

THE MESSENGER



2009

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

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
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 Dover Ohio 44622-2948
 Phone: 330-343-6915
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 gracehappens@gracedover.org
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 Website: www.gracedover.org

What does it mean to be "Saved"

Recently I completed a book entitled "Jesus Wants to Save Christians" by Rob Bell and Don Colden. The title, as usual, captured my attention, but the premise of the book I must say has truly opened my heart to new possibilities for being a Christian and for us together being the church. The book re-reads all of the Bible through the lens of the Exodus story, seeing again and again the pattern in which God's people are called into relationship with God, grow into prominence in the world, abandon our attention to God's way to seek our own way of living, and then are rescued from the oppression our own way has led us into by a God who eternally listens to the cry of the oppressed. There is a way in which we as human beings get caught up in the practice of building empires of our own that seek to control, dominate, and accumulate wealth for ourselves but this is not God's way. The book, rightfully I would argue, points out the many ways that we as Christians, we the Church have all too often adopted this same way of empire, dominance, and accumulation for ourselves too. But there is a different way that Jesus invites us to. There is a different life that Jesus makes available to all, and he gives it to us in the way it will be demanded of us - he gives it to us with his life on the cross. Jesus becomes for us the Passover lamb whose blood sets us free from the death that surrounds us in this world. Jesus blood on the cross rescues us from sin, death and the power of the devil so that we are freed to live in a new way, no longer dominated by greed, lust, and power, but led by the Spirit of God as seen most clearly in the life of Jesus Christ. Jesus' life invites us to see that power is most powerful when it is used to bring freedom and wealth is only wealth when it produces something that lasts, and security is not found in being bigger than those around us but in living in ways that honor the dignity and value of all people, even our enemies.

As Lutheran Christians, our first question is always "What does this mean?" and that is the question I have been asking of myself and our community. What does it mean that we are a church who bears the name of Christ in this community? How do we participate in the way of Christ that gives life to others? Certainly we serve those who are in need but have we begun to look for ways to break the cycle of poverty and

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

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WORSHIP SERIES

Covenant: Sundays in Lent

Throughout the Sundays of Lent we will be looking at the word Covenant. Covenant means to cut a deal, to make an agreement. Throughout the Hebrew Bible God continues to make covenants with the people. Each of these covenants promises the presence of God with them and for them and each also carries an expectation that the people will live in ways that God establishes for them to be a Holy people - a people that are set apart for God's purposes. We find echoes of this covenant relationship in the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion as we give thanks for the promise of God's grace, mercy, and life that come to us through them and the expectation of our response to that great gift that calls us to live in ways that honor the God who has saved us with His body and blood.

- March 1 : Noah & the Flood - Genesis 9:8-17
- March 8 : Abraham & Sarah - Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
- March 15 : The Sinai Covenant - Exodus 20:1-17
- March 22 : The Serpent & the Staff - Numbers 21:4-9
- March 29 : Jeremiah & the New Covenant - Jeremiah 31:31-34



For those interested in diving deeper into a way of life that feeds this way of life we will offer a course on understanding and practicing the Spiritual Disciplines in your life as we work through the course, "The Life You've Always Wanted" in our adult forum March 1-April 5.

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is all about making an entrance. We wave palm branches and sing "Hosanna." Some congregations have big processions in their neighborhoods and through their church buildings. But this Sunday is not just about entrances; it is also the Sunday of the Passion, when we tell the story of what happens after Jesus gets to Jerusalem. There is more to this story. Jesus didn't just go to Jerusalem. Jesus was arrested, tortured, crucified, and buried in Jerusalem. For this reason the focus of Palm/Passion Sunday's readings are not on entrance but on emptying. Jesus "emptied himself...and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross." (Phil. 2:7-8) We do not just enter Holy Week on this Sunday; we are drawn into it. (Sundays and Seasons Year B 2009 ~ page 132)

We invite you to join us for a unique time of worship that will highlight this movement from triumphant entrance to the obedience of emptying oneself for the sake of the world. We will gather for worship on this Sunday, April 5 in Youth Hall and process with palms into the sanctuary at the beginning of the service. If you cannot process with us due to health issues you may spend this time in prayer in the sanctuary.



LENTEN WORSHIP



LENTEN CALENDAR

Wednesday Lenten Services **March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Preceded by Fellowship Meal at 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday **April 9 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Good Friday **April 10 @7:00 p.m.**

Our Lenten Wednesday Evening Services will include a...

Fellowship meal at 6:00 PM and Worship at 7:00 PM

featuring a liturgy of evening prayer and message relating to the five elements of Luther's Small Catechism. Each week during Lent the pastors from Emmanuel - New Philadelphia, St James - Tuscarawas, St. Paul - Bolivar, First - Strasburg, and Grace - Dover will rotate to each other's churches to preach on the elements of Luther's Small Catechism. Invite a friend to join you each week as we explore the basic beliefs of the Lutheran faith each Wednesday in Lent.

March 4 - Rev. Steve Patrick ~ the 10 Commandments

March 11 - Rev. Blanche Tyree ~ Holy Baptism

March 18 - Rev. Jim Lewis ~ the Apostle's Creed

March 25 - Rev. Mike Pozzuto ~ the Lord's Prayer

April 1 - Rev. Steven Woyen ~ Holy Communion



Lenten Meals Begin March 4

Groups are needed to prepare and serve meals before our Wednesday Lenten Worship services. Each meal will begin at 6:00 PM. The Lenten worship service will begin at 7:00 PM. Groups should plan to prepare, serve and clean up following the meal. Please call the church office with your date and menu.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GROUP VOLUNTEERS</u>	<u>LENTEN DINNER MENU</u>
March 4	<u>2 Circles WELCA</u>	<u>Cheesy potatoes, Chicken sandwiches, etc.</u>
March 11	_____	_____
March 18	<u>Young People's</u>	<u>TBA</u>
March 25	_____	_____
April 1	_____	_____

PLANNING COUNCIL

Catching up with Council

Hello! I thought it would be a good idea to try and write an article to help bridge the gap between our Planning Council and Members. I will try to address and answer questions submitted by members and myself and discuss some of the upcoming events and ideas Planning Council has been discussing.

How do I find out who is on a particular Church Committee?

The easiest thing to do is to call the church office and ask for the secretary who can provide you with the members on each committee and on Planning Council. Rosters are also printed in the messenger from time to time. For convenience we have provided a roster of all Planning Council Members and Committee Members in this messenger.

If one of my family members are sick, how do I ensure they are listed in the bulletin and are being prayed for on Sundays?

The bulletin inserts are prepared by the church secretary and Pastor on a weekly basis, so you should call the Church Office and provide the name of the individual. They can then put the name in the bulletin. Also, if you would like Pastor to visit your family member you should provide the Church Office with the name and location of the individual (hospital, room number, etc...). In today's society, medical information is not released and Pastor is not always informed when a member is in the hospital, so a phone call is necessary.

Is it true that there is an opening to chair the Fellowship Board?

Yes this is true. Planning Council is looking for a devoted individual to lead our Fellowship Board. The Fellowship Board is in charge of bringing our members together outside of Sunday worship. The Fellowship Board also helps plan the annual Church Picnic with the assistance of the rest of the Ministry Boards. If you think you have the gifts to chair the Fellowship Board or would like more information about this opportunity please let Pastor or myself know.

I have been thinking of serving as the Cherub Choir Director, but am hesitant to get involved?

You should not be hesitant. The Cherub Choir Director is in charge of having weekly rehearsals with our youngsters between October and April. Rehearsals are usually 45 minutes to 1 hour in length and are held at a date and time convenient for all involved. The Cherub Choir generally tries to hold one performance per month between October and April. The ideal attributes for this job include a passion for music and a love for children. If you think you have the gifts to lead our youngsters in this area give myself or Pastor a call.

Has Planning Council discussed obtaining an AED for the Church or possibly training our members in CPR to provide a safer place to worship on Sundays?

Yes. After your question the Planning Council discussed investigating options to make Grace the safest place to worship on Sundays. As part of our investigation, Planning Council is trying to determine how many members would be interested in CPR training. If you are interested in being trained by a licensed CPR instructor please leave your name and contact information with the church office. Once we determine the level of interest in our Congregation, Planning Council will make a decision on how best to proceed. Also, please provide me with your thoughts or concerns on obtaining an AED for our Church. Feel free to email me or leave a note in my mail box with your thoughts.

Are there any upcoming programs to keep our congregation strong?

Yes. Our Synod puts on a seminar entitled Healthy Congregations. The seminar advises about the good and bad behaviors in a congregation and teaches congregations about how to maintain a healthy atmosphere for worship and fellowship. Planning Council is considering hosting this seminar at Grace. Congregations from all over our Synod would be invited to attend as well as our own members. To host the seminar Grace will need to provide a lunch to all attendees. If you are interested in supporting this program, please contact myself or Pastor.

If you have questions or concerns please feel free to submit them to me at any time in email at nvaughan@kwgd.com, via a note placed in my mail box at the front church office, or via the telephone at 330-343-3888.

Nathan D. Vaughan, Council President

PLANNING COUNCIL AND BOARDS

PLANNING COUNCIL

Next Meeting

March 3 @ 6:45 PM

MINISTRY NIGHT

Next Meeting

March 10 @ 6:45 PM

Fellowship Board Opportunity

If you enjoy creating opportunities for people to get together, strengthen relationships, and usually enjoy good food, please consider being a part of the Fellowship board. The board is responsible for creating opportunities for people in the congregation and throughout the community to form relationships through a variety of events like the church picnic, fellowship dinners, outings and activities, and special programs that foster Christian relationships and conversation. The goal is to have up to four events each year, two of which would be designed to encourage participation from the larger community. The board would meet monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:45 PM and the director would also serve on the Planning Council which meets at 6:45 PM on the first Tuesday of the month. If you have a desire to be a part of this exciting and important ministry or you know someone who has gifts suited to this ministry please contact Nathan Vaughan-Council President or Pastor Jim.

2008-2009 BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Nathan Vaughan - President

Dave Haverfield - Vice President

Pam Keller - Secretary

Beverly Frantz - Treasurer

Lay Ministry

Larry Lloyd - Director

Carolyn Delphia

Jim Gibb

Evan Cameron

Dale Weaver

Glenda Sclater

Michelle Haverfield

Personnel

Dave Haverfield - Director

Mike Sergent

Bob Sclater

Darlene Bonta

Ron Stahl

Jeff Hootman

Christian Education

Terry Miller - Director

Betsy Morris

Dana Lewis

Dorothy Huff

Susan Seifert

Linda McFadden

Evangelism

Wendy Mady - Director

Liz Miller

Dorothy Morrison

Janice Weber

Melody Rader

Fellowship

Denise Carpenter

Deb Foust

Marcie Tinlin

Frances Moser

Property

Howard Stein - Director

Richard Elliott

Ruth Stein

John Stahl

Tim Keplinger

Al Moser

Public Relations

Keith Lands - Director

Sue Hartz

David Elliott

Scott Ebert

Stewardship

Michael Thomas-Moore - Director

Tom Hardin

Richard Homrighausen

Young People's

Jaclyn Sergent - Director

Chris Sergent

Ashley Eick

John Wolfe

Brendan Hardin

Shane Porter

STEWARDSHIP

Grace Lutheran Church
can earn a donation every time
you search the Internet
and shop online!!!

GoodSearch & GoodShop



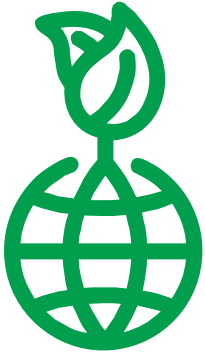
Search the web with Yahoo-powered **GoodSearch.com** and they'll donate a penny to your cause each time you search!

Shop at more than 600 **GoodShop.com** merchants including Amazon, Best Buy, Toys R Us, and others, and a percentage of each purchase will go to our church!

STEWARDSHIP

Can GRACE GO GREEN?

As we consider ways to care for our congregation, community, nation and world in more effective ways, the call to GO GREEN has become very prevalent. The amount of materials we waste each year in paper products, styrofoam containers, plastic, aluminum and other recyclable products continues to grow. We have placed recycling containers throughout the building for glass, plastic, and aluminum as well as containers for paper products. But how about limiting the amount of these materials we use in the first place. Think of the savings for the church and the environment offered by not printing 350 newsletters but instead emailing 200 and printing 150. How about not using paper and plastic-ware for our fellowship times and meals but instead taking the time to wash and reuse the dishes we already have. Going Green makes Good Sense for us and for the world we live in.



If you'd like to receive the Messenger by email please send an email to GraceHappens@GraceDover.org with the words "Email Messenger" in the subject heading.

Remember you can also view the current and archived Messengers online at www.GraceDover.org

\$\$ A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER \$\$

Here at **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH** we are very fortunate to have three "Counting Teams" who take care of counting the weekly offerings and making the bank deposit. They are doing a GREAT job but we could help make their task faster and easier. Please use your "mailed" member envelopes whenever possible to insure your name and the type of offering or donation is correctly recorded. Marking the amount you are giving on the appropriate line at the top serves as a double check against the amount counted.

When it is necessary to use a "Pew Envelope", please be sure to include your name, envelope number if you know it, and the amount enclosed. Remember to mark what type of offering you are giving...weekly offering, special cause, or seasonal giving.

Thank you for your support in the past years and in the coming months ahead! As I have said before...**YOU Make GRACE HAPPEN!!** Without you and your contributions we cannot do the job that God has called us ALL to do!

*Respectfully Requested,
Beverly Frantz, Treasurer*

Consider enrolling in our new **Simply Giving®** Program

Through **Simply Giving®**, your offerings are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account. You determine the frequency of your automatic donation – weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly – the option is yours. Your donation is deposited into the congregation's bank account on the same day it is withdrawn from your account.

Benefits to you and...Your Congregation

Simply Giving® is a reliable, safe way to move your stewardship plan into action. It allows you to share your donations through planned giving and activates your generosity into ongoing stewardship. Because your donation is given consistently, you won't need to play "catch-up" at year-end or worry about forgotten checkbooks or missed Sunday offerings.

But you're not the only one that benefits. Your congregation benefits from steady, more predictable revenues throughout the year, more efficient bookkeeping, and greater confidence in meeting its financial commitments.

A simple registration form is available in the narthex and in the church office for you to enroll in the program. Your completed registration form and a voided check from the account you want to make payments from is all it takes to get started. Do yourself a favor and help our congregation in the process, pick up a form today and start **Simply Giving**.





GLOBAL MISSIONS

Our global missions are coming along!

Quilts: 15 Soap: 14

Health Kits: 3 Layettes: 0

School Kits: 0

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



WELCA Circle Meetings

Swingles Circle: March 17

@ 6:30 PM

Dr. Mary Baer Circle: March 25

@ 1:00 PM

WELCA SPRING QUARTERLY

Wednesday, March 11th

Lunch — 11:30 am

Luther Hall

All ladies of Grace are invited to come and hear Patty Ippolito from the Senior Center talk about what the center has to offer.

COME JOIN US!

NEWS FROM THE QUILTERS

We are off to a good start with 14 quilts already completed toward our yearly goal.



We are in need of twin flat sheets (plain colors) for the backs of the quilts and prints or patterns to make squares for the top. If you would like to provide any of these items please drop them off at the church office.

Come join us the second Tuesday of each month at 9 am for some good conversation and a fun time knotting!

HEALTH KITS AND LAYETTES

Two of our Lutheran World Relief Projects are making Health Kits and Layettes. These kits provide much needed supplies to many people around the world. Items that go into each kit are:

Health Kits

- 1 hand towel (dark color)
- 1 wash cloth (dark color)
- 1 bath size bar of soap
- 1 adult size toothbrush
- 1 nail clipper with file
- 1 wide tooth comb
- 6 band-aids

Layettes

- 2 shirts
 - 2 sleepers
 - 2 receiving blankets
 - 4 cloth diapers
 - 1 sweater or sweatshirt
 - 2 wash cloths
 - 1 bath size bar of soap
 - 2 diaper pins
- (sizes up to 24 months)

If you would like to provide any of the items used in these kits please drop them off at the church office and we will assemble them.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

SOUTHERN CLUSTER SPRING GATHERING

Wednesday, April 15

St. Martins Lutheran Church
Malvern, OH

SOUTHERN CLUSTER FALL RETREAT AT TUSCORA PARK

Thursday, October 8

More Information to Follow.

MISSIONARY NEWS

NEWS FROM EL SALVADOR

February 09, 2009



WEEKEND IN METAPAN



This weekend we traveled (more than 3 hours by bus) to the city of Metapan, which is only minutes from the border with Guatemala. This is one of the churches we attended on Sunday. We also went to the **Word of Life** Bible club here on Saturday afternoon.



Kearstin and I were both **"voluntarad"** to represent our teams in an opening game at Bible club. We had to poke holes in an egg and blow the white and yolk out through the holes without breaking the egg. Kearstin did great! I didn't... I broke my egg. That's why I used her picture!



This is the Recinos family. Neida (left), Gisselle (front), and Wilian. They were generous enough to allow us to stay with them for the entire weekend, from Friday evening until Monday morning. They even gave Tina and I their newly completed master bedroom, and Kearstin stayed in Gisselle's room, while they all stayed together in another bedroom. What hospitality! They spoke absolutely no English, but we had a great time "Spanglish-ing" together.



We spent most of the day Sunday with the Alvarado family. Marcos (next to Steve), his wife Patty, daughter Marcela, and sons Mauricio (front) and Marcos. They are great friends of **Palabra de Vida (Word of Life)** and now we are blessed to call them our friends, too. And we enjoyed riding around Metapan in their Volkswagen mini-bus... especially on the winding mountain roads!



And no... they didn't send a family of "gringos" all by themselves on a bus to a strange place... we traveled with la **Familia (the family) Pereira**. Claudia (L), Alex, and Fiorella. They take the bus to Metapan nearly every weekend to help in Bible clubs and to train leaders and disciple some of the youth. Pray for this dear family. Pray for their financial needs, and for the provision of a car. It is amazing to us how the ministry goes forward here, even without those things which we would say are **"necessary"** and **"basic"** ... like a car. They have such a heart for teens!

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY

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 Ramen noodles, pop tarts, microwave pop corn, snack packs, sugar-free gum, pen's and pencils, notebooks, playing cards, toothbrushes, bars of soap, AA batteries. Your donations may be placed in the baskets in the Narthex. **All donations and names need to be received by Sunday, March 8th. Packages will be assembled on Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 PM.**



Cooperative Confirmation

Be sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming Cooperative Confirmation events listed below.



March 15
3:30-5:00 PM
St. James - Tuscarawas
Topic: Baptism

April 19
3:30-5:00 PM
First Lutheran - Strasburg
Topic: Communion

We will meet at Grace at 3:00 pm to carpool to the event together.

EASTER BREAKFAST

APRIL 12

9:15 AM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

You are invited to a time of Good Food and Good Fellowship with a delicious breakfast served during the Sunday School hour Easter Sunday. A free will offering will be collected with a recommended donation of \$5 per person. All proceeds will go toward the Summer Church Camp Scholarship Program. Matching funds will be provided by Thrivent Financial. Look for a sign up sheet for number attending and food donations in the narthex.



HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE!

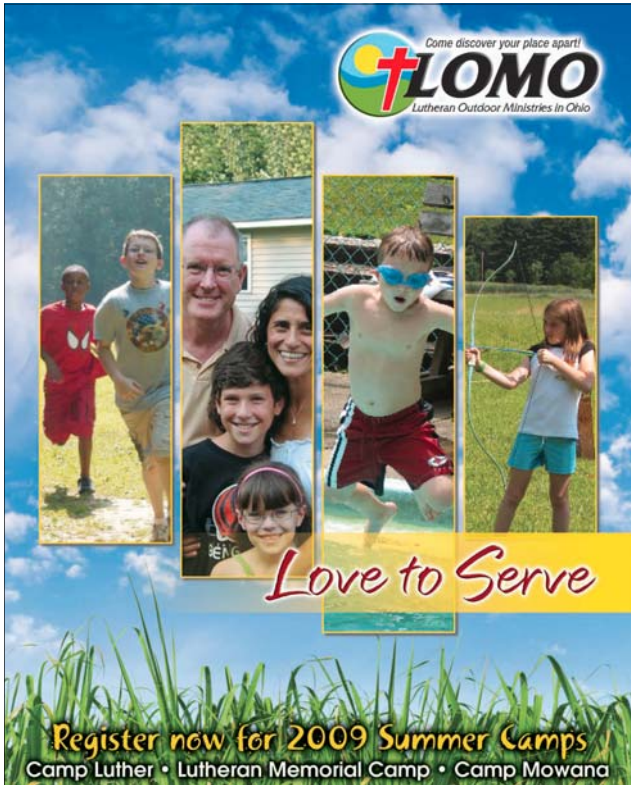


EASTER EGG HUNT - APRIL 5TH

All **children up to grade 5** are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt to be held following the 10:30AM service Sunday, April 5. Please bring your own Easter Basket and meet in Youth Hall after the service. Punch and cookies will be served following the Hunt!

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY

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 15th so that all registrations from our congregation can 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.



We create places apart where lives are changed through spiritual growth as people experience the love and joy of Jesus Christ

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

If you have a child in 3rd 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 7, March 14 and March 21 in Luther 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. Students will receive First Communion at the 10:30 AM service on Sunday March 22.



The Life You’ve Always Wanted

You Can Live a Deeper,
More Spiritual Life
Right Where You Are.

The heart of Christianity is transformation—a relationship with God that impacts not just our “spiritual lives,” but every aspect of living. John Ortberg calls people back to the dynamic heartbeat of Christianity—God’s power to bring change and growth—and reveals both the how and why of transformation.

As with a marathon runner, the secret to winning the race lies not in trying harder, but in training consistently—training with the spiritual disciplines. The disciplines are neither taskmasters nor an end in themselves. Rather they are exercises that build strength and endurance for the road of growth. The fruit of the Spirit—joy, peace, kindness, etc.—are the signposts along the way.

Paved with humor and sparkling anecdotes, *The Life You’ve Always Wanted* is an encouraging and challenging approach to a Christian life that’s worth living—a life on the edge that fills an ordinary world with new meaning, hope, change, and joy.

Join us each Sunday during Lent as we use this video discussion series to introduce us to the Spiritual Disciplines and help you discover the “Life You’ve Always Wanted.”

**Sundays @ 9:15 in Luther Hall Lounge,
March 1 - April 5 led by Pastor Jim**

Sunday School Offerings

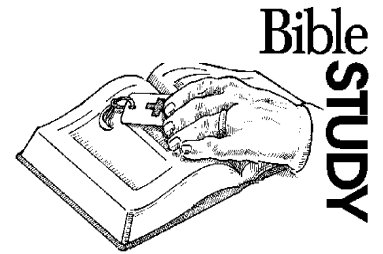
Our Sunday School Offerings are currently helping to support Missionaries throughout the world. We are providing additional support to the Moser family and seeking to become a member of the 365 club providing \$1 a day to support ELCA missionaries throughout the world. Our church already supports the Moser family in their mission with \$200 per month as the church goal. Now that they are actively serving in El Salvador we will send the first \$100 of the Sunday School offering to go to them as a boost to our support of their work. The next \$365 (\$1 for each day of the year) will go to support ELCA Missionaries throughout the world. Watch the World Map fill up as the total grows and we reach our goal. This offering project will continue until May 31.

Did you know?

- There are almost **270** ELCA missionaries serving in almost **50** countries today.
- 109 serve long-term.
- 80 are new this year.
- 51 are volunteers.
- 38 are young adults.
- 5 are seminary interns.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



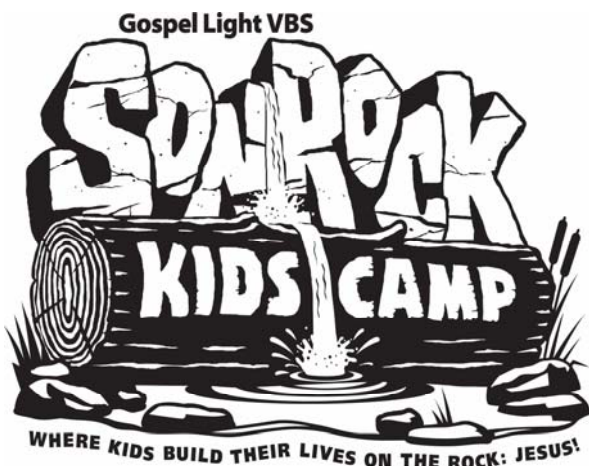
SonRock Kids Camp VBS

Ages 3 - Grade 5 July 13-17 2009

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"
1 John 3:1

High above the cluttered schedules and ring cell phones of ordinary life is SonRock Kids Camp - an outdoor adventure camp like no other! As SonRock campers, your child will learn how their lives can be transformed by God's great love for them. Like the apostle Peter, they'll explore who they are in Jesus Christ - the most important relationship of all. Because of His love for us, He is the rock upon which we can build our lives!

- As they watch Jesus call Peter away from his fishing nets, they'll discover what it means to be **Accepted by Jesus**.
- When Jesus invites Peter to step out of the safety of a boat and onto a churning sea, they'll discover what it means to be **Protected by Jesus**.
- As they witness Peter's confession of Jesus as the Messiah, they'll learn how to be **Saved by Jesus**.
- From Peter's shocking denial and Jesus' redemptive forgiveness, they'll know that no sin is too large to be **Forgiven by Jesus**.



- As they discover how Peter's faith in Jesus made a lame man walk, they'll know the power of **Living for Jesus**.

The week will be packed with food, music, skits, games, crafts, and Bible Stories that will be sure to make an impact on your child's relationship with Jesus.

This summer send your kids to SonRock Kids Camp VBS - a mountaintop experience they'll never forget!

Look for registration forms in the April Messenger.

EVANGELISM BOARD

GROCERY BAG MINISTRY

Thanks to all who have volunteered to be packers for the Grocery Bag Ministry this year. We have the year filled!

Because of the difficult economic times, we are seeing a great increase in the number of people benefiting from this ministry. We are giving out over 30 bags a month. It is very important that we continue to keep the pantry stocked. If every family attending church would bring in 1 or 2 items weekly, the pantry would be overflowing.

So, 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 noodles.

Thank you to all who bring food in for the grocery bags that are filled each month. Look in the Sunday bulletins to see which items are most urgently needed.



FEED THE HUNGRY

Thank you to the following volunteers who will help serve our free lunch on **Wednesday, March 18th**

Leader: Helen Sherman

Volunteers: Carolyn Delphia, Bobbie Myers, Reba Snyder, Holly Vesco, Janice Weber

Volunteers for the Free Lunch should deliver their food donations to the church to the Luther Hall kitchen on **Tuesday, March 17th.**

Ham & Bean Soup for 15 - Linda McFadden, Helen Sherman (*1 more needed*)

3 Boxes Soda Crackers - Sandy Gibb

24 Corn Bread Muffins - Wendy Mady, Frances Moser, Norma Grywalski

3 Loaves Sandwich Bread - Dana Lewis

2# Soft Butter - Sandy Gibb

Jello with Fruit 9x13 Pan - Janice Weber, Marcie Castricone, Louise Keplinger

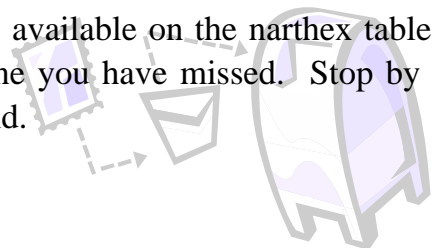
Serving
THIS MONTH



New sign up sheets are posted for April's free lunch. Please sign up in the narthex.

GRACE CHURCH POSTCARDS

Are you missing someone who has not been here for awhile? Postcards are available on the narthex table for you to send to someone you have missed. Stop by and take a few home to send.



EVANGELISM BOARD

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

Let's continue to work together as the body of Christ and serve our brothers and sisters in need.

New sign up sheets are posted for April's meals to the homeless shelter. Please sign up in the narthex.

Thank you to the following volunteers who will prepare and deliver food for the **Homeless Shelter on March 22nd.**

4lb Meat Loaf - Linda McFadden, Helen Sherman (*1 more needed*)

Potato Casserole for 15 - Janice Weber (*2 more needed*)

Green Beans for 36 - Linda Bertle
Corn for 36 - (*1 needed*)

6 Loaves Italian Bread and 4lb soft butter - Darlene Bonta

Tossed Salad for 18 and 2 bottles of dressing - Wendy Mady (*1 more needed*)

2-2lb 2.5 oz cans of Regular Coffee - Janet Loader

2 Gallons of Milk - Frances Moser

Dessert for 15 - Dana Lewis, Susan Zimmerman (*1 more needed*)



24 Cans of Soda - Darlene Bonta, Grace Beller, Louise Keplinger



MOSER FAMILY

Please continue to support the Moser Family Mission. Envelopes are located in the pews. Steve, Tina, and daughter Kearstin arrived in El Salvador in early January. Please pray for them as they share God's word with the children of Latin America.

EVANGELISM BOARD

Below is the Evangelism Board's annual report that was not included in the 2008 Grace Lutheran Church Annual Report.

EVANGELISM BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2008

2008 was another busy year for the Evangelism Board as it sought to coordinate the congregation's role in spreading the word of God through deeds of kindness, caring and compassion. Food was prepared and served, cards were sent, visitors were greeted, and monetary support was given to a family as it prepared for the mission field.

One of the most visible programs of the Board is coordinating the free lunch for the needy, which is served at the Outreach Center on the third Wednesday of each month. Every month, a team of five church members serve (and clean up!) the food that was donated. Many people prepare the soups, salads, desserts, and casseroles for this lunch.

Another way we serve the hungry is to provide a meal on the fourth Sunday of each month at the Homeless Shelter in New Philadelphia. Our goal is to provide a complete meal for 48 people who call the shelter their temporary home. Janice Weber is now coordinating these meals and making sure that enough food donations are pledged.

Our Grocery Bag ministry team packs grocery bags to distribute to those who need some food to carry them over difficult times. The congregation generously donates canned and boxed food to the food pantry every Sunday. Bob McCullough has been instrumental in coordinating the items in the pantry and making sure that there were people to pack the bags. Dorothy Morrison became the shopper for the pantry to fill in items that were running low.

Every Sunday at Grace we lift up several members in prayer. This is an opportunity for the entire body of Christ to pray for the members of their church family throughout the week. Michelle Hallman prepares the list for each Sunday and informs the members by letter that they will be uplifted in prayer that week.

So many of you have been touched by the cards that Patti Stull faithfully sends to members of our congregation when they are going through difficult times or celebrating God's blessings. Janice Weber mails seasonal greetings to our homebound members as a way to stay in touch with those who are still an important part of our church family, but who can't make it to services on a regular basis.

The members of Grace have been faithful in supporting through prayer and through financial gifts the Moser family as they prepare for entering full-time mission work in El Salvador. They will begin their work in January 2009.

The current board tried to maintain the high goals of the previous one, headed by Jen McCullough. Please pray for us as we evaluate ways to further involve all members of Grace in spreading God's word to our neighbors.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy H. Mady

NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

Our “Night In Bethlehem” was a big hit for being just the first year. There were about 100 people that attended. Most of the comments were very positive! In order to make this year’s “Night In Bethlehem” easier to manage and to be better prepared, we would like the entire congregation to get involved in 2009! If we spread out the work and planning throughout the entire year, it will make the month before the event a lot easier to handle. Many of the things used for props and decorating that will make the event more authentic and realistic we can be looking for at garage sales and second hand stores. Please keep in mind the colors and type of materials available during that time period. We plan to have some of the same “shops” and to also add some new “shops” in the Marketplace. Currently the list of “shops” is Bakery, Mosaic, Bead Jewelry, Basket, Clothing, Spices, Pottery, Rugs, and Dyes for Fabric.

Here are some of the things we could use:

Rags and Woven Rugs - Old and Used would be fine

Baskets - Used will give an old world look, medium to large sizes

Wooden Buckets, Containers, Old Tools, Wooden Dishes, Trays or Utensils

Silk Greenery Plants & Trees

Brass Pots, Urns, Vases or Candle Sticks - Tarnished adds to the look

Ceramic Urns, Pots, Jugs - Cracked or chipped are fine adding to the character

Beaded Curtains - to be used as dividers and/or door entries

Old Heavy Rope

Blankets - Dark colors and patterns available during that time

Materials and Fabrics for costumes

Used Clothing or Accessories for Costumes:

Shepherds, Centurion Soldiers, Market Keepers, Beggars, etc.

Oil Lamps, Lanterns, Rechargeable Lamps

Beads and Old Beaded Jewelry - to be used in a bead shop in the Marketplace

If we think of this as a scavenger hunt, it can be a lot of fun looking for items that will transform the appearance of Luther Hall during the “Night In Bethlehem” and make it a truly magical experience! We can collect a great selection of items for little or minimal cost! All the items can be stored and used year after year rather than asking congregation members to bring in their items and then requiring them to have to pick things up after the program. We welcome all of your creative thoughts and suggestions!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

DON'T MISS OUR 10th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

47th annual
 P.A.L. Mission Comedy Concert Series presents
tim hawkins



Sat., April 4, 2009, 6:30 p.m.
 doors open @ 6

NewPointe Community Church | Dover, Ohio

Tickets are available online at

www.palmission.org,

at

Bearly Worn Children's Store (New Phila.),

Lavender Bridal (Dover)

and at Berean Christian Books (Canton).

\$15 each

Discounted prices are available for groups of 10 or more.

Ribbon Festival & Solo and Ensemble Contest

The Ribbon Festival will again be hosted at Grace Lutheran Church on Saturday, March 7. Several Grace Lutheran youth will be participating in this and in other Solo and Ensemble Competitions throughout the area.

We invite any who are participating in these events to play or sing your selection as a prelude or offertory during our worship services at Grace. If you are interested please contact Bobbie Myers (330-343-3268) to arrange a time to share your talent with Grace.



Hospice of Tuscarawas County offering Training

Hospice of Tuscarawas County Inc. is a community-based, non-profit organization that provides physician directed end of life care for terminally ill patients and their families.

Hospice is seeking highly motivated and compassionate individuals who want to make a difference by volunteering their time in a variety of ways.

- Answering phones, computer work, mailings, and other office functions.
- Delivering supplies and providing respite care to families who are dealing with a terminally ill loved one.
- Help with fundraising events to benefit patient care and bereavement programs.

Training is held six evenings, March 30, 31, April 2, 6, 7, & 9 from 5:30 - 8:30 pm at the Dover office 201 W 3rd Street. Training conducted by hospice professionals provides an overview of the organization and is something everyone should experience. Call the hospice office 330-343-7605 and ask for Certified Volunteer Manager Vicki Indorf, Monday through Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm to get started.

WORSHIP

Community Good Friday Service

All are welcome

12:00 Noon

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

216 N. Wooster Avenue
Dover, OH

Trinity Episcopal Church

122 3rd Street NW
New Philadelphia, OH

An offering will be collected
to support

The Greater Dover-New Philadelphia
Food Pantry

Replenishing the Children's Worship Bags

Our worship bag continues to be a blessing to children and parents in our worship each week! Most of the 10 bags are used every Sunday. The bags serve as a way for parents to have their young children in worship with them while they get a chance to worship.

We will be purchasing new books, toys, crayons and snacks for the bags soon. If you would be interested in providing money for the purchase of these items you may make a donation by placing it in a special offering envelope with worship snacks written on it. If paying by check please remember to write Children's Worship Bags in the memo line.

Thank you for continuing to support this ministry.



EASTER LILIES FOR EASTER SUNDAY

Blossom's Florist will be providing the flowers at a **cost of \$11.00 each**. Your order form and payment may be placed in the envelope provided in the Narthex and either placed in the offering plate, or given to the church office.

Orders and payment are **due by Sunday, March 29, 2009**.

Your flowers may be taken home following the 10:30 a.m. Easter worship service on April 12, 2009



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:	

Please make all checks payable to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, and write Easter Flowers in the memo line.

WORSHIP

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 \$18. You will be billed by Blossom's Florist.

Altar Flowers are available for the following dates and many more throughout 2009!



Mar. 29– One available
 Apr. 19 - One available
 Apr. 26 - One available

Nursery

Mar 1 Paula Wolfe & Karla Burrier
 Mar 8 Bonnie Richardson & Tracy Hochstetler
 Mar 15 Jennifer Gigax & Esther Philabaum
 Mar 22 Toni Ferritto & Katie Cameron
 Mar 29 Dana Lewis & Jennifer Vaughan

Children's Church

Mar 1 Carrie & Andrew Yeager
 Mar 8 Marcie & Noah Tinlin
 Mar 15 Audra & Anthony Miceli
 Mar 22 Esther Philabaum & Alexis Stein
 Mar 29 Lisa Morris & Kristin Miceli

Order of St. Luke
 Tuesday, March 24
 7:00 pm

Altar Guild
 Tuesday, March 31
 9:00 a.m.

Worship Readings

Sunday, Mar. 1

Genesis 9:8-17
 Psalm 25:1-10
 1 Peter 3:18-22
 Mark 1:9-15

Sunday, Mar. 8

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
 Psalm 22:23-31
 Romans 4:13-25
 Mark 8:31-38

Sunday, Mar. 15

Exodus 20:1-17
 Psalm 19
 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
 John 2:13-22

Sunday, Mar. 22

Numbers 21:4-9
 Psalm 107:1-3;17-22
 Ephesians 2:1-10
 John 3:14-21

Sunday, Mar. 29

Jeremiah 31:31-34
 Psalm 119: 9-16
 Hebrews 5:5-10
 John 12:20-33

Placing People on the Prayer List

Our weekly prayer list in the bulletin announcements provides a great way to support each other in prayer throughout the week. However, there have been several times when a person has been placed on the list with little information about who s/he is or what her/his needs are. This makes it difficult for us to know how long to keep a person on the prayer list and where or if they would like a visit, card, phone call, etc. In order to improve our ability to support one another we have developed a simple form for putting people on the prayer list. Blank forms will be available on the narthex table, at the office, and soon will be on the website. You can still call the secretary with names as well, but she will ask for the information on the form to keep on file in the office. Only the names will be printed in the bulletin as we have been doing, the additional information is simply for office use as we seek to serve you better. Forms are available on the narthex table.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY 8:00 AM WORSHIP

ACOLYTES
Mar 1 Hannah Marlowe
Mar 8 Aaronn Sergent
Mar 15 Ashley Jerles
Mar 22 Anthony Miceli
Mar 29 Madeline Bauer

LAY READERS
Mar 1 Terry Miller
Mar 8 Lynn Foust
Mar 15 Gale Limron
Mar 22 Steve Zimmerman
Mar 29 Dale Weaver

DEACONS
Mar 1 Sue Grafe
Mar 8 None
Mar 15 Larry Lloyd
Mar 22 None
Mar 29 Terry Miller

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

SUNDAY 10:30 AM WORSHIP

USHERS
Mar 1 John Lorenz, Larry Wallick, Tom Margo, Art Siber
Mar 8 Jack Marshall, Ron Philabaum, Jim Gibb, Kent Philabaum, Mike Sergent, Aaronn Sergent
Mar 15 John Stahl, Robert McCulloch, Keith Lands, Howard Stein
Mar 22 Art Keener, William Page, Jeff Keller, Jeff Hootman, Joe Van Fossen
Mar 29 WELCA

ACOLYTES
Mar 1 Katie Cameron
Mar 8 Kristin Miceli
Mar 15 Hunter Stein
Mar 22 Andrew Yeager
Mar 29 Hannah Marlowe

LAY READERS
Mar 1 Rick Homrighausen
Mar 8 Jim Gibb
Mar 15 Nathan Vaughan
Mar 22 Pastor Fred Grosse
Mar 29 John Stahl

DEACONS
Mar 1 None
Mar 8 John Stahl
Mar 15 None
Mar 22 John Stahl
Mar 29 Nathan Vaughan

ALTAR GUILD



March: Barbara Thompson, Glenda Sclater, Wendy Mady, Debbie Smith, Betsy Morrison
April: Rosann Patterson, Barbara Marshall, Louise Keplinger, Polly Bergquist, Joan Davis, Linda Bertle

LENTEN WEDNESDAY ACOLYTES

Mar 4 Hunter Stein
Mar 11 Madeline Bauer
Mar 18 Anthony Miceli
March 25 Katie Cameron

gracehappens@gracedover.org

pastor@gracedover.org

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

216 North Wooster Ave

Dover OH 44622-2948

330-343-6915

March 2009**Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 am Worship Communion 915 am SCS 10:30 am Worship	2 3 pm Communion Park Village 630 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Valley Voices	3 9:30 Staff Meeting 1:30-3:30 Head Start YH 630 pm Cub Scouts 6:45 Planning Council	4 6 pm Dinner 7 pm Worship	5 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible study 6 pm Handbell Chior 7 pm Gallery Choir	6 1 pm World Day of Prayer Emmanuel New Phila	7 9 am 1st Communion Class Ribbon Festival
8 8 am Worship 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion	9 10:30 am Communion Park Village 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Valley Voices 7 pm VBS Meeting	10 9 am Knotters 12-4 pm Rejoice Women ORC 1:30-3:30 Head Start YH 630 pm Cub Scouts 6:45 Ministry Night	11 11:30 WELCA Spring Quarterly 6 pm Dinner 7 pm Worship	12 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible study 6 pm Handbell Choir 7 pm Gallery Choir	13 7 pm Scrapbookers	14 8 am Men's Breakfast 9 am 1st Communion Class
15 8 am Worship Communion 915 am SCS 10:30 am Worship McCreery Baptism 3:30 Co-op Confirmation CAMP REGISTRATION DUE	16 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Valley Voices	17 9:30 Full Staff Meeting 1:30-3:30 Head Start YH 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Swingles	18 11-1 pm Free Lunch ORC 6 pm Dinner 7 pm Worship	19 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible study 530 pm Modern Homemakers 6 pm Handbell Chior 7 pm Gallery Choir	20	21 9 am 1st Communion Class
22 8 am Worship 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion/ 1st Communion 6:00 pm Meal to homeless	23 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Valley Voices	24 1:30-3:30 Head Start YH 6:30 Cub Scouts 7 pm Order of St. Luke	25 1 pm Dr. Mary Baer 6 pm Dinner 7 pm Worship 9:00 am news- letter assem- bly—Luther Hall	26 12 pm Sr. Fun Day 12-1 pm Bible study 6 pm Handbell Chior 7 pm Gallery Choir	27	28
29 8 am Worship Communion 9:15 am SCS 10:30 am Worship Communion EASTER LILY ORDERS DUE	30 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Valley Voices	31 9 am Altar Guild 6:30 Cub Scouts				