

GRACE NOTES

The monthly newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church 21 Carroll Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157 Phone 410-848-7020 – www.gracelc.org

November, 2012

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Deadline for **December**

Grace Notes is <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>November 13</u>. Please email your news to Dawn – <u>dstem@gracelc.org</u> or stop by the office during office hours (8:30 am to 3:30 pm).

GRACE NOTES IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE. CHECK IT OUT!

HTTP://GRACELC.ORG/NEWS/ GRACE-NOTES/

Seeing God's Presence

or

How Holiday Time Can Become Holy Time

During October, I had the task of preaching on the Gospel Lesson that tells us about Jesus' encounter with "a rich, young ruler." This is a text that overflows with wonderful content, most of which makes us squirm! You can find this encounter in three of the gospel accounts: Matthew 19:16-26, Mark 10:17-27, and Luke 18:18-27. Jesus still has much to teach us when it comes to understanding our material possessions and our spiritual needs.

Jesus talks about a life of abundance. "...I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10) Unfortunately, in our human sinfulness, many have turned this into a promise for earthly wealth and comfort. Clearly this is not what Jesus meant. Jesus offers us lives of meaning and fulfillment that are not dependent on how much we have, but rather what we do with ourselves and our possessions. Jesus offers us the forgiveness of sin which frees us from those things that would hold us apart from God and from one another. Jesus promises that eternal life is a reality that begins now and becomes complete in heaven. You won't find forgiveness and eternal life apart from Jesus. They are the greatest gifts ever given or received. Yet how often we put our attention and trust in things that are temporary and unreliable!

As we approach the celebrations of Thanksgiving and Christmas, our attention gets divided between the things of faith and the demands of the world. I urge you to try to put your focus foremost on the things of God and to allow this holiday time to become holy time for you. You might think of it as a time in which God reaches out to you....but you need to be watching and anticipating this divine encounter.

How do we go about opening our hearts and our lives to God's presence?

I believe we can begin by intentionally looking for God's blessings in our daily lives. In my sermon in October, I talked about shifting away from "a mindset of scarcity" in order to see the abundance that God has given to us. At our Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service (November 21, 7:00 p.m.) we will talk about avoiding "blessing amnesia." However you label it, the point is that most of us are busy thinking about what we don't have rather than celebrating the many, many blessings that are ours. Also, we often associate blessings with earthly possessions. We need to move beyond both of these fallacies. We need to open our eyes, ears, and hearts to see God at work in our lives and in our world.

Here is a challenge for all of us: I challenge you to find a journal or just a piece of paper. Choose your own starting and stopping dates. Each day for at least two weeks, write down one blessing or one way in which God has been at work. Let your list flow, expanding it as time goes on; pick up the great variety of ways that God blesses us. Try to avoid naming physical things....like a warm house, or a good dinner....let's agree,

that we've received all of those things from God's gracious care of us. Now, use this exercise to go beyond the obvious. Look for the ways that are often overlooked or taken for granted. Keep a record and see where it takes you.....I'd be glad to hear about your experience!

The next step is to ask ourselves what it is that we are doing with God's many blessings. If Jesus is at work in our lives, how then, are we participating in that mission and carrying Jesus into the world with us? Once you are more intentionally observing God's presence in, with, and around you, it becomes much clearer how you can share that holy presence with others.

If life is not about accumulating earthly wealth, then we need to think seriously about what it is that we want our lives to be about. Jesus' words to the rich, young ruler might seem harsh. But what he was saying is, "I want all of you." We can't truly serve our Lord if all we do is obey rules and the only time and attention we give him is an hour or so on Sunday morning. Our faith must take root more deeply in our lives. Notice, that Jesus spends more time with you than an hour a week.....so, look for him, in your work place, in your relationships with family and friends, in your volunteer time, in our community and in our world. Jesus will not disappoint you when you open your heart and your life to him as widely as he opens his arms to you!

My prayer for all of us is that these last two months of 2012 will not only be filled with holiday joy, but more importantly may these days be filled with holy time in which you encounter the blessing of God's compassionate presence surrounding you.

Pastor Martha

Abundant Living, Abundant Giving

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

⁶The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

Despair, I saw this monster raise its ugly head while I was serving in the Beaver Valley, northwest of Pittsburgh. I would go walking in the shopping mall and I could see it on the faces of men, women and children; even normally cheerful toddlers seemed embraced with the dark pall of despair. In a very short time one of the great industrial regions of America saw every steel and fabrication mill shutdown. An exodus of families began and would not stop until over 100,000 people had left the region. Those left behind faced staggering unemployment that was well over twenty percent, entire neighborhoods of homes went up for sale, whole shopping centers were being abandoned and suicides became prevalent stories in the local paper. Congregations within the region were staggered by the loss of members, resources and in many cases succumbed to the rampant despair of the region. I recall being at a meeting of pastors where many were projecting annual losses and attempting to determine on what date in the future the congregations they served would be closing their doors.

Sadly, communities of faith were already acting as if they were dead and the needs of hurting regions were met by the locked doors of near silent churches.

The line from Paul's letter to the Church of Corinth captures the essence of the situation faced by those churches; "the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly." Paul spoke to a church caught in the midst of difficult times and he challenged both congregations and individuals to assess their personal nature in the midst of trying times. Were they as individuals and as a church leading timid lives, unwilling to give of themselves and their resources for the sake of the gospel? In people's faith lives and in their church life things were sparse and nearly barren. Paul confirms the source of their problem; they were giving sparingly of their lives and reaping a harvest that matched their efforts. The Apostle then offers this suggestion, "and to the one who sows bountifully will reap bountifully." Paul then makes this firm affirmation concerning the nature of God; "(He) is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

The theme of this year's stewardship campaign is **Abundant Living**, **Abundant Giving**. We are invited to take up Paul's challenge to sow bountifully in our lives so that we in turn will reap an abundant harvest for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ. In our current times faced with an uncertain economy that has greatly depreciated our home values and investments, the urge is to sow sparingly of our resources; including our time. When we find ourselves doing this we

begin living out the very things that Paul warned the Christians at Corinth about in their situation. In the Beaver Valley, Pastor Martha and I served two congregations; one that embraced the despair of the times. The other congregation was blessed with leaders who took seriously Paul's challenge and chose to sow bountifully and became a place of hope and renewal of life for a region long-filled with loss and defeat.

The community of Grace has long been a place of hope for the community of Westminster and the surrounding area of Carroll County. Our heritage has been one of sharing abundantly the blessings of God with our neighbors in need so that all may come to know the wonderful love of God. Yet such blessings are only possible as we continue to give generously from the bounty which our Lord has given to us. Despair is often the result of not being able to see the hand of God at work in the world around us. Abundant living comes when we are able to see just how much our Lord is active in our lives.

In the 2013 Stewardship Campaign you are invited to open your eyes and see the abundant blessings of God that can make for an abundant life. You are also invited to courageously share your blessings that Grace Lutheran Church may continue its heritage of being a blessing to others as we make God's love known by our words and by our deeds.

Please take the time to look over the enclosed pamphlet entitled **Abundant Living, Abundant Giving.** Inside you will find an Estimate of Giving Form. Please take the time to fill out this form and bring it with you on Sunday December 2. Your estimates will help to encourage and support the ministries of the Church as we seek to do God's will. I would also encourage you to consider making your contributions to the Church electronically. Please go to our website www.gracelc.org and click the "online giving" button. This will take you to a secure site where you can have your church contributions transferred from your bank or credit card directly into the church account.

Sincerely, Pastor Kevin



Heifer International

As of October 15, 2012, the balance of the Heifer International Fund is \$1,284.55.



Grace Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

CHRIST SERVING PEOPLE
THROUGH PEOPLE

November Red Cross Blood Drive

by Emma Jane Weishaar



A Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Monday, November 12 from 2-8 p.m. in Grace Hall. Please email or call Emma Jane Weishaar at ejweishaar@comcast.net or 410-848-1231 to schedule an appointment.

Young Adult Ministry

by Vicar Karin Albaugh



A new group has formed! Our Young Adult Ministry meets at J&P Pizza (in the Shoppes at Meadow Creek) each 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month for fellowship and Bible study! Please join us as we continue our discussion of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's "Life Together." Books are free for participants and are available at the church office or from Vicar Karin. Please come and be a part of this venture!



Traditional Music Notes

by Ted Dix, Director

Organist and Director of Traditional Music and Music Ministry Development

This year's **Christmas Cantata**, **Night of Wonder**, by Jay Althouse and Sally K. Albrecht, will be performed on **Sunday, December 16 at 3pm in Grace Hall**. It will feature instrumentalists, narrators, soloists, Luther and Festival Choirs and Akaloo kids. Come and join us as we musically trace the journey from the Advent prophesy to the annunciation of Mary and from the birth of Jesus to the heavenly angel host proclaiming, "Glory to God in the highest."

Before that, the 4th Annual Christmas Organ Recital will be held on Wednesday, December 5 at 10am in the Sanctuary. The theme this year is "Carols from Around the World" and will feature solo organ arrangements of carols and Christmas readings from around the globe. Although early in the season, this recital always helps begin to bring the Christmas spirit into our hearts. Don't miss what is catching on to become a very popular event! (This year a Soup and Salad Lunch will follow the Recital. It will be held in Grace's Fellowship Hall and is \$5 per person.)

This month, rehearsals begin for the **Christmas Cantata**, **Night of Wonder**. If you would like to join the Festival Choir for this event, please contact Ted Dix at tdix@gracelc.org or 410-848-7020 X105. The rehearsal/performance schedule is as follows:

Thursday, November 8, 7:45pm in the Music Room.

Thursday, November 15, 7:45pm in the Music Room.

Thursday, November 29, 7:45pm in the Music Room.

Thursday, December 6, 7:45pm in the Music Room.

Thursday, December 13, 7:45pm in the Music Room.

Saturday, December 15, 3pm in Grace Hall.

Sunday, December 16, 3pm performance in Grace Hall



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Also this month, the Grace Lutheran Church Music Ministry now has a separate page for each choir and ensemble on the website! Please visit www.gracelc.org and look under the 'About Us' tab ... 'Music Ministry' menu. So far, the Chancel and Luther Choirs have a photo and brief description. More will follow in the ensuing months!

Upcoming Traditional Musical Events:

- Sunday, November 4 at 11:15am Agape Handbell Choir will perform at worship in the Sanctuary.
- Sunday, December 2 at 10am Luther Choir will be performing at All Grace Worship in Grace Hall.
- Wednesday, December 5 at 10am Annual Ted Dix and Friends Christmas Organ Recital in the Sanctuary.
- Sunday, December 9 at 9am Agape Handbell Choir will perform at worship in Grace Hall.
- Sunday, December 16 at 3pm Luther and Festival Choirs, with Soloists, Instrumentalists, and Narrators, will be performing our annual Christmas Cantata in Grace Hall.
- Monday, December 24 at 4pm The Luther Choir will be performing at Christmas Eve worship in Grace Hall.
- Monday, December 24 at 8pm and 10:30pm The Chancel and Agape Handbell Choirs, and soloists, will be performing at Christmas Eve worship in the Sanctuary.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 21 7:00pm in the Sanctuary

"Avoid Blessing Amnesia"

Begin your Thanksgiving celebration by giving thanks to God who provides everything we need.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

by Leanne Elliott

Honey Sunday

Help support the high school youth going on the mission trip this summer to John's Island as well as the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch in Minnesota buy purchasing HONEY on **Sunday November 11**. We will be selling the honey after the 5 o'clock service on Saturday as well as after the 7:45 service Sunday morning. We will also be selling before and after the 9 am service as well as the 11:15 service. You may order Honey for yourself or for someone else! We will not have the Honey available on the 11th; you will be purchasing your label which we will then send to the Ranch and they will bottle [11oz] the honey and mail it directly to the addresses on the labels. Each bottle is **\$5.**

Rebounderz: Sterling, VA

Attention High School Youth!!!! On **Saturday November 17** we will be going to Rebounderz, an indoor trampoline park in Sterling, VA. Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship! If you've never been to a trampoline park you will definitely want to come! There will possibly be a game of Dodge Ball and let's face it...who doesn't love Dodge Ball?!?! Nonetheless there is a foam pit and the entire gym is trampolines so it will be a blast! We will stop for dinner before heading back to Westminster. Look for more details in the announcements as well as during High School Sunday School.

Advent Gathering Sunday, November 25, 3:00 – 6:00 P.M.



People of all ages....individuals and families...are invited to prepare for the celebration of Advent by joining together in a fun-filled afternoon of activities. There will be something for everyone to do and lots of chances to visit with one another!

Activities will include: Learn to make Moravian Stars, Make an evergreen wreath, Make an Advent bag, Watch Jim Helm carve beautiful Christmas ornaments, Make a graham cracker house, enjoy hot

Russian tea, help us make care packages for Grace members who are away at college....these are just a few of the fun activities.

Social Ministry Committee will also be there to sell fair trade coffee products which make great Christmas presents. Some of Jim's wonderful ornaments will be for sale to benefit Grace's Adult Mission Team. This year, as a new addition to our event, Ted Dix will be present to lead us in singing Christmas carols.

A light dinner, featuring sloppy joes, brings the event to a joyous close at 6:00. We hope you will join us for a great event!!!! Walk-ins are welcome, but if you know you are coming, please sign up on the RCR card at worship so we can have enough supplies.

Taking the War Out of Our Words

The Westminster Brethren Church is bringing author, Sharon Strand Ellison to Westminster the weekend of November 10 and 11. Ms. Ellison has written a powerful book describing a form of communication that eliminates defensiveness and diffuses power struggles. She will be presenting a workshop at Carroll Community College on Saturday, November 10 from 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. The cost is \$75 for Carroll County residents. On Sunday afternoon, she will present a workshop focused on parenting at the Westminster Brethren Church from 2 - 4 PM. The cost of that workshop is \$25. Registration brochures for both events can be obtained from our church office.



Little Friends of Grace Preschool News

by Anita Erb, Director

<u>Boscov's Friends Helping Friends</u> – Once again this year we participated in the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends fundraiser. During this fundraiser we sold \$5.00 tickets which enabled you to receive a 25% discount on many items throughout the store on October 16. We were able to raise \$355 for the scholarship fund. Thank you for your continued support of our program!



<u>School Pictures</u> – Mr. Roger Brackney and his wife Joyce came to Little Friends on October 24 and 25 for individual and class pictures.

<u>Dining Out</u> – On our first dining out evening of the year we visited Papa Joe's where we earned \$100; our October evening was held at Belisimo's in Finksburg on the 17th. In November on the 14th we will be at Baugher's and in December we will dine at Five Guys on the 12th. We hope you will be able to join us for one or more evenings out. We appreciate your support! All funds raised benefit the LFOG scholarship fund.

<u>Field Trips</u> – Our three-year olds visited Bear Branch Nature Center on October 4 and 5 for a nature walk and to learn about animal habitats. The Pre-K four year old classes have been very busy; Sergeant Benfer of the Westminster City Police Department visited the preschool on October 3; on October 11 and 12 the classes toured Pleasant Valley Fire Station; and on November 14 we will be traveling to Sharp's Farm to learn about Pilgrim History.

<u>Class Parties</u> – We will be celebrating Thanksgiving with parties in the two and three-year old classes on November 15 and 16. We would like to thank our parents for providing delicious snacks for our parties. The Pre-K four year old classes will celebrate with a Thanksgiving feast.

<u>Conferences</u> – Informal parent-teacher conferences will be held Monday and Tuesday, November 19 and 20. Childcare is provided for our parents. The preschool will be closed for Thanksgiving vacation November 21-23.

<u>Carroll Hospice – Coping with the Holidays</u>



Every November, Carroll Hospice makes available a special one-evening program for those who have lost loved ones during the past year. The program is called Coping with the Holidays and its purpose is to help those who are grieving to prepare for the upcoming holiday season.

The date for this year's program is Thursday, November 15. The time is from 6:30pm until 8:00pm at Carroll Hospice, 292 Stoner Avenue in Westminster.

There is no cost for this event but reservations are requested. Please call Kathy Bare at 410-871-7231 if you would like to attend. This information has been supplied by Stephen Ministry.

The Homeless in Carroll County

Did you know that in Carroll County there are approximately 100 men, women and children who are homeless every night? On Monday evening, December 3, Pat Goldberg will give a presentation in the Theater of Grace Lutheran Church at 8:00 p.m. on the Ten Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in Carroll County. Pat is a member of Grace Lutheran Church and currently serves as the Citizen Chair of the Circle of Caring Homelessness Board. During Pat's presentation you also will learn how some members of Grace Lutheran help with the Cold Weather Shelter here in Westminster. This program is sponsored by Stephen Ministry.



Women of the ELCA

by Helen Englar

The WELCA will meet on Monday, November 19 in the Fellowship Hall at 1:30pm. We will be preparing fruit plates and favors for church members who are shut-ins. These will be delivered by Sonshine Callers.

Seafarer's Boxes

We will also be packing boxes for the International Seafarer's Center at the Port of Baltimore. Some crew members earn less than \$1,000 a month, so these boxes make a big difference in their lives. Even those earning more are moved to know that others are thinking of them and praying for them. One officer commented that he still treasures a ditty bag with a sewing kit which he was given in a Christmas at Sea box thirty years ago!

If you'd like to contribute to this project, the following articles are needed:

- Toiletries (no unwrapped soap or toothbrushes)
- Warm hats, scarves (most of the seafarers are men)
- Warm socks and gloves (small men's)
- Pens and pads of paper
- · Playing cards
- Postcards of Baltimore



Collection boxes will be in both Upper and Lower Gathering Spaces for your convenience in early November. **Donations need to be turned in by Sunday, November 11**. We can also use some extra shoeboxes if you have any.

Thank Offering Sunday – November 17-18 <u>Sponsored by Grace Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America</u>

by Pastor Martha

Here at Grace we will recognize the many ways in which Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America support our congregation, local and global ministries. Although a small group of women, they provide a powerful ministry throughout the year. You know them best for the creation of Health Kits, School Kits, Seafarer's Boxes, and AIDS Kits. At Thanksgiving they provide gifts for many of our shut-in members. Their financial contributions support the work of Grace in so many ways. The new replacement glass in the upstairs window of the Stoner Building was a gift of the WELCA. Thank you, ladies, for all that you do to build up our congregation and its many outreach ministries.

Please join the women by offering a special gift on Saturday, November 17 or Sunday, November 18 to support the work of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its church-wide unit. Following the tradition of the women's missionary societies of the past, the women's organization today continues to provide scholarships for women seeking to further their education and become leaders in church and in society. The women's organization supports ministry of women in developing nations who are learning to earn a living for the very first time. Your gift will help to continue this vital ministry.

Save the Date!!

Grace Lutheran Church 4th Annual Christmas Organ Concert Wednesday, December 5, 2012 10:00 a.m. in Sanctuary



What a wonderful way to get in the Christmas spirit!

Invite all of your family and friends of all ages to this great event.

NOTE: This year a Soup and Salad Lunch will follow the Recital in Grace's Fellowship Hall. Cost will be \$5 per person.

Cathedral Crossroads Program

by Sharon Glass

The Adult Education Committee of Grace Lutheran Church is planning a pilgrimage to Washington National Cathedral in Washington, DC, to attend the Cathedral Crossroads program on Tuesday, November 27. Cathedral Crossroads are evenings of contemplative practice on the last Tuesday of each month; they are free and open to the public.

We will depart by carpool at 2pm. Please indicate if you are able and willing to drive or if you will need a ride. We leave in time to visit the Cathedral Museum Shop, eat a bag meal (bring your own) together, and join the program which begins at 6pm with Centering Prayer. The special program for November is entitled "Voices from the Center: The Spirituality of Transformation." Wear comfortable shoes and clothes; the Cathedral is accessible to the lower level by elevator. Additional detailed information for driving there will be provided once you have registered. For more information, and the evening's schedule, visit this link: http://www.nationalcathedral.org/worship/crossroads.shtml

There is no fee; however, for those who ride, we are asking for \$5/person to go towards mileage and parking reimbursement. If you would like to register for the Cathedral Crossroads program, please email Dawn Stem at dstem@gracelc.org with the following information. You may also provide your information on the RCR card during worship services.

Name, Email, Phone (Please indicate cell/home/work--best number to reach you/leave a message.)

I can drive my van/car. (Please indicate how many individuals you can carry in your vehicle.)

___ I will be a rider, and am happy to pay \$5 to go towards mileage and parking reimbursement.

(Please bring cash on November 27.)

For more information, call Sharon Glass at 410-259-8947.

Quiet Evenings Program by Sharon Glass



WHAT: "Quiet Evenings: Sanctuary, Reflection, Spiritual Practice" Seasonal Offerings

at Grace Lutheran Church

WHEN: Friday, December 7, 6:30-8:30 pm

WHERE: Grace Lutheran Church

WHO: Quiet Evenings are for anyone who wants to step away from the busyness of their

life and be present with God.

WHY: To listen and respond authentically to God's calling in your life away from life's

distractions and interruptions.

When was the last time you allowed yourself even a moment of quiet? Our days are filled with the busyness of life, running here and there to appointments, events, games, and just "doing" in general. We invite you to give yourself permission to let go of your responsibilities for a few hours, step outside the busyness of your life and be present with God in the moment, and listen and respond authentically to God's calling in your life.

Quiet Evenings begin with a time of entering into a space with quiet music to join one another in a quiet gathering and letting go of the busyness of the day. This second Quiet Evenings program will focus on Centering Prayer with ample time for quiet reflection, journaling, an optional time of sharing, and a brief service of prayer to close our evening of quiet.

There is no fee (there will be a basket for donations), and we ask that you let us know you will attend so we are able to plan accordingly. If you would like to register for the Quiet Evenings program on December 7, please email Dawn Stem at dstem@gracelc.org with the following information. You may also provide your information on the RCR card during worship services.

Name, Email, Phone (Please indicate cell/home/work--best number to reach you/leave a message.)

For more information, call Sharon Glass at 410-259-8947, or talk with Katy Stanton or Judy Reilly (members of the Adult Education Committee subcommittee on Quiet Evenings).

An Advent Day of Praying with Watercolors



Grace's Adult Education Committee is offering a new opportunity for adults to begin their Advent observance. Artist Karen Brown will lead, "Praying with Watercolors" on Saturday, December 1, from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$6 per person for supplies. Each person is asked to bring their own bag lunch. The workshop is limited to 20 people, so please register as soon as possible. The \$6 fee may be brought the day of the workshop. Please register through the RCR card during worship services or by calling the church office.

Prayer is communication, sometimes quiet and soft, sometimes joyful and exuberant, sometimes carefully chosen words, sometimes heartfelt pleadings. Throughout history, people have prayed through words, through dance, through meditation, through work, and through play. Prayer is an important part of every spiritual life.

In this workshop, we will explore some Advent themes by praying with color and image. We will look at scripture using music, guided imagery and storytelling and then bring our responses to the paint and the paper. No art experience is needed. Karen will teach us how to use watercolors and will provide all supplies.



MASTERWORKS CHORALE OF CARROLL COUNTY

presents

FALL CONCERT 2012

Messiah

by George Frideric Handel

MARGARET BOUDREAUX, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
TED DIX, ORGAN

in collaboration with

THE FREDERICK YOUTH ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2012, 3:00 PM

BAKER MEMORIAL CHAPEL, MCDANIEL COLLEGE

WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND

Admission: \$12 adults (\$10 if purchased in advance) (All students with ID and children admitted free at door)

Tickets will be available **ONLINE** at <u>www.MasterworksofCC.org</u>,

at the DOOR, from CHORALE MEMBERS and at the CARROLL COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

Fall In-Gathering

by Carol Arbaugh

"Give us this day our daily bread." Matthew 6:11

Each week of the year, Grace Lutheran Church serves 200 free meals to our neighbors through the Table of Grace and Ardent Folk ministries. November is the month when all members of the congregation may contribute to our feeding ministries by donating much needed and greatly appreciated food items. Below is a list of needed items. We will be collecting food on November 4, 11, and 18. Please bring all food items to the service that you attend.

On November 18 we will be packing and delivering Thanksgiving baskets to families in our church and community. If you would like to help on November 18, please come to the Lower Gathering Space at 11:15.

Food items needed for Table of Grace and Ardent Folk:

<u>November 4</u> – large (gallon size, if possible) cans of green beans, tomatoes, tomato sauce and spaghetti sauce <u>November 11</u> – regular coffee, coffee creamer, boxes of pasta, chicken broth

<u>November 18</u> – small cans of gravy, sauerkraut, green beans, corn, gravy, applesauce, cranberry sauce, small boxes of stuffing mix. (The church will purchase turkeys, apples and potatoes to make a Thanksgiving meal.)

Grocery store gift cards are appreciated and welcomed year round. Please call Carol Arbaugh (410-848-4776) for more information.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

of the Congregation of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church to be held on Sunday, December 2, 2012, following the 10:00 a.m. All Grace Worship Service

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Business Meeting of the Congregation of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Westminster, Maryland will be held on Sunday, December 2, 2012, following the 10:00 a.m. All Grace Worship Service, in Grace Hall at the church, 21 Carroll Street, Westminster, Maryland.

The agenda for the meeting includes the following:

- Election of new members of the Congregation Council
- 2. Annual Report of the Treasurer
- 3. Adoption of the Annual Operating and Capital Budgets of the Congregation for 2013
- 4. Election of the Congregation's voting members of the Synod Assembly for 2013; and
- Such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Personal Notes

Meeting

Baptized into the Body of Christ:

9/29/12 - Parker Dean Lueking, son of Michael and Danielle Lueking

10/14/12 – Zachary Ryan Welch, son of Patrick Bowersox and Jessica Welch

10/14/12 – Maddison Kaye Danielle Bowersox, daughter of Patrick Bowersox and Jessica Welch

10/20/12 – Alex Jae Venanzi, son of Eric and Christine Venanzi

In Memoriam:

We would like to express our condolences to the following families who lost a loved one recently:

Family of Thelma Lightner (mother of Brenda Lightner) – September 16, 2012

Family of Millie Haenftling (mother of Carol Ann Wildesen) – September 26, 2012



Show your enthusiasm for Grace!!!! Grace Lutheran Logo Shirts will be on sale in November!! ... \$26 per shirt



On Sundays, November 11 and 18, Grace Lutheran Logo Shirts will be on sale after the worship services. Please plan to place your order at that time. Payment should be given along with your order. Samples will be available so you can see what they look like! Two types of shirts are available in Men and Women's sizes. The colors available vary according to the type of shirt. Please see the order blank for details of size and color.

Checks should be made out to Grace Lutheran Church and should accompany your order. You may order by stopping by the table on November 11 or 18 OR by dropping off or mailing the order form and check to the church office no later than November 20. No orders will be taken after November 20.

Shirts will be available for pick up on Sunday, December 16.

Grace Lutheran Logo Shirt Order Form							
Name:		Phone:					
	Men's	Women's					
Polyester Size:	Men and Women: X-Small to 4XL						
Color (Circle):	White	Maroon	Orange	Gold	Sandstone (Men Only)		
Cotton Sizes: Mens: XS to 10XL Womens: XS to 6XL Tall Sizes: LG to 4XL							
Color (Circle):	Banana	(Tall Sizes)	Brown		Brown		
Paid by: Cash	Check	: #	_ Amoun	t \$	Date:		



Operation Christmas Child by Craig Giles

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." – Matthew 19:14



Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through simple, gift-filled boxes and evangelistic materials that tell the Good News of God's love. Here are some ways you can make a difference:

- 1. Pick up a brochure located in the Lower Gathering Space at church. Buy a plastic shoe box, or use a cardboard one, and fill it up with your love and suggested items. Make it a family project and include a letter (see the sheet provided in the brochure). You may include your address if you wish but it is not necessary. Boxes are to be returned to church by November 18. We will add our prayers to yours and deliver them to the local drop-off point.
- 2. Our Confirmation students are having a "packing party" on the afternoon of November 18. You can bring any items on the list any time before then and place them in the box provided in the Lower Gathering Space and we will use them to provide more shoe boxes. Monetary donations to enable us to buy additional items can also be made via the church office.

Suggested Items: School supplies, small toys, hygiene items, t-shirts, socks, flashlights, ball caps, solar calculators, hair clips, kazoos, jump ropes, and a personal note if you wish. Do NOT include: used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures, chocolate or food, out-of-date candy, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers or aerosol cans.

Legacy Circle of Grace

Grace Lutheran Church has received a legacy gift in the amount of \$118,073.02 from the Lawrence E. Zepp Trust. Lawrence E. and Margaret Zepp were faithful members of Grace Lutheran Church for many years. The proceeds of their legacy gift under the direction of the church council will be used as follows: (90% of the total proceeds) \$106,265.72 will be applied to reduce the mortgage principal and (10% of the total proceeds) \$11,807.30 to support benevolent causes as determined by the Congregational Council. Behind this gift is a legacy of caring, love, and commitment to their church that values the spiritual, emotional and educational needs of its members. We give thanks for this legacy gift.

More about the History of Grace Lutheran Church

by Karen Ganjon

The negative effects of World War 1 took its toll on Grace Lutheran Church. Thirty-seven members served in the Armed Forces, two of which were women (Red Cross Nurses). Two of our members died in the service. In addition to the sacrifices made by members of the congregation on active duty, World War 1 held back plans for church progress.

The period of "The Great Renovation" in the history of Grace Lutheran Church occurred during the pastorate of The Rev. John Rupley who served between July 1, 1920, and September 24, 1929. The interior of the nave was drastically altered to conform to the Lutheran liturgical pattern. The Common Service Book was introduced. An addition to the Sunday school Chapel was built to provide classrooms and a social hall. This era was a time of strong Sunday school emphasis and six organized classes. There were 3 missionary societies, senior and junior Christian Endeavor, a sewing society, a Girl's Club and a Brotherhood. The amount of activity reported could be a reflection of the boom of the 1920's.

Time for reflection

Grace Lutheran continues to see Christian Education as a major area of focus and a priority area of ministry. If someone asked you to talk about Christian Education at Grace, what would you say? How would you describe what you hear, see, or experience in Sunday school or in other settings here at Grace?

Legacy Circle of Grace is a program of the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church to recognize its members and friends who through planned giving have made or plan to make a contribution for the future life of the congregation.

November Worship Leaders & Assistants

NOVEMBER 3-4, 2012

5:00 pm – Pat Goldberg, **Reader:** John Baumgardner

7:45 am – Evelyn Babylon 9:00 am – Jan Mickey

Communion Assistants: Kara Schuster, Rich Schuster, Sharon Glass, Taylor Glass Button, Alyson Guerra **Ushers:** Randy Bachtel, Linwood Van Horn, John Yarish,

Barbara Serghini

11:15 am – Anna Tschiegg

NOVEMBER 10-11, 2012

5:00 pm - Bob Lichtfuss and Maddie Lichtfuss

7:45 am – Craig Giles 9:00 am – Kathy Rehak

Communion Assistants: Matt Sherlock, Erin Sherlock,

Greg Hare, Doris Hare, Janet Harrison

Ushers: Amelia Dowling, Nathan Dowling, Don Ludwig,

Steve Crews

11:15 am – Viera Sabol, Reader: Elissa Streaker

NOVEMBER 17-18, 2012

5:00 pm – Kay Betz 7:45 am – Al Doermann 9:00 am – Pete Tabatsko

Communion Assistants: Sandra Harrison, Mark Tanzey,

Stacey Tanzey, Ann Thomas, Laura Heller **Ushers:** Greg Hare, Doris Hare, Matt Sherlock,

Matthew Sherlock

11:15 am - Vicar Karin Albaugh

NOVEMBER 24-25, 2012

5:00 pm - Bob Lichtfuss and Maddie Lichtfuss

7:45 am – Vicar Karin Albaugh

9:00 am - Paul Whitson

Communion Assistants: Don Hodges, Dena Hodges, Michele Krichinsky, Linwood Van Horn, Vicar Karin Albaugh

Ushers: Perry Crowl, Nancy Taylor, Janet Harrison,

Bill Comegna

11:15 am – Charlie Beckhardt, Reader: Jake Beckhardt

November Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2012

5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (L)

6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Personnel Committee Meeting (107)

7:00 pm Youth & Family Ministries Meeting (108)

7:00 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (109/110)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2012

6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Conversation (Bob Evans)

8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2012

5:00 pm Fair Trade Product Sale (LGS)

5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)

6:00 pm Graceland (College Age Adult Group) (101A/101B)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2012

7:30 am Fair Trade Product Sale (LGS)

7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (L)

9:00 am Praise Worship (GH)

10:00 am Quiet Evening Sub-Committee Meeting (Parlor)

10:15 am Christian Education Hour

10:15 am New Member Class (L)

11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)

3:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (MR)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2012

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 393 (102, 104, 105, 106, 111, 112)

6:00 pm Girl Scouts Troop 307 (FH)

7:00 pm Agape Handbell Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393 (101A/101B)

7:00 pm Private Meeting (FH)

7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Meeting (107, 108)

8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH, T)

5:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (FH, T, 101A/101B)

7:00 pm Property Committee Meeting (108)

7:00 pm Social Ministry Committee Meeting (LGS)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2012

12:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study (CLV)

5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (109/110)

5:45 pm Luther Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)

7:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Johansson's)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2012

5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (L)

6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting (108)

7:00 pm Thursday Evening Book Club (L)

7:00 pm Young Adult Group (J&P Pizza, Westminster)

7:00 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (109/110)

7:45 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal (MR)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2012

6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Conversation (Bob Evans)

8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012

5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)

6:00 pm Graceland (College Age Adult Group) (101A/101B)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2012 - HONEY SUNDAY

7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (L)

9:00 am Praise Worship (GH)

10:15 am Christian Education Hour

10:15 am New Member Class (L)

11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)

3:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Meeting (107)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2012

2:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive (GH)

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 393 (102, 104, 105, 106, 111, 112)

7:00 pm Agape Handbell Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393 (101A/101B)

8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012

12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH, T)

5:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (FH, T, 101A/101B)

7:00 pm Adult Education Committee Meeting (Parlor)

7:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (L)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2012

12:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study (CLV)

5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (109/110)

5:45 pm Luther Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Internship Committee Meeting (Parlor)

7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)

THURSDAY. NOVEMBER 15. 2012

5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (L)

6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)

6:30 pm LFOG Board Meeting (107)

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (109/110)

7:45 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal (MR)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2012

6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Conversation (Bob Evans)

8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2012

10:00 am Worship & Music Committee Meeting (Parlor)

5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)

6:00 pm Graceland (College Age Adult Group) (101A/101B)

(CLV) Carroll Lutheran Village (FH) Fellowship Hall

(T) Theater (S) Sanctuary (GH) Grace Hall (UGS) Upper

Gathering Space (LGS) Lower Gathering Space

(MR) Music Room (L) Library

November Calendar of Events (continued)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2012

7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (L)

9:00 am Praise Worship (GH)

10:15 am Christian Education Hour

10:15 am New Member Class (L)

11:15 am Traditional Worship (S)

12:15 pm Confirmation Servant Event (FH, T)

3:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (MR)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2012

1:30 pm WELCA Meeting (FH)

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 393 (102, 104, 105, 106, 111, 112)

6:00 pm Girl Scouts Pack 307 (FH)

7:00 pm Agape Handbell Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393 (101A/101B)

7:00 pm Church Council Meeting (108)

8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2012

12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH, T)

5:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (FH, T, 101A/101B)

7:00 pm Christian Education Committee Meeting (107)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2012

12:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study (CLV)

5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (109/110)

5:45 pm Luther Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service (S)

7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)

7:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Johansson's)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2012

THANKSGIVING DAY HOLIDAY -

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

7:00 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (109/110)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2012

6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Conversation (Bob Evans)

8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2012

5:00 pm Traditional Worship (S)

6:00 pm Graceland (College Age Adult Group) (101A/101B)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2012

7:45 am Traditional Worship (S)

9:00 am Adult Sunday School (L)

9:00 am Praise Worship (GH)

10:15 am Christian Education Hour

10:15 am New Member Class (L)

11:15 am Traditional Worship - Children's Chorus Performs (S)

3:00 pm Advent Gathering (GH, FH, T, UGS)

3:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Stephen Ministry Meeting (107)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2012

6:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 393 (102, 104, 105, 106, 111, 112)

7:00 pm Agape Handbell Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 393 (101A/101B)

8:30 pm AA Meeting (109/110)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2012

12:00 pm Table of Grace Soup Kitchen (FH, T)

2:00pm Cathedral Crossroads Carpool (Carroll Street Lot)

5:00 pm Children's Chorus Rehearsal (FH, T, 101A/101B)

7:00 pm Evangelism Committee Meeting (LGS)

7:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (L)

7:00 pm Shepherd Staff Board Meeting (108)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2012

12:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study (CLV)

5:00 pm TOPS Weight Loss Club (109/110)

5:45 pm Luther Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7:30 pm Praise Band/Singers Practice (GH)

THURSDAY. NOVEMBER 29. 2012

5:00 pm Ardent Folk Bible Conversation (L)

6:00 pm Ardent Folk Weekly Meal (FH/T)

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (MR)

7:00 pm New Beginnings NA Meeting (109/110)

7:45 pm Festival Choir Rehearsal (MR)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2012

6:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Conversation (Bob Evans)

8:00 pm Turning Point AA Meeting (109/110)



November

SANCTUARY -

Betty and Fred Schlerf

GRACE HALL-

Nancy Suder & Janet Harrison



November Birthdays

NOVEMBER 1

Dietz, Megan

NOVEMBER 2

Baiocchi, Tony Spreitzer, Jocelyn

NOVEMBER 3

Hoff, Georgia Rehak, Matthew Weishaar, Kendall

NOVEMBER 4

Thomas, Carrie

NOVEMBER 5

Rath, Theresa

NOVEMBER 6

Bonner, Christine Dorsey, Natalie Holmes, Linda Smith, Diane

NOVEMBER 7

Bachtel, Nathan Casper, Kate Ellis El, Marvin Taylor, Nancy Ulsch, Joyce

NOVEMBER 8

Morelock, Sheryl Rice, Grace Ryan, Bill Taylor, Thomas

NOVEMBER 9

Ellis El, Erika Vengroski, Aaron

NOVEMBER 11

Alvarez, Stephanie Nightingale, Charles

NOVEMBER 12

Hegg, Laurie Wilton, Craig

NOVEMBER 13

Gladden, Dalton Myers, James Smith, Eric

NOVEMBER 14

Marley, Leslie Melville, Jake Scocco, Ryan

NOVEMBER 15

Barnes, Zachary Lowell, Justin

NOVEMBER 16

Albaugh, Tom Hoff, David Reitz, Isabelle

NOVEMBER 17

Babylon, Caroline Cimbalista, Claire Hoffman, David Muse, Lorraine Sackin, Lindsay

NOVEMBER 18

Fairchild, Adam Johns, Jane Seipp, Judy

NOVEMBER 19

Dorsey, Melanie Seipp, Alex

NOVEMBER 20

Cimbalista, Sharon DeKett, Chuck Nixon, Chad Roth, Kurt Schreyer, MacKenzie Visocsky, Curtis

NOVEMBER 21

Harris, Greg Martin, Paul McCulloch, Meg

NOVEMBER 22

Anderson, Amy Harris, Kim Helt, Shane Holmes, Phillip Schoenberger, Glenn

NOVEMBER 23

Buscemi, Sharon Gray, Sullivan Ross, John

NOVEMBER 24

Bowersox, Steven Peltier, Benjamin

NOVEMBER 25

Anderson, Benjamin Klein, Jill Law, Sheila Tobery, Irene

NOVEMBER 26Brocato, Caroline

NOVEMBER 27

Arbaugh, Carol Bowersox, Vickie Everett, Elaine

NOVEMBER 28

Lockard, David Rath, Drake Roth, Marla

NOVEMBER 29

Cox, Tiffany Hodges, Don

NOVEMBER 30

Bauman, Carol Ann Gist, Melanie Pigeon, Remmy Selby, Mari



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

DEADLINE TO ORDER: DECEMBER 9

This year we will again be decorating the Sanctuary and Grace Hall with beautiful poinsettias. Helping to decorate the worship areas with flowers is a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one this holiday season.

Poinsettias are \$10.00 each X = \$							
My gift to Carroll Food Sunday \$							
Checks payable to Grace Lutheran Church							
TOTAL \$							
(Please return order form and check to church office)							
In Honor of In Memory of							
I will leave flower(s) for shut-in I will pick up flower(s)							
Name							
Phone							

Please remember in your prayers...

Names will remain on the Continuing Prayer List for four weeks unless otherwise requested. Names will then be removed unless another request is made. Please contact Dawn Stem in the church office (410-848-7020) with any prayer requests or email dstem@gracelc.org.



Requests

Those who are serving our country: Marshall Brown, Lt. Ryan Chaney, PFC Tyler Czarnowsky, Steve Haines, Jonathan Jones, Nathan Karlson, Jeff Kelly, Adam Miller, Leah Miller, Steven P. Miller, Jr., David Ramsey, Paul Roberts, Chris St. Germain, Fred Tiedemann, Joel Whitson, and for all those unnamed individuals serving in our military, especially in war-zone areas

Those in Convalescent, Nursing or Rehab Centers: Sarah Barnes, Elinor Causey, Betsy Falkenstein, Elizabeth Fritz, Trudy Hirt, LaRue Long, Mildred Markle, Mary Ruth Mason, Donald and Nancy Michael, Evelyn Nevius, Virginia Sparrow, Ellen Terry

Continuing Prayers: Aunt Sharon, Mary and Family, Sandy & Walter, Patty Baier, Irene Bailey, Cathy Barnes, Marion Bauman, Dennis Baumgardner, Brian Bowersox, Sandi Bowman, Troy Bowman, Shirley Boyle, Sharon Brewbaker, Robert L. Brown, William F. Brown, Barbara Caples, Rocky & Bonnie Davis, Nancy Geary, Ken Gist, Brenda Haines, Vaughn & Jamie Ireland, Mary Krempin, Michael Landy, Charles Lazzelle, Wilda Miller, Ed Pinder, Dottie Ramsel, Neysa Richardson, Dylan Saunders, Logan Saunders, Anna Spittel, Stan Sudvoy, Jessica Young

Seminarians: Beth Clementson, Laura Heller

Global Ministry Partners: Barbara Robertson and Annie Bunio, ELCA Missionaries in Tanzania and The Lutheran Church, Paide, Estonia.

Also please pray for our pastors, the members of the Church Council, the staff and all of God's children at Grace Lutheran Church.

NOTE: If you or someone you know is going into the hospital please call the church office as soon as possible.



21 Carroll Street Westminster, MD 21157

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Westminster, MD Permit No. 123

