accomplish or another vice to purge, let's stop and think about what we are really hoping to accomplish through it all. Or, even better, let's stop and ask God how He would want for us to grow in this season of Lent. The discipline of giving up and taking on isn't really about making life more difficult, but instead is about taking life back to the basics. We clear out the things that don't really matter, the things that distract us, confuse us, or leave us too worn out to focus on the things of life that really do matter. Lent's discipline is about returning (repenting) to a life that is full of God.

Where are you being pulled away from God? What in your relationship with God has suffered the most recently? How can you simplify your daily routine so that you can remember to simply live with and for God? These are the questions I hope we will all wrestle with as Lent approaches so that when Lent concludes we will have walked with Jesus along the way. We will have experienced the simple joy of being in Christ's presence. We will know that life as complicated as it seems so much of the time is truly as simple as trusting in the promises of God every day.

Peace and prayers,

Pastor Jim

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“MINISTRY NIGHT”
**FOR ALL OFFICERS, BOARD DIRECTORS &
 BOARD MEMBERS**
 Next meeting scheduled for
 Tuesday, **February 5th**—6:30 p.m.

PLANNING COUNCIL
FOR ALL OFFICERS & BOARD DIRECTORS
 Next meeting scheduled for
 Tuesday, **February 12th**—6:30 p.m.
 Luther Hall

The Personnel Committee is seeking a volunteer to serve as the Children's Choir Director between October and April of each year. The choirs will perform one Sunday per month. Choir rehearsals will be held weekly and will follow the school vacation schedule and last between 45 minutes to one hour. The Children's Choir Director is in charge of recruiting choir members and maintaining the rehearsal schedule. Interested volunteers should contact Nathan Vaughan at 330-343-3888 or via email at nvaughan@kwgd.com.



**SHROVE TUESDAY
 PANCAKE SUPPER**

The Men's Fellowship group will again host the SHROVE TUESDAY Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on **Tuesday, February 5th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.** Come and enjoy the fellowship and plenty of good pancakes and sausage! Bring a hearty appetite!



**ASH WEDNES-
 DAY SERVICE**
FEBRUARY 6TH
7:00 p.m.

LENTEN DINNERS & WORSHIP

Each Wednesday during Lent, beginning on February 13th, a dinner will be held at 5:45 p.m. followed by Worship at 6:30 p.m.



Ash Wednesday **February 6—7:00 p.m.**

No meal on Ash Wednesday.

Wednesday Lenten Services—February 13, February 20, February 27, March 5, March 12—6:30 p.m. preceded by meals at 5:45 p.m.

Maundy Thursday **March 20—7:00 p.m.**

Good Friday **March 21—7:00 p.m.**

Wednesday Lenten Series
Global Companions: Who Is My Neighbor?

Join us for a special Lenten series that will take you to the different regions of the world.

Featured will be sermons and stories from ELCA mission personnel in Madagascar, Senegal, Peru, Costa Rica, Egypt, Japan, Lithuania, and Jerusalem.

Join us as we discover the diversity of the world while remembering we reach out in mission together!





Gravity...

A popular John Mayer song says, “Oh, gravity is working against me and gravity wants to bring me down.” The apostle Paul says it this way in Romans 7, “For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.” There’s a gravity to our human condition that separates and disconnects us from God’s intentions and purposes. In the season of Lent, we will walk with Jesus to the cross and examine the gravity of our own human nature; our sin and our self-focused desires. This journey will take us through Holy Week to Easter Morning—“Zero-Gravity.”

Feb 10	Psalm 32; Matthew 4:1-11	The Gravity of Giving In
Feb 17	Psalm 121; John 3:1-17	The Gravity of Ignorance
Feb 24	Psalm 95; John 4:5-42	The Gravity of Shame
March 2	Psalm 23; John 9:1-41	The Gravity of Prejudice
March 9	Psalm 130; John 11:1-45	The Gravity of Death
March 16	Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11	The Gravity of Disobedience
March 23	Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; Matthew 28:1-20	Zero Gravity

Sunday morning adult Bible Studies

Beginning with the First Sunday in Lent, February 10, there will be two fantastic options for adults to study the Bible together and grow in faith. Throughout this church year, the majority of the Gospel readings will come from the Gospel of Matthew, so during Lent you are invited to take an in-depth look at Matthew’s Gospel.

The J.C. Miller class which meets in the Luther Hall meeting room will be using a study entitled:

Matthew: The Passion Week

The last week of Jesus’ life—the Passion, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection—is recorded at the end of the Gospel of Matthew. The events in chapter 26 all take place on Saturday through Thursday. Chapter 27 takes place on what we call Good Friday. Chapter 28 chronicles Easter Sunday, the day of the Resurrection. This study will investigate the deity, majesty, and royalty of Jesus. We will see that he is more than a man or a good teacher, that he is able to conquer death, and that he is truly the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Our other adult class which meets in the Luther Hall Lounge will be using a study called:

Matthew: His Kingdom Forever

The apostle Matthew writes his gospel to proclaim to the world that its promised Savior has come. Pointing to Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies, Matthew proclaims the universality of Jesus’ love. Matthew shows Jesus as the king who

- lives today after suffering, dying, and rising again to save us;
- gives life, salvation, comfort, and hope;
- desires everyone as a member of His kingdom;
- invites us to trust in Him as we live as His people.

By inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Matthew’s account tells us about Jesus Christ, the Son of God, ruler of the universe, and our personal Savior and friend.

Messiah in the Passover Banquet - Saturday, March 8th 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00 (200 tickets available)

Nursery Care with kid-friendly meal

The Christian Education Board would like to invite you, your family, friends, and the people in our community to a Passover Banquet. Passover is both a holiday of remembrance and a holiday of prophecy. Passover for the Jewish people is the annual celebration of God delivering Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 12). The entire service, with its various ceremonies, is designed to help the Jewish people remember the great workings of God when, through signs and wonders, He freed the Jewish people from the bondage of the Egyptians and delivered them to the promised land of Israel. Passover is a holiday of redemption picturing how God used the death of an innocent lamb to redeem the firstborn sons of Israel from death and free the nation of Israel from slavery.



Passover is certainly the most important Biblical holiday for Christians. It also clearly pictures the redemption Jesus provided for our sin. The last meal Jesus ate with His disciples in the Upper Room was a Passover meal. It was during this Passover meal that Jesus took a piece of unleavened bread and a cup of the fruit of the vine and said to His disciples that these represented His Body given in death and His blood shed for the remission of sins (Luke 22:19,20). The Messiah used the story of the redemption from Egypt to illustrate the

redemption Jesus provided for us on the cross.

On March 8, Neal Surasky from Chosen People Ministries will lead us in an authentic Jewish Passover meal. Neal, born in Oceanside, New York and raised in a secular Jewish home, would later accept Jesus as his Jewish Messiah and now serves along with his wife, Kim teaching others about Jesus through the traditional Jewish liturgy and worship. This banquet will help all who participate gain a greater understanding of the Jewish heritage and customs that shape the Biblical story and highlight the unique way that Jesus Christ used the Passover meal to show how His ministry fulfills the expectations of the Messiah put forth by this meal.

We will need several people to help make this event a great success as we look for people to help with cooking, serving, housing for Neal, publicity, and more. If you'd like to be involved, please contact Pastor Jim or Linda McFadden for more information on how you can help others experience the Messiah in the Passover.

Please, plan on attending this banquet, where we will take part in the actual Passover and we can rejoice "For Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us" (1 Corinthians 5:7).

Tickets for Messiah in the Passover Banquet will be available for purchase in our church office. Please make your check payable to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and note "Passover" in the memo area.



On **February 3rd**, we are pleased to welcome Covenant Players drama ministry to lead us in worship. Please invite a friend to attend this service which will use drama to portray the way knowing Jesus Christ transforms our daily lives.

We also are in need of one or two families who will house the 2-person male and female team on Saturday night.

Lenten Meals Begin February 13

Groups are needed to prepare and serve meals before our Wednesday Lenten Worship services. Each meal will begin at 5:45 PM. The Lenten worship service will begin at 6:30. Groups should plan to prepare, serve and clean up following the meal. Please call the church office or Audra Miceli (Parish Fellowship Board Director) with your date and menu. Thank you to the groups for volunteering as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GROUP VOLUNTEERS</u>	<u>LENTEN DINNER MENU</u>
February 13	_____	_____
February 20	Swingles & Dr. Mary Baer Circles	Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup, Hot Dogs, Chips, Cookies
February 27	_____	_____
March 5	Young Peoples Board	Rigatoni, Bread, Salad, Dessert
March 12	Parish Fellowship Board	Sloppy Joes, Cream of Chicken Sandwiches, Veggies & Dip, Chips, Brownies

TUSCARAWAS
PHILHARMONIC
2007-2008 SEASON
ERIC BENJAMIN
MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR



Sun., Feb. 10th at 3:00 p.m.

Dover High Auditorium

St. Matthew Passion, one of the greatest and most moving choral works ever written, from J. S. Bach's immortal setting of the Passion story, is a perfect prelude to the Lenten season, and will feature The Philharmonic Chorus with Cynthia Spiegel, Soprano, Elizabeth Stuart, Mezzo Soprano, Jermaine Jackson, Tenor, Ronald Barkett, Baritone, and NPHS Ladies Ensemble.

Tickets are available at the door and other locations, one of which is the Buehler Food Markets in Dover and New Philadelphia. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, and \$5 for students. Ticket and concert information is available at www.tuscarawasphilharmonic.org.

Attention Middle & High School Ribbon Festival & Solo & Ensemble Participants:

If you would like to present your selection as a prelude or offertory, please call 330-343-3268 or see Bobbie Myers as soon as possible.

EVANGELISM BOARD



May we continue to bring in our food items each Sunday. **If every family attending church would bring 1 or 2 items weekly, the pantry would be overflowing.** May God's blessing be with each and everyone of you.

A Great Big Thanks to all of you

What an exciting year 2007 has been, we have served 230 people at the Wednesday Free Lunches in the Outreach Center last year. Without your support, this could not have happened. We have packed and given out 374 bags of groceries to those in need that stop by the church office. Then we have fed 420 people in the Homeless shelter. That's a total of 1,024 people's lives that we have touched through your generous giving.

People are still needed to help so feel free to volunteer. Anyone is welcome to help serve at the Free Lunch even if they have not signed up. Your help is always needed and appreciated.

Those who have served this past year are still on the list to help and are very much needed so that each volunteer need only serve twice a year. Thanks for all your help.

Without your support in providing food for the monthly Free Lunch and the Homeless Shelter, our outreach ministry could cease to function. Please prayerfully consider signing up ahead of time before it is necessary to pass the clipboards in the pews. The sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



GROCERY BAG MINISTRY Looking for a way to become a servant of the Lord? We are in need of volunteers to pack grocery bags for those in need.

We would like to comprise a list of names who could be called to come pack bags when needed each week. Please sign the clipboard on the Narthex table with your name and phone number. You will be contacted when a meeting of volunteers is scheduled.

FOOD PANTRY Thank you to all who bring food in for the grocery bags that are filled each month. We are seeing a great increase in the number of people benefiting from this ministry.

What goes into a bag to feed the hungry? The food items are peanut butter, canned meat, vegetables, fruit, cereal, soup, macaroni & cheese, spaghetti sauce and spaghetti. **We are in great need of peanut butter, meat, cereal, pancake mix, pancake syrup, oatmeal, and fruit.**

FREE LUNCH FOR THE NEEDY

We will be sponsoring a free lunch for those in need on Wednesday, February 20th from 11:00 to 1:00 in our Outreach Center.

How can YOU help? Donate food, drinks or money. Help serve/cook/clean up on that day (9:30 to 1:30). Questions? Call Jen McCulloch at 330-364-5426.

Thank you to the following volunteers who will help serve our free lunch on:

Wednesday,

February 20th

Michelle Hallman, Leader

Jim & Dianne Heller

Helen Rosenberry

Katherine Stahl



Volunteers providing tomato soup, crackers, cheese slices, sandwich bread, soft butter and sliced canned peaches for the Free Lunch should deliver their food donations to the church to the Luther Hall kitchen on **Tuesday, February 19th.**

Thank you to the following volunteers:

Marcie Tinlin, Frances Moser, Jen McCulloch, Reba Snyder, Linda Bertle & Sue Case

GRACE CHURCH POSTCARDS—Are you missing someone who has not been here for awhile? There are now postcards available on the narthex table for you to send to someone you have missed. Stop by and take a few home to send.

EVANGELISM NEWS... HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS

We at Grace have volunteered to provide one meal per month — the 4th Sunday of each month — and need volunteers to provide the meal and to deliver it to the *Friends of the Homeless of Tuscarawas County* which is a group of concerned citizens from various churches and social service agencies in the county who have recognized the need to assist persons experiencing homelessness. The residents eat dinner at 6:00 each evening. All tableware is provided by the shelter, and they ask that if we are just dropping the food off to bring it in disposable pans.

If you, your family or your group or board would like to participate, please call **Jen McCulloch at 330-364-5426** for more information. Also, there is an opportunity for anyone interested in leading a Bible study at the shelter.



Thank you to the following volunteers who will prepare and deliver a meal of **Beef Stew with Carrots & Potatoes, Sliced Italian Bread & Soft Butter, Cole Slaw, Applesauce, Coffee, Milk Juice, and Dessert** on February 24th:

- Randy & Debbie Smith
- Gale Limron
- Dianne Coulter
- Jen McCulloch
- Norma Grywalski
- Liz Miller
- Sue Case
- Michelle Hallman
- Janice Weber
- Lu Kreisher
- Frances Moser
- Joan Davis
- Jen Gigax



Food needed for the February 24th Homeless Shelter meal are the following: two 4# Beef Stew with Carrots & Potatoes.

Food needed for the March 23rd Homeless Shelter meal are the following: two 4# Meat Loaf and one Green Bean for 36.

PARISH FELLOWSHIP BOARD



Save the date on your new 2008 calendar!!! Parish Fellowship will present the **2nd annual Valentine Mystery Dinner!!** So grab your sweetheart and make plans to attend this year's event on **Saturday, February 16th, 2008 at 6:30 sharp!** There will be a limited number of seating!

The ticket price will be \$12.00 per person. Child care will be available for \$2.00 per child or \$5.00 per family. Dinner will be provided for the kids. This is a big event for our youth to help serve in this wonderful congregation!! So, please support this great endeavor!!

"Come and eat and see who you meet!"



Thank you to the following volunteers who have signed up to bring a treat for the coffee table for Sunday mornings on the following dates:

- February 3rd—Karen Marlowe
- February 17th—Bobbie Myers
- February 10th—Michelle Hallman
- February 24th—Audra Miceli



YOUNG PEOPLES' MINISTRY

Winter Splash

Saturday, February 23 8:45-9:30

The whole family is welcome to join in the fun as we hit the road and travel to Sandusky to spend a day at the nation's largest indoor waterpark at Kalahari resort. We'll meet at Grace at 8:45 AM to carpool to the resort, spend the whole afternoon at the waterpark, and gather for dinner and devotions at 6:00 PM. After devotions, we will return to Grace and should arrive back in Dover around 9:30 PM. The cost for the day is \$24 per person including a slice of pizza and a soda at the waterpark. Friends and family of all ages are welcome to come and enjoy the day as we put winter on the backburner at least for one day.

Kalahari, Sandusky is America's Largest Indoor Waterpark with 173,000 sq. ft. of wet & wild fun and features:

- 12,000 sq. ft. indoor wave pool
- 13,000 sq. ft. mezzanine deck
- Swahili Swirl 60' diameter bowl raft ride
- Cheetah Race 4 lane mat slides racing down a 55' incline
- Tanzanian Twister bowl ride body slide
- Shooting Stars 3,700 sq. ft. basketball pool
- Kids Safari 2,500 sq. ft. children's play area
- and more...



Youth attending without their parents present will need a permission form which can be picked up from the youth hall bulletin board or printed from the website (graceyouthandfamily.org/permission.htm). Please be sure to sign up on the youth hall bulletin board or online at graceyouthandfamily.org by February 17. Payment can be made the day of the event and checks should be written out to Grace Lutheran Church.

Adirondack Mountains Mission Trip

10 Youth and 3 Adults will be traveling together to the Adirondack Mountains of New York this summer to share the love of Christ with people in need through home repair projects and a Kids Club program. Our group will be joined by youth and adults from across the country in the effort and we know that God is already at work in the hearts of all those who will serve and be served during this trip.

Our group held our first meeting in preparation for the trip on January 13 and we will be meeting each month on the second Sunday at 5:30 in the Outreach Center to continue planning, building relationships with one another, working on fundraising, and praying together for God's will to be accomplished in us and through us in this ministry.

Please plan to attend the next meeting in the Outreach Center at 5:30 PM on February 10.

Be sure to bring a pen and your address book with you for the meeting.

College & Military Care Packages

The Young Peoples Board will once again be sending "Care packages" to college students and military personnel. **Please provide the church office with the names and current addresses of college students and military personnel.** We are asking you for donations of food and other items to be included in the boxes. Some suggestions are single serving foods (soups, ravioli, Ramen noodles, Mac & Cheese, etc.), gum, candy, Pop Tarts and other breakfast type bars, popcorn, hot chocolate, powdered drink mixes, snack size chips, pretzels, peanuts, crackers, raisins, pudding, jello, cookies as well as post-it notes or pencils. Be creative and think of items that would be fun to open up by those far from home. Your donations may be placed in the baskets in the Narthex. **Packages will be assembled on Sunday, February 10th following the Youth Mission Trip meeting.**

For the most up-to-date info on Grace's Youth & Family Ministry, on-line forms, polls, weekly e-mail updates, devotions and more, go to: graceyouthandfamily.org



Time to Register for Summer Camp

It's time to start thinking about which week of camp you'll be attending this summer. The Young People's Board will again be supplementing camp registrations so that attending any of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio's (LOMO) camps will be affordable for all. You pay only \$50 for a \$300 camp and \$100 for a \$400 week of camp.

Pick up a brochure at the office or narthex table today and explore all the fantastic improvements that have been made to the camps.

Be sure to turn in your camp registration by March 23rd so that all registrations from our congregation can be made before March 31st to take advantage of the best pricing.

Your **\$50 or \$100 check** should be made payable to:

Grace Lutheran Church

and turned in with your registration.



JENNIFER GRAFE CAMP MOWANA SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is for anyone in Grades 3 through 12 who has a disability or cannot afford to go to camp. All information is kept confidential. Application forms will be available in the church office and in the Narthex. Applications are due by the **first Sunday in May**. If you have any questions, please call Sue Grafe at 330-243-5971 (cell), Beckie Grafe at 330-364-4096, or Cindy Jerles at 330-364-2313.

PERSONNEL BOARD—OFFICE SECRETARY OPENING

The Personnel Committee of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church is seeking applications for the Office Secretary position. The position will require 30-35 hours per week with an hourly rate based upon experience. The position will begin in April of 2008 and approximately 4-6 weeks of on-the-job training will be provided. Under the direction of the Senior Pastor and Personnel Committee, the Office Secretary is responsible for providing secretarial duties including word processing, bulletin and newsletter development, and other related office duties. Candidates must be able to work as a part of the staff team dedicated to providing high quality services and support for pastors, lay leadership, and members of the church while striving to meet the Church Mission. Applications can be picked up at the Church office and must be turned into the Church office prior to the end of February. A job description can be obtained upon request from the Church office. Any questions can be directed to Nathan Vaughan, Personnel Committee Chairman at nvaughan@kwgd.com, or 330-343-3888.

Elsa Court, our current secretary, will be moving out of the area as Bishop John Hopkins has appointed Rev. Steven Court to the East Ohio Conference Cabinet, effective July 1, 2008, to serve as District Superintendent of the United Methodist Church Southern Hills District.

STEVE & TINA MOSER & FAMILY IN THE MISSION FIELD

Working at Hotel Pichi Traful



Steve and Stuart patched and painted all the bathrooms in the hotel, more than ten.



Tina, Kearstin, and the other chicas had mountains of ironing to do.



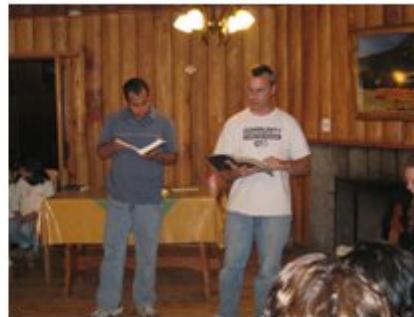
When they weren't ironing, the girls striped and resealed all the floors in the hotel and cabins. They placed steel wool under their shoes and rubbed it to strip off the grime.



Always a cheerful worker! Provided he remembered to charge up his MP3 player so he could listen to his tunes.



When we arrived, this was a hole in the ground. It was the septic drain field. They filled it with rocks and then covered it with dirt and made this beautiful flower bed. The flowers should be well fertilized!



Steve was able to share from the Word one Sunday. We had a devotional time each Sunday evening. Singing, sharing, praying, and a message. Jaime translated for me. Not fluent, yet.



Stuart began a towel fight one evening while doing the dishes... but as you can see, the girls ended it.



This was our home while we were in Pichi. This building had twelve bedrooms and ten bathrooms. Enough beds for fifty people.



Dear Friends and Family,

Thursday we arrived back "home" in Monte. Our month in the south is finished and summer camps begin here at the Bible Institute next week.

I apologize for our lack of communication during December, but I thought that might happen. We could only use their two computers, and only during a few hours in the evenings. And there were 20 people wanting to use them. So... our time on the internet was very limited. And since all your email addresses are on my laptop, I couldn't contact most of you. But, now we are back in Monte and we have more access to the web.

The month passed very quickly for us. It seemed that all we did was work, eat, and sleep. A typical day was breakfast at 8:30, short devotional time, work until lunch at 1:00, rest for a couple of hours, work again until 7:00 or 8:00, supper at 8:00, shower and then bed. Lights out at 11:00. Literally lights out, because they shut off the generator until after breakfast the next morning. Our days off (about three of them) were spent hiking and/or resting. Christmas day we hiked 14 km to some beautiful waterfalls, and New Years day they (not Tina and I) hiked to the top of one of the mountains. See the attached picture of Stuart at the top. Yes, he took that one himself. The other picture was taken from one of the upstairs windows in the hotel. The snow capped peaks in the center was where they hiked. They began their trek around 11 am and about 7 pm we could see them (with binoculars) crossing a big patch of snow at the top. Even with the binoculars they looked like little specs. They made it back after 10 pm. The next day we started the 20 hour bus ride back here.



Pray for the people who will be coming to Pichi Trafal this summer. It is a hotel/lodge where tourists can stay, but they also have week long programs similar to summer camp. Each year many young people, and tourists, come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior while they stay at the hotel, and many who are already believers make important decisions about serving God with their whole heart and lives. Even though we won't be involved in those decisions directly, we had a small part in it by helping to prepare the hotel and property for the summer.

In a day or so, I will send you an email I had tried to send right after we had arrived at Pichi Trafal. I will send more later, with lots of pictures.

Pray for the summer camp season here in Argentina. There are seven weeks of camps here with up to 800 campers per week. And this year they are having a second camp in the north in Cordoba. We will be working as camp staff for a few hours each day, as well as continuing our Spanish classes. Pray for the campers to be open to God's working in their lives, and for the staff to be sensitive to their needs.

Thank you for your prayers and continued support.

The Moser family

PROPERTY BOARD

We are currently working to put point-of-use hot water heaters in the sinks in Fellowship Hall kitchen. This should be done within the next month or two. We are also getting prices to replace the connecting room doors.

The biggest news is that our custodian, Adrian, is back from his surgery! It's amazing how many little things there are to do around the church that the Property Board had to cover. A special thank you goes out to Jennifer Peveto, the Headstart custodian, who filled in for the daily cleaning tasks. It made our job a lot easier. Welcome back, Adrian!

PROPERTY BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH
7:00 PM—LUTHER HALL
(held Monday due to Shrove Tuesday dinner)



Saturday,
February 9th—
8:00 a.m.
Luther Hall
Come join us for
some good food
and fellowship!

Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!

Dana and I are truly amazed and grateful at the continued support, well-wishes, prayers, gifts and yes DIAPERS that you have showered us with as we look forward to the arrival of our newest addition. We truly feel blessed by all of you and are so thankful that all of our children will be able to grow up in a loving church family like we have here at Grace. The final count on the diapers was 1,528 for those of you who have been wondering, That will keep us going for a good long while. (Any volunteers to help us change some of those diapers are always welcome too, ha ha.)

Once again, thank you all so very much for all of the ways you support us, care for us, and have made our whole family feel so very loved.

Pastor Jim, Dana,
Hannah, Isaac, and Abigail



A **BIG THANK YOU** to all who sent me get well cards and brought food and also to the people who helped to take care of the church in my absence while I was having my surgery.

Adrian Mathias

THANK YOU to Norma Grywalski, Ruth Halter, Dorothy Morrison, Shirley Grafe, Donna Fox, Barb White, Art Siber, Phil Hammerstrom and Mary Ann Polen for their help in folding Sunday bulletins and/or bulk mailings of newsletters.

Abigail Grace Lewis entered the world January 21st at 8:08 AM. Everyone is doing very well and we are thrilled to have a new baby girl. Thanks for all the prayers you've sent our way over the last months. They have been answered in abundance with the healthy and safe birth of Abigail Grace.





KNOTTERS

The ladies have been busy assembling quilts to be mailed next October to Lutheran World Relief. From November 2007 until the present, they have already completed 22 quilts. Knotters will next meet on the **third Tuesday, February 19th** at 9:00 a.m. in Luther Hall. Come join us for fellowship and help us once again more than reach our goal of **three quilts a month.**

HOST LENTEN DINNER

Swingles and Dr. Mary Baer circles will be hosting the Lenten Dinner on Wednesday, February 20th at 5:30 p.m. Our menu will be chicken noodle soup, chili, hot dogs, chips, cookies and beverages.



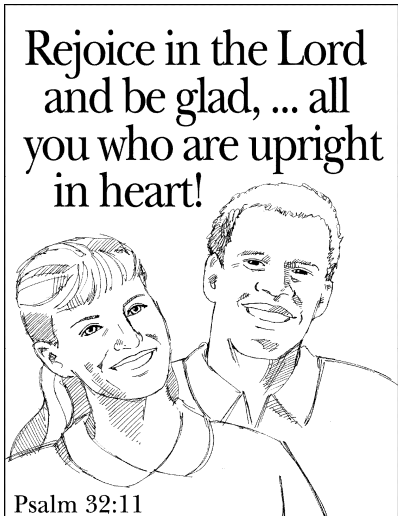
Relay for Life is the first weekend in June. Think about being a walker. Also, we will be getting candy bars in a couple of weeks. More information will be coming.

KNOTTERS
Tuesday, **February 19th**
9:00 a.m.—Luther Hall

SWINGLES
Tuesday, **February 19th**
7:00 p.m.—Luther Hall
Our study will be about Jacob's Dream.

DR. MARY BAER CIRCLE
Wednesday, **February 27th**
1:00 p.m.—Luther Hall
Hostesses: Helen Sherman &
Pat Petricola
Topic: Shirley Johnson

WELCA SPRING QUARTERLY
Wednesday, March 12th
9:00 a.m.—Luther Hall
Hostesses: Dr. Mary Baer Circle



SOAP COLLECTION

Soap is a luxury for millions of people suffering from drought, civil strife or poverty. Soap is unavailable in many parts of the world. Often in places where it is available, soap is too costly for poor people to buy.

Without soap, maintaining the level of cleanliness necessary to reduce disease and infection is very difficult. The soap we collect can be a life-saving gift to people in dire circumstances.

We are continuing to collect bath size bars of soap in its original wrapping. Place in basket in the Narthex.



CALLING ALL SCRAP BOOKERS, STAMPERS, AND CRAFTERS!!

SCRAPBOOKING

Come join us **once a month from 7:00 p.m. to midnight** to get together to work on your scrapbooks, stamping, or whatever your craft may be. Come when you are able, stay as long as you like, but take advantage of this chance to get together, get to know each other better, and enjoy crafting with one another.

We will meet in the Outreach Center on **Friday, February 8th**. Don't forget to bring one or two canned food items for Grace's Food Pantry.

Please call Gretchen Grosse if you have questions at 330-364-1089. Thank you! And happy crafting!

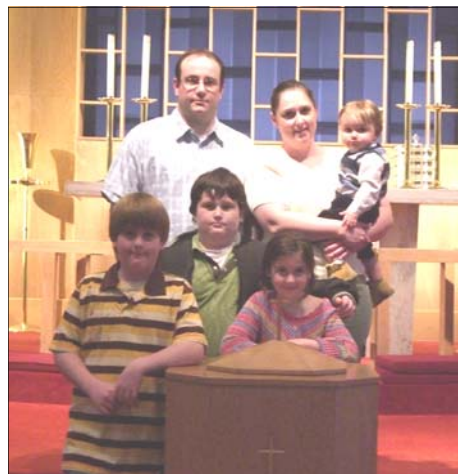
PHILLIP JR. AND MARCEIL HAMMERSTROM SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This scholarship was set up by Phillip Jr. in memory of his wife, Marceil, who was in the medical field. Also, in memory of his father, Phillip Sr., who was a machinist. If your field of study is in the **HEALTH** area or in the **TRADE/INDUSTRY** area, you may apply for this scholarship which must be completed and returned no later than **April 30th**. Any age may apply. Application forms are available in the Narthex or from the church office.



Congratulations to the family of Brandon & Brittany Bean (pictured above) on the baptism of their son, Steeler Reed Bean on January 20th.

Baptisms in the Church



Congratulations to the family of Michael & Jennifer Gigax (pictured above) on the baptism of their sons, Matthew Richard Gigax and Ryan John Gigax on December 30th.

Congratulations to the family of Tim & Denise Carpenter (pictured left) on the baptism of their son, Braiden Timothy Carpenter on January 13th.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

JANUARY SUNDAY SCHOOL - Hands-on Bible Curriculum

Nursery (Birth—4 years old)

Zacchaeus—Jesus wants us to love him.

Kindergarten to 2nd Grade

Jesus' Ministry—Jesus wants us to share.

3rd Grade

Jesus, Our Friend—Real friends stick up for each other.

4th to 5th Grade

The Holy Spirit—The Holy Spirit is God's gift to Christians.

6th to 8th Grade (Confirmation Class) &

Our Neighbors' Faith—Two classes will combine to visit other

9th to 12th Grade

places of worship on Sunday mornings.

CHILDREN OF THE CHURCH—AGES 3 YEARS OLD TO 2ND GRADE

Children of the Church meet following the Children's Message at the 10:30 service. The curriculum for the month of December will be:

Children of the Church (Ages 3—2nd Grade) Jesus Is With Us—Jesus is with us all the time.

First Communion Classes

If you have a child in 4th grade or older who has not yet had instruction for receiving Holy Communion for the first time, mark these dates on your calendar now and call the church office to let us know you and your child will be attending. "Livin' Forgiven" first communion instruction will be offered from **9-11 AM on March 1 and March 15 in the Outreach Center**. Parents and youth will need to attend the class together. Each family that participates this year will also receive free admission to the "Jesus in the Passover" meal and presentation on March 8, 6 PM in fellowship hall.

The course features a dynamic mix of active learning, discussion, game show type review games, and more to keep everyone engaged and learning all the way through. Be sure to attend both weeks of class. Students will then receive First Communion at the Maundy Thursday worship service at 7 PM as we remember the day when Jesus began the practice of the Lord's Supper.



ELCA WORLD HUNGER:

GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

Goats and other animals, part of God's global barnyard, provide families with food, funds, and fertilizer, breaking the cycle of hunger and poverty. Gifts to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal for God's global barnyard go beyond livestock to provide training, access to safe water sources, help securing markets, and much more.



God's Global Barnyard will be our mission for Sunday school (October 28th, 2007 through May 25th, 2008). The goals of the classes are as follows:

Nursery (4 years old) to Birth: Turkey
(2 at \$25 each)

Kindergarten to 2nd Grade—Goat (\$50)

3rd Grade—Chicks (2 at \$10 each)

4th to 5th Grade—Pig (\$30)

Confirmation—Water Buffalo (\$250)

High School—Goat (\$30)

OPEN

ALTAR FLOWERS



Altar Flowers

If you would like to provide altar flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones, please either sign up on the list in the Narthex or call the church office at 330-343-6915.

The cost for one vase is \$15. You will be billed by Blossom's Florist.

Altar Flowers are available on the following dates:

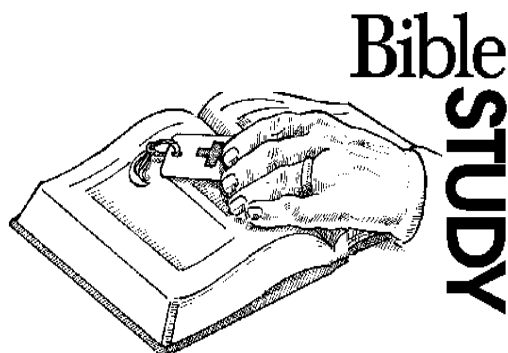
February 10th—two vases

February 17th—one vase

February 24th—one vase

Altar Guild
Tuesday, February 26th
9:00 a.m.

Order of St. Luke
Tuesday, February 26th
7:00 p.m.



Sunday, February 3rd
Transfiguration of Our Lord
 Psalm 2
 Exodus 24:12-18
 2 Peter 1:16-21
 Matthew 17:1-9

Sunday, February 10th
First Sunday in Lent
 Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
 Psalm 32
 Romans 5:12-19
 Matthew 4:1-11

Sunday, February 17th
Second Sunday in Lent
 Genesis 12:1-4a
 Psalm 121
 Romans 4:1-5,13-17
 John 3:1-17

Sunday, February 24th
Third Sunday in Lent
 Exodus 17:1-7
 Psalm 95
 Romans 5:1-11
 John 4:5-42



Pack Your Lunch With Grace

You are invited to join Pastor Jim for a weekly time of fellowship and Bible Study. Pack your lunch and meet with friends at Luther Hall where you can eat together, share stories, and then spend a half-hour in Bible study as we look together at one of the lessons for the upcoming week. I hope you will join me for this excellent opportunity to be fed with the Word of God each week. **The group will meet on Thursdays from noon to 1:00 p.m. in Luther Hall. Pastor Fred Grosse will be leading the study on February 7th and 14th.**

gracehappens@gracedover.org

pastor@gracedover.org

February 2008

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
216 North Wooster Ave
Dover OH 44622-2948
330-343-6915

Sun 1
Delivery of pizza ingredients
Sat 2
9:00a Pizza assembly to benefit Youth Mission trip—Luther Hall

3 Transfiguration Sunday



8:00a Worship
9:15a SCS
10:30a Worship
Pick up pizzas ordered in Fellowship Hall

4
9:30a Staff mtg
3:00p Communion at Park Village
6:30p Girl Scouts
7:00p Valley Voices—Lounge
7:00p Property Board



5
3:00-9:00 Ben White—CIA Tri County French Club—ORC
4:30-6:30p Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
6:30p Ministry Night
6:30p Cub Scout 87



6
7:00p Ash Wednesday Service

7
12:00p Bible Study—LH
12:30p Sr. Fun Day—ORC
6:00p Handbell Choir
7:00p Gallery Choir

8
8:00-3:30 Headstart Training—Fellowship Hall
7:00p-12:00a Scrapbookers, Stampers & Crafter—Outreach Center



9
8:00a Men's Breakfast—LH

10 1st Sunday in Lent

8:00a Worship/Communion
9:15a SCS
10:30a Worship/Communion
5:30p Mission Trip meeting ORC & assemble care pkgs

11
10:30a Communion at Park Village North Building
6:30p Girl Scouts
7:00p Valley Voices—Lounge

12
12:00-4:00p Rejoice Women—ORC
6:30p Planning Council—LH
6:30p Cub Scout 87

13
5:45p Lenten Dinner
6:30p Lenten service

14
12:00p Bible Study—LH
12:30p Sr. Fun Day—ORC
6:00p Handbell Choir
7:00p Gallery Choir



16
6:30p 2nd Annual Valentine Mystery Dinner—Fellowship Hall

17 2nd Sunday in Lent

8:00a Worship/Communion
9:15a SCS
10:30a Worship

Deadline today to sign up for Winter Splash at Kalahari

18
9:30a Full Staff meeting—LH
6:30p Girl Scouts
7:00p Valley Voices—Lounge

19
9:00a Knotters-LH
6:30p Cub Scout 87
7:00p Swingles-LH

20
11:00-1:00 Free Lunch for the Needy—Outreach Center
5:45p Lenten Dinner
6:30p Lenten Service

21
12:00p Bible Study—LH
12:30p Sr. Fun Day—ORC
5:30p Modern Homemakers—ORC
6:00p Handbell Choir
7:00p Gallery Choir

22
8:00-3:00 Headstart Training—Fellowship Hall



8:45a-9:30p Winter Splash at Kalahari

24 3rd Sunday in Lent

8:00a Worship
9:15a SCS
10:30a Worship/Communion
6:00p Deliver meal to Friends of the Homeless

25
6:30p Girl Scouts
7:00p Valley Voices—Lounge

26
9:00a Altar Guild
6:30p Cub Scout 87
7:00p Order of St. Luke

27
9:00a newsletter assembly—LH
1:00p Dr. Mary Baer Circle—Luther Hall
5:45p Lenten Dinner
6:30p Lenten Service

28
12:00p Bible Study—LH
12:30p Sr. Fun Day—ORC
6:00p Handbell Choir
7:00p Gallery Choir

29
Tuesday, March 4th—6:30 pm Ministry Night
Tuesday, March 11th—6:30 pm Planning Council

Saturday, March 8—6:00 pm Messiah in the Passover Banquet

February



SUNDAY 8:00 AM WORSHIP

ACOLYTES

Feb 3 Ty Miller
 Feb 10 Kristin Miceli
 Feb 17 Ethan Nelson
 Feb 24 Hunter Stein

LAY READERS

Feb 3 Dale Weaver
 Feb 10 Larry Lloyd
 Feb 17 Gale Limron
 Feb 24 Lynn Foust

DEACONS

Feb 3 Steve Zimmerman
 Feb 10 *None needed*
 Feb 17 Terry Miller
 Feb 24 *None needed*

USHERS

Michael Thomas-Moore
 Tom Patton
 Tim Keplinger
 Richard Elliott
 Steve Zimmerman
 Jim Heller
 Scott Ebert

SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP

ACOLYTES

Feb 3 Hunter Stein
 Feb 10 Ashley Jerles
 Feb 17 Andrew Yeager
 Feb 24 Ty Miller

LAY READERS

Feb 3 Sue Hartz
 Feb 10 Richard Homrighausen
 Feb 17 Nathan Vaughan
 Feb 24 John Stahl

USHERS

Feb 3 John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Art Siber
 Feb 10 Jerry Nelson, Jack Marshall, Ron Philabaum, Jim Gibb, Kent Philabaum, Mike Sergent, Aaronn Sergent
 Feb 17 John Stahl, Robert McCulloch, Keith Lands, Phil Hammerstrom
 Feb 24 Art Keener, Dale Kreisher, William Page, Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman

NURSERY CARE (10:30)

Feb 3 Gale Limron & Katie Hootman
 Feb 10 Jaclyn Sergent & Christine Sergent
 Feb 17 Juanita Page & Barbara Thompson
 Feb 24 Molly Bauer & Olivia Bauer

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Feb 3 Toni Ferritto & Kathryn & Evan Cameron
 Feb 10 Michele Haverfield & Elizabeth Herman
 Feb 17 Molly Bauer & Olivia Bauer
 Feb 24 Carrie Yeager & Andrew Yeager

DEACONS

Feb 3 *None needed*
 Feb 10 John Stahl
 Feb 17 *None needed*
 Feb 24 Jim Gibb

7:00 PM ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

ACOLYTES

Feb 6 Hannah Marlowe & Katie Cameron

READER

Feb 6 Volunteer Needed

DEACON

Feb 6 Terry Miller

6:30 PM WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES

ACOLYTES

Feb 13 Aaronn Sergent
 Feb 20 Olivia Bauer
 Feb 27 Elizabeth Herman



ALTAR GUILD FOR FEBRUARY

Jane Lanz, Lu Kreisher,
 Bonnie Richardson, Pam Keller, Carol Betche