

So *must the*
Son of Man
be lifted up, that
whoever believes
in him may have



**eternal
 life.**

John 3:14-15

THE MESSENGER

MARCH 2008

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

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 Lutheran Church**
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Holy Week

I used to think as I was growing up that we called it holy week because we went to church so many times in one week. There may have been some practical truth in that notion, but there is much more to Holy Week than just extra worship services.

Holy Week begins with Palm/Passion Sunday and culminates with Easter, the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection. In between, we also celebrate Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and in many places the faithful will gather on Saturday for the Vigil of Easter. Each of these services has an important and unique role to play in the telling of the most holy of stories, for it is the story that takes sinners like us and makes it possible for us to be the holy saints of God. The services each tell a part of the story, they build on each other, they play off each other, each one adding more depth and meaning to the growing story of a God who comes to us in our sinfulness and offers us his grace and salvation, free to us, but at great cost to God.

We begin with Palm/Passion Sunday that strange mix of celebration and suffering that is exemplified by the changing shouts of the congregation throughout worship. Shouts that began as, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord," quickly turn to shouts of, "Crucify him!" In this day, the journey of Holy Week begins as we begin to understand the cost of God's gift of salvation to us in Jesus Christ and his passion (suffering). The story is continued in the liturgy of the Three Days (Triduum) - Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter. These three services mark the movement of the Lord, Jesus Christ from command (which is what the word Maundy means) to sacrifice to victory and new life. Maundy Thursday celebrates Jesus commands to "Love one another as He has loved us," to serve others as the master has served us in the washing of feet, and to "Remember me" as we receive the gifts of his body and blood and the forgiveness and new life they offer. Good Friday invites us to look into the face of sin and darkness in our world, seeing that there is no place, no sin, no person that is outside of the reach of our savior. The Vigil of Easter begins with the darkness of Good Friday and proclaims boldly the victory of Christ's light and life over sin, death and the power of the devil. We will incorporate a bit of this motif into our Easter celebration as we begin with the story of women at the tomb in darkness and see as they did the transformation that occurs when the light of truth breaks into our world. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed.

I pray that as you journey with us through this year's Holy Week you will not just feel like its a lot of extra times of worship designed to make you feel holy, but is an opportunity for you to experience in worship throughout the week the story of God and His people, of love and forgiveness, of saints and sinners, of death and new life, that is the truth for all of us sinners whom Christ has claimed and made his holy ones.

Peace and prayers,

Pastor Jim

Pastor Jim Lewis, Senior Pastor
Pastor Marlin Drake, Visitation Pastor

Inside this issue:	
Ministry Night 3/4, Planning Council 3/11, Children's Choir Director, Lenten Series, Maundy Thursday 3/20, Good Friday 3/21	Page 2
Sermon Series: Gravity, Lenten Meals, Sunday morning adult Bible Studies	Page 3
Messiah in the Passover Banquet 3/8	Page 4
What's the idea behind the seasonal bulletins?, Coming Soon... The Lutheran Course	Page 5
Evangelism Board	Page 6-7
Parish Fellowship	Page 7
Young Peoples' Ministry	Page 8
Time to Register for Summer Camp, Jennifer Grafe Camp Mowana Scholarship, Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt 3/16, Easter Breakfast 3/23	Page 9
Steve & Tina Moser & Family in the Mission Field	Page 10-11
Property Board & Thank You's	Page 12
WELCA	Page 13
Scrapbookers 3/14, Phillip Jr. & Marceil Hammerstrom Scholarship Fund, Men's Breakfast 3/8, Office Secretary Opening	Page 14
Christian Education	Page 15
Altar Flowers, OSL, Scriptures	Page 16
March Calendar	Page 17
Birthdays/Anniversaries	Page 18
Ministry Volunteers	Page 19

“MINISTRY NIGHT”
**FOR ALL OFFICERS, BOARD DIRECTORS &
 BOARD MEMBERS**
 Next meeting scheduled for
 Tuesday, **March 4th**—6:30 p.m.

PLANNING COUNCIL
FOR ALL OFFICERS & BOARD DIRECTORS
 Next meeting scheduled for
 Tuesday, **March 11th**—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.



Wednesday Lenten Series
Global Companions:
Who Is My Neighbor?

LENTEN DINNERS & WORSHIP

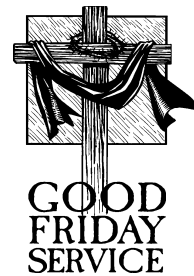
Each Wednesday during Lent, a dinner will be held at 5:45 p.m. followed by Worship at 6:30 p.m. Join us on March 5th and March 12th.

Join us for a special Lenten series that will take you to the different regions of the world. The remaining sermons and stories featured will be from ELCA mission personnel in Egypt and Japan. Join us as we discover the diversity of the world while remembering we reach out in mission together!



**MAUNDY
 THURSDAY
 SERVICE**
 March 20—7:00 p.m.

Exodus 12:1-4[5-10]
 11-14
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
 John 13:1-17, 31b-35



**GOOD
 FRIDAY
 SERVICE**
 March 21—7:00 p.m.

John 18:1-11	John 19:8-16a
John 18:12-27	John 19:16b-22
John 18:28-40	John 19:23-30
John 19:1-7	John 19:31-42



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.”

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	Philippians 2:5-11	The Gravity of Disobedience
March 23	Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; Matthew 28:1-10	Zero Gravity

Lenten Meals

Thank you to the following groups for volunteering to prepare and serve meals for 5:45 p.m. before our 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Lenten Worship services. The Lenten meals will be held in Luther Hall.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GROUP VOLUNTEERS</u>	<u>LENTEN DINNER MENU</u>
March 5	Young Peoples Board	Rigatoni, Bread, Salad, Dessert
March 12	Parish Fellowship Board	Sloppy Joes, Cream of Chicken Sandwiches, Veggies & Dip, Chips, Brownies

Sunday morning adult Bible Studies

Beginning with the First Sunday in Lent, there are 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 prophesies, 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 (Cost: \$5.00 each)

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.

What's the idea behind the seasonal bulletins?

During the seasons of Advent and Epiphany, we experimented with a seasonal bulletin format that allowed us to reuse the same bulletin for several weeks rather than recycling the bulletin each week. While we have returned to the weekly format in Lent, we will be returning to seasonal bulletins again the week after Easter. There are some very good reasons for using this type of bulletin and we wanted to share them with you here.

- ✚ Each season of the church year has a unique feel and theological theme that it conveys. Using seasonal bulletins allows us to highlight some of the unique aspects of each season with additional information about the structure of the liturgy throughout the season. These informational pieces can be found in *italicized text throughout the bulletin* and are intended to enhance your understanding of the mood and feel of the church year as well as the meaning behind changes in the liturgical structure.
- ✚ The seasonal bulletins also provide both a unifying structure and visual representation of the preaching theme we are working with in any given season, and an opportunity for us to learn well some hymns, liturgical songs, and prayers that may not be as familiar when we begin but become well known by the end of the season.
- ✚ Of course, not everything is the same every week, so at least one hymn, the scripture readings, and some prayers are not able to be printed in full in the bulletin when we are reusing them for several weeks. This may seem cumbersome to you at times, but we hope that in time you will learn to appreciate the benefits these afford as well. The hymn of the day with words selected specifically for the message of the day can now be taken home with you and used for devotional material. The scripture readings, which we hope you will learn to mark ahead of time as you prepare for worship, can be seen and read in their context and we can become more familiar with the location of various books of the Bible. And the prayers, without being printed, can allow you to focus on listening and praying along with them, rather than simply reading them from the page.
- ✚ Finally there is, of course, a substantial cost savings involved with the use of seasonal bulletins as well since they allow us to print 250 bulletins for 4 to 8 weeks rather than 225 bulletins every week. In paper alone, we estimate we will use 148 fewer reams of paper per year using seasonal bulletins. Factor that in along with the printing costs that are saved and the time saved and you have a very significant savings each and every year.

Coming Soon... The Lutheran Course

Beginning on March 30 and ending on May 11 the Lutheran Course will be offered for any interested adults during the Sunday School hour in Luther Hall lounge.

Based on The Lutheran Handbook, The Lutheran Course takes you through the fundamentals of Lutheranism in 7 sessions.

Each session features a large-group DVD presentation with top-notch theologians, followed by a small-group time that works through the ideas with depth and humor.

Great for new Lutherans, old Lutherans, and anyone in between. Saints and Sinners welcome. Sense of humor required.

The 7 Sessions are Titled:

- ✚ "How to Tell the Difference Between the Law and the Gospel"
- ✚ "Five Things You Should Know about the Lutheran Reformation"
- ✚ "The Anatomy of a Baptism"
- ✚ "How to Receive Communion"
- ✚ "The Three most Rebellious Things Jesus Did"
- ✚ "How to Read the Bible"
- ✚ "How to Share your Faith with Someone"



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

A Great Big Thanks to all of you who signed up to prepare food for the Homeless Shelter and the Wednesday Free Lunch and for the food that is received to pack grocery bags. These people who receive these cooked meals and grocery bags are truly thankful. Without your support in providing food for these programs, 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. May God continue to Bless us as we reach out to others.

We, as a church family, will be supporting the Steve and Tina Moser & Family in the mission field. Steve's parents are Al and Frances Moser, life-long members of our congregation. May we pray for this family as they do God's work, but they need our support in providing them with financial assistance. Our goal, as a church family, is to send them \$200 each month as they serve the Lord in the mission field. Envelopes have been placed in the pews for giving to this mission.



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, March 19th 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,

March 19th

Dorothy Morrison, Leader

Bobbie Myers

Reba Snyder

Holly Vesco

Janice Weber



Volunteers providing ham & bean soup, saltine crackers, corn bread, sandwich bread, soft butter & Jell-O with fruit for the Free Lunch should deliver their food donations to the church to the Luther Hall kitchen on **Tuesday, March 18th.**

Thank you to the following volunteers:

Carolyn Delphia, Norma Grywalski, Margaret Haas, Randy & Deb Smith, Linda Bertle, Frances Moser, Carol Betche, Sue Case, Dana Lewis, Bonnie Richardson, Janice Weber, Babs Thomas-Moore

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.

If you are unable to deliver your portion of the meal, please contact someone else who has signed up to deliver food.

For as the
BODY
without the
SPIRIT
is dead,
so
FAITH
without
works is
dead also.
James 2:26

Thank you to the following volunteers who will prepare and deliver a meal of **meat loaf, potato casserole, green beans, corn, Italian bread, soft butter, tossed salad, salad dressings, coffee, milk and Dessert** on Easter Sunday, **March 23rd:**

- Marcie Castricone
- Esther Philabaum
- Jill Hootman
- Elaine Margo
- Janice Weber
- Sue Seifert
- Jen McCulloch
- Gretchen Grosse
- Sue Case
- Jim Gibb
- Dorothy Morrison
- Reba Snyder
- Frances Moser
- Glenda Sclater
- Dana Lewis
- Kelly Fishley

PARISH FELLOWSHIP BOARD

A very big "THANK YOU" to all who attended and helped serve at the Valentine's Mystery Dinner on February 16th. Our menu this year was: Cheese & grapes appetizer, salad, dinner roll, spaghetti, meatballs & sausage. Dessert was a brownie, ice cream, whipped cream & cherry on top in a huge bowl!



Thank you to Toni Ferritto for donating all the ice cream and cherries and thank you to all who graciously baked brownies to help us cut back on our expenses!!! However, our biggest thank you goes out to our YOUTH!! They spent their Saturday night (even though there was a high school dance) at church with us!! We had 17 of our youth here to help with the event. Honestly, we couldn't have done it without you.

A special thank you also to Katie Cameron who was our entertainment since Valley Voices cancelled due to illness. She played the piano like no other. Thanks Katie!!!

Our evening was full of fellowship, smiles, and relaxation with beautiful musical CD's provided by Bobbie Myers. She kept the music flowing all evening and it was stupendous!

All in all, the evening was fun and we were able to make after expenses **\$258.03** toward the tent rental for the summer family picnic after vacation Bible school. Also, thanks to Jim Gibb who will be applying for Thrivent matching funds. Thanks to all who donated, came, or prayed for the success of this event.

Blessings to all!



Thank you to the following for providing a snack for the coffee table on Sunday mornings:

- March 2nd—Pat Petricola
- March 9th—Cindy Jerles

- March 16—Volunteer needed
- March 30—Volunteer needed



YOUNG PEOPLES' MINISTRY

The Pop Machine Belongs to Us

There has been a pop machine at the west entrance to Youth Hall for a long time now. It had been serviced and stocked by Pepsi. Pepsi recently contacted us and informed us that due to the low volume of sales from the machine they would soon be removing it from our church. However, instead of losing the machine, we were able to purchase the machine for our own use for a cost of \$100.

We will be stocking the machine with pop ourselves now and the proceeds from the sale of each can will go towards youth activities. Please support the youth and purchase a pop here at the church. And don't forget to recycle your cans.

College & Military Care Packages

On February 10th, the Young Peoples Board packed lots of goodies in "Care packages" which were mailed to college students and military personnel.

Thank you to the following families for helping to assemble 23 packages: Bauer, Cameron, Herman, Jerles, Philabaum, Sergent and Pastor Jim.

Thank you for all your donations which we know have been greatly appreciated by those receiving them!

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 March 9th.

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



Learning that's Fun!

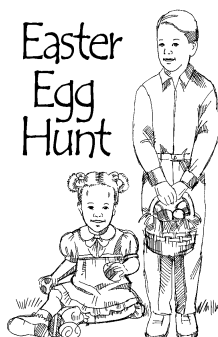
JENNIFER GRAFE CAMP MOWANA SCHOLARSHIP

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.

PALM SUNDAY—

MARCH 16TH

All children up to Grade 5 are invited to an **Easter Egg Hunt** which will be held after the **10:30 a.m.** service on **March 16th**. This event will be held indoors if inclement weather. Please bring a basket or bag.



EASTER BREAKFAST—

MARCH 23RD—9:15 A.M.

During Sunday School, you are invited to breakfast consisting of **scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage gravy & biscuits, sweet rolls, fresh fruit, toast, orange juice, coffee, tea, and milk**. Cost is by donation which will benefit our summer church camp scholarships. Thrivent will provide matching funds.

All youth, especially campers, should come to help set up on **Saturday, March 22nd at 9:00 a.m.** The more help we have the quicker we will be done.

STEVE & TINA MOSER & FAMILY IN THE MISSION FIELD

PRAY FOR THE GRINGOS

We realized we haven't told you much about the other Americans that are here studying Spanish. This year there are about forty students in the *Programa Bib-lia Bilingue (PBB)*. Most of them are kids right out of high school, but a few have been to college in the States. One or two are college graduates, and two couples besides us, married one year or less. The students come from California, Florida, New York, Ohio, and every place in between, including two from Quebec and a couple from Bermuda. Every last one of them is special, and we have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know them. It takes a special kind of young person to give up everything and come to another country to study. It hasn't always been easy, but they are sticking to it!



This was at Thanksgiving "trying" to get a group photo. That day was just another ordinary school day at the Bible Institute, but the PBB directors had scheduled this special for them dinner that night. We all loved it!



Week of January 27, 2008



Please pray for these "kids". They don't have it easy, especially right now during summer camp season. All of them have been given work assignments in various areas of camp, plus they still have Spanish classes six days a week. Exams every Monday, written and oral.

Sunday, our family, and one of the other couples, hosted an *asado* (Argentine bar-beque) for all the gringos. They had a blast! And they really needed the break. There are still four more weeks of summer camps to go. Last week was intense because there was a record amount of campers... 747! We have no idea where they put them all.



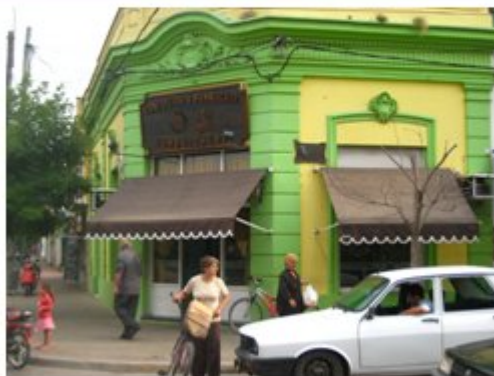
Word of Life

Steve & Tina Moser

Este es Monte Daily life in our little town from Tina's perspective



This is the largest grocery store in Monte. I have learned what they have and how to make do, because I'm not in the States. I do miss fresh U.S. produce and a "normal" Walmart.



Something we have become fond of is "facturas". These are Argentine pastries that are made with puff pastry and usually contain a thick jelly or dulce de leche. At two dollars a dozen it's a nice treat.

Things are different as it is for anyone in a foreign country. The change in culture, food, custom, and attitude can make one's head swim in frustration and discouragement.

New surroundings and different schedules can cause the family unit to feel disconnected and discontented.

There are so many aspects that one can never anticipate until she is in the middle of it all.

But God is very good and He is the ultimate stabilizer and the One who calls us to stretch and grow to be more effective for His kingdom and fit for His service.

How about you? Maybe God hasn't called you to a foreign country, but He has called you to grow.

But the first and most important step is knowing Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. None of us is good enough to make it to heaven. We are all sinners. The only way is Jesus.

If you are unsure of where you will spend eternity, stop now and simply pray and ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and to be your Savior. He died for you. You can know beyond the shadow of doubt that your sins are forgiven and that you will spend eternity with Him.



Many good people attend this church, that sits in the square, but not one of them has the power to save himself. If anyone could make it to heaven by his own works, why did Jesus have to die?

Thank you for your prayers, we realize that we could never do this without the power of our Savior. Philippians 1:6 "...He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.



Of course as a good American, we found the best ice cream in town. They must have at least 30 flavors. No, we haven't tried them all.



Yes, this is our current abode. We are on the top floor at the other end. I really miss my yard in Florida and having air conditioning. But when we don't think we can take on more night at 85 degrees, God sends rain and a couple of cooler days.

PROPERTY BOARD

We have continued to make improvements in the Fellowship Hall kitchen. We have installed new point-of-use hot water heaters under each sink so we will actually have hot water to wash with! Howard has also installed new wiring and circuits to place the microwaves on the far counter to free up regular counter space when working in that area. A big thank you to Katherine Stahl and Ruth Stein for taking the time and (huge) effort to clean out all of the cupboards and drawers in the kitchen. Many items had been put away broken and these were thrown out. Additional used dinnerware items were donated to the homeless shelter. Many items were also placed in storage for the next rummage sale.

We have continued to replace the paper towel dispensers in the restrooms. We will have them all changed over in the near future. The church has also purchased the pop machine in Youth Hall since the Pepsi company was just going to remove it. It was decided that the Young Peoples Board would take over the responsibility for stocking the machine and taking care of it. Any profits from the sale of pop will be used as a fund raiser for the young people.

Just a reminder: We will need someone to take over the Property Board in July. If you are interested, please contact Rich Elliott at 364-5843 or the church office.



January 9, 2008

Dear Women of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Americas:

The Board of Directors of the Friends of the Homeless of Tuscarawas County wishes to thank you for your generous contribution from your Thanksgiving offering in the amount of \$335.00 to the operation of the shelter.

There are more people in need of shelter in our county than most people realize. It has taken the support of many willing hands to bring the program into place but the project is well on its way thanks to giving people like you.

There are many ways to assist with the shelter and the Board is counting on the whole community supporting this effort. For tax reporting purposes, we wish to emphasize that no goods or services were provided to you the donor in return for this gift; therefore, your entire contribution is tax deductible.

We wish to thank you on behalf of the people who will be served.

Gratefully yours,

Jack Ream

President of the Board

Friends of the Homeless of Tuscarawas County



Dear Young People's Ministry,
Thank you so much for the care package I received. It was very thoughtful of you and I really enjoyed it!
Yours in Christ,
Megan Hardin

Thank you for the care package of snacks and school supplies. It was very thoughtful of you and I am looking forward to using them. They will come in handy throughout the next few weeks.

Thank you again,
Kelsie Baker

THANK YOU to Norma Grywalski, Ruth Halter, Dorothy Morrison, Shirley Grafe, Donna Fox, Art Siber and Phil Hammerstrom for their help in folding Sunday bulletins and/or bulk mailings of newsletters. You are appreciated!



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 27 quilts. Knotters will next meet on the **third Tuesday, March 18th** 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**.

KNOTTERS
 Tuesday, **March 18th**
 9:00 a.m.—Luther Hall

SWINGLES
 Tuesday, **March 18th**
 7:00 p.m.—Luther Hall
 Our study will be on David.

WELCA SPRING QUARTERLY
 Wednesday, **March 12th**
 9:00 a.m.—Luther Hall
 Hostesses: Dr. Mary Baer Circle
 Program: Flying Quilts
 (where our quilts are sent)



RELAY FOR LIFE FUND RAISER will be a Tupperware party on **Tuesday, April 15th at 6:00 p.m.** in the Outreach Center with door prizes and giveaways! A percentage of the sales will be given to the Grace Happens team for Relay for Life. Any questions, please contact Sue Case (330-343-6450).

Candy bars are now available for purchase which will also benefit Relay for Life. See Dorothy Morrison (330-343-5232).

The relay will be held the first weekend in June. Think about being a walker. Sign-up and packets will be available after Easter (March 23rd).



**RUTH HALTER'S
 90TH BIRTHDAY
 OPEN HOUSE**

All are invited to come celebrate Ruth Halter's 90th birthday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Outreach Center **Sunday, March 2nd**. *Please do not bring gifts.*



Church Women United
 A National Movement of Christian women working ecumenically to strengthen families in the 21st Century
 Offices in: New York, NY
 Washington, DC
 United Nations

**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

Friday, March 7th at 1:00 p.m.
 Otterbein United Methodist Church
 Fair & Beaver Avenues
 New Philadelphia
 Questions? Contact Dorothy Glass, President
 of Church Women United at 330-339-0124

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** ★

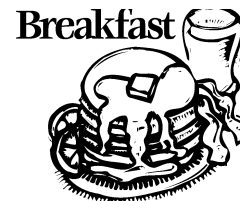
Come join us **once a month from 7:00 p.m. to midnight** to get together to work on your scrapbooks, stamping, or whatever your craft may be.

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, March 14th**. 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!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



Saturday,

March 8th

8:00 a.m.

Luther Hall

Come join us for some good food and fellowship!

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.

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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

JANUARY SUNDAY SCHOOL - Hands-on Bible Curriculum

Nursery (Birth—4 years old)

Jesus' Last Days—Jesus brings life.

Kindergarten to 2nd Grade

Jesus' Crucifixion—Jesus gives us hope.

3rd Grade

Jesus' Crucifixion—Jesus used his power to point people to God.

4th to 5th Grade

Struggles Kids Face—God can help us face people who intimidate us.

6th to 8th Grade (Confirmation Class)

Christ—Who is this Jesus?

9th to 12th Grade

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' Last Days—Jesus came to save us.

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)



EASTER LILIES FOR EASTER SUNDAY

Blossom's Florist will be providing the flowers at a **cost of \$11.50 each**. Your order form and payment (if check, made payable to Grace Lutheran Church) may be placed in the envelope provided in the Narthex and either left in the basket, placed in the offering plate, or given to the church office. Orders and payment are **due by Sunday, March 9, 2008**. Your flowers may be taken home following the 10:30 a.m. Easter worship service on March 23, 2008.

THE EASTER FLOWERS ARE DEDICATED IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF PERSONS NOTED BELOW:

PLEASE CIRCLE:	INDICATE MESSAGE BELOW:
IN HONOR OF	
IN MEMORY OF	
FLOWERS GIVEN BY:	



OPEN ALTAR FLOWERS

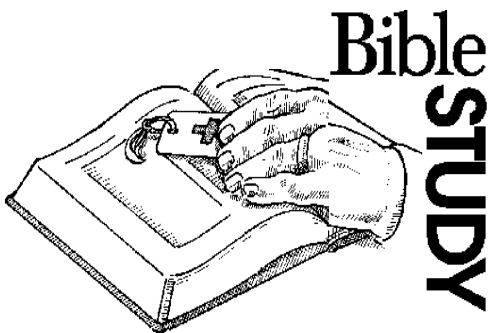
If you would like to provide altar flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones, please either sign up on the list in the Narthex or call the church office at 330-343-6915.

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

Altar Flowers are available on the following dates: **March 2nd (one vase) and March 30th (one vase).**

Altar Guild
Tuesday, March 25th
9:00 a.m.

Order of St. Luke
Tuesday, March 25th
7:00 p.m.



Bible STUDY

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.**

Sunday, March 9th
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Psalm 130
Ezekiel 37:1-14
John 11:1-45

Sunday, March 2nd
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

Sunday, March 16th
Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 27:11-31
Matthew 27:32-44
Matthew 27:45-55
Matthew 27:56-66

Sunday, March 23rd
Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Day
Psalm 118:1-2,14-24
Acts 10:34-43
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10

Sunday, March 30th
Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 2:14a,22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

gracehappens@gracedover.org
 pastor@gracedover.org

March 2008

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
 216 North Wooster Ave
 Dover OH 44622-2948
 330-343-6915

Tuesday, April 1st—6:30 pm
 Ministry Night
 Tuesday, April 8th—6:30 pm
 Planning Council

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



1
 9:00a-4:00p Ribbon Festival—FH, YH, Sanctuary
 9:00-11:00a First Communion Class—ORC
 11:30a-5:00p Michelle Hallman—ORC
 5:30-9:00 Blue/Gold FH

Spring ahead March 9th Remember! Time Changes this Sunday!

2 4th Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship/Communion 9:15a SCS 10:30a Worship 1:00-4:00p Ruth Halter's 90th birthday—ORC	3 9:30a Staff mtg 3:00p Communion at Park Village 6:30p Girl Scouts 7:00p Valley Voices—Lounge	4 6:30p Ministry Night 6:30p Cub Scout 87	5 5:45p Dinner 6:30p Lenten service	6 12:00p Bible Study LH 12:30p Sr. Fun Day—ORC 6:00p Handbell Choir 7:00p Gallery Choir	7 1:00p Church Women United World Day of Prayer—Otterbein UMC, NP Diane Coulter decorate ORC	8 8:00a Men's Breakfast—LH 11:00a Diane Coulter—bridal shower—ORC 6:00p Messiah in the Passover Banquet—FH
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9 5th Sunday in Lent 8:00a Worship 9:15a SCS 10:30a Worship/Communion 5:30p Mission Trip meeting ORC	10 10:30a Communion at Park Village North Building 6:30p Girl Scouts 7:00p VBS Coordinator's Mtg—LH 7:00p Valley	11 12:00p Rejoice Women 6:30p Planning Council—LH 6:30p Cub Scout 87 8:00-10:00p Joe Palmer, Fortnightly, FH & Sanctuary	12 9:00a WELCA Spring Quarterly—Luther Hall 5:45p Dinner 6:30p Lenten service	13 12:00p Bible Study LH 12:30p Sr. Fun Day—ORC 6:00p Handbell Choir 7:00p Gallery Choir	14 7:00p-12:00a Scrapbookers, Stampers & Crafter—Outreach Center	15 9:00-11:00a First Communion Class—ORC 4:00p Bonnie Richardson decorate ORC
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16 Palm Sunday 8:00a Worship/Communion 9:15a SCS 10:30a Worship/Communion (Easter Egg Hunt follows worship) 11:00a-3:00p Bonnie—ORC	17 9:30a Full Staff meeting—LH 6:30p Girl Scouts 7:00p Valley Voices—Lounge	18 9:00a Knotters-LH 6:30p Cub Scout 87 7:00p Swingles-LH	19 11:00-1:00 Free Lunch for the Needy—Outreach Center 	20 12:00p Bible Study LH 12:30p Sr. Fun Day ORC 5:30p Modern Homemakers—ORC 7:00p Maundy Thursday	21 7:00p Good Friday service	22
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23 Easter Sunday 8:00a Worship/Communion 9:15a Easter Breakfast 10:30a Worship/Communion 4:00-6:00p Patty Wott ORC 6:00p Homeless Shelter	24 7:00p Valley Voices—Lounge	25 9:00a Altar Guild 6:30p Cub Scout 87 7:00p Order of St. Luke	26	27 9:00a newsletter assembly—LH 12:00p Bible Study LH 12:30p Sr. Fun Day—ORC 6:00p Handbell Choir 7:00p Gallery Choir	28	29 12:00-4:00p Kathy Lands baby shower—Fellowship Hall
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30 2nd Sunday of Easter 8:00a Worship 9:15a SCS 10:30a Worship	31 6:30p Girl Scouts 7:00p Valley Voices—Lounge
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SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATIONS DUE SUNDAY, MARCH 23RD

March



ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY 8:00 AM WORSHIP

ACOLYTES

Mar 2 Jordan Miller
 Mar 9 Ashley Jerles
 Mar 16 Aaronn Sergent & Olivia Bauer
 Mar 23 Ty Miller & Jordan Miller
 Mar 30 Ashley Jerles

LAY READERS

Mar 2 Steve Zimmerman
 Mar 9 Larry Lloyd
 Mar 16 Lynn Foust
 Mar 23 Steve Zimmerman
 Mar 30 Gale Limron

DEACONS

Mar 2 Dale Weaver
 Mar 9 *None needed*
 Mar 16 Sue Grafe
 Mar 23 Terry Miller
 Mar 30 *None needed*

USHERS

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

SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP

ACOLYTES

Mar 2 Katie Cameron
 Mar 9 Kristin Miceli
 Mar 16 Hunter Stein & Elizabeth Herman
 Mar 23 Hannah Marlowe & Kristin Miceli
 Mar 30 Aaronn Sergent

LAY READERS

Mar 2 Richard Homrighausen
 Mar 9 Nathan Vaughan
 Mar 16 Ron Philabaum
 Mar 23 Jim Gibb
 Mar 30 Nathan Vaughan

USHERS

Mar 2 John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Art Siber
 Mar 9 Jerry Nelson, Jack Marshall, Ron Philabaum, Jim Gibb, Kent Philabaum, Mike Sergent, Aaronn Sergent
 Mar 16 John Stahl, Robert McCulloch, Keith Lands, Phil Hammerstrom
 Mar 23 Art Keener, Dale Kreisher, William Page, Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman
 Mar 30 Women of the ELCA

NURSERY CARE (10:30)

Mar 2 Elizabeth Mady & Star Jones
 Mar 9 Kelsie Baker, Kyla Burrier, Andrea Schlegel
 Mar 16 Elaine Margo & Tracy Hochstetler
 Mar 23 Betsy Morris & Lisa Morris
 Mar 30 Esther Philabaum & Aaron Philabaum

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Mar 2 Marcie Tinlin & Noah Tinlin
 Mar 9 Audra Miceli & Ethan Nelson
 Mar 16 Esther Philabaum & Alexis Stein
 Mar 23 Easter—no Children's Church
 Mar 30 Cindy Jerles & Cody Jerles

DEACONS

Mar 2 *None needed*
 Mar 9 John Stahl
 Mar 16 Jim Gibb
 Mar 23 John Stahl
 Mar 30 *None needed*

6:30 PM WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES

ACOLYTES

Mar 5 Hannah Marlowe
 Mar 12 Andrew Yeager

7:00 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY

ACOLYTES

Mar 20 Katie Cameron & Ethan Nelson

READER

Mar 20 **Volunteer needed**

DEACON

Mar 20 **Volunteer needed**

7:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY

READER

Mar 21 **Volunteer needed**



ALTAR GUILD FOR MARCH

Donna Fox, Katherine Stahl, Jill Hootman, Dorothy Morrison