

JULY 2011

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus said to his twelve disciples, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ...and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple – truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward." Matthew 10:40, 42.

Jesus spoke these words to his disciples almost 2,000 years ago. He also speaks these words to you and to me today. Yes, as a Christians you too are a disciple, much the same as those who followed and worked with Jesus in the days he walked this earth. But things have changed so much since Jesus' time, you may object. True, our technology is much more advanced and the lifestyles of most are much different now. Even so, the most important, core human needs and characteristics remain the same from generation to generation. These things are timeless. From the book of Ecclesiastes (1:9) we learn, "What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun." As human beings our greatest emotional and spiritual needs are to be loved, to have a sense of identity and purpose, to be part of something greater than ourselves, to achieve, and to be in relationship with others and with God. As part of meeting your needs, you are called to share of yourself in order to help others experience the meeting of their needs. In other words, you can't fully receive until you also give.

As the Holy Spirit leads and empowers you to meet your needs and to help others meet theirs we experience the concept of "welcome" referred to in today's passage from Matthew. Here "welcome" means much more than a short greeting. It means to accept and love others just as they are, in the same way as Christ has loved and accepted you. This does not mean you have to love and accept others' negative, hurtful attitudes and/or actions, but rather that you view all people as Jesus did, as beloved people of God. When you accept, love, and welcome others you are, in fact, welcoming Jesus himself into your presence. When you struggle with your own issues or the issues of others, it's easy to forget we are all created in the image of God (affected by sin though we are) and through the Holy Spirit, Christ is present in each and every one of us.

You may worry that you don't have the "right" personality or skills to be a successful disciple who fully welcomes others. Jesus knew this concern amongst his disciples and he knows it about you. He encourages you that even if you give a simple cup of cold water to another, you are thinking and acting as a disciple and sharing the love and presence of Christ. Whether you are a professional counselor helping hundreds of clients or make it a practice to offer smiles to other people, be confident you are a welcoming disciple participating in the good works of God's kingdom. You, and all of us, have something to offer.

Speaking of welcomes, my family and I thank you, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, for practicing the concept of "welcome." From the time we first visited you, we have been overwhelmed by your hospitality, care, love, generosity, and hard work. You know and practice being a welcoming congregation and we know how blessed we are to be among you. As Lutheran Christians we have a deep and broad heritage from which to draw for our future. That, along with guidance and inspiration from the Holy Spirit will enable and empower us to live, work, and play joyously as we walk together on our faith journeys. As your pastor, I look forward to serving Christ and his church with you.

In Christ,

Pastor Clay

Thank you! Thank You! Thank You!

Pastor Sandi Krynik and Pastor Bruce Buslaff have been called by God to serve. While several years ago each of them retired from full time work, they both jumped at the chance to serve again when asked to come back to work at Grace. And serve they did! Between the two of them they ensured that all of our shut-in's received regular visits, funerals were held, hospital visits were made, Lenten services were held, the elements were blessed every Sunday that we had communion, sermons were delivered and most of all, help was only a phone call away!

On behalf of the Grace Lutheran Church Council and congregation, we thank both of you for a job well done! Each of you carried out your leadership with us with respect, honesty, love and spirituality in such a way that has empowered this congregation to move forward on our spiritual journeys.

Blessings to you both as you return to your retirement! You will always have a special place within the hearts (and pews) of Grace!

COUNCIL MEMBERS (2010-2011)

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Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2011 6:00 pm

Our Mission: To grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Present: Joan Wade, Herm Leitz, Nelson Hinz, Chris Mokler, Andrea Mills, Katie Baird, Rob Wittchow

Absent: Amanda Preissner, Nate Zimdars, Leesa McShane

The meeting was called to order by President Joan Wade at 5:58 pm.

Prayer Celebrations would include May 15th Congregational Meeting.

Devotions: Chris Mokler

Review and Approval of May Agenda: Addition of the following items: Property Committee items presented by Jon M/S/A (Herm, Chris)

Review and Approval of April Minutes: M/S/A (Herm, Chris)

Property Committee brought forward items that need to be updated, fixed, or maintained, The following items were brought forward:

1. Main circulation pump on the boiler needs to be repaired this spring.
2. Cracks in the driveway need to be maintained or it will cost us more down the line.
3. Staining on bricks should be completed. Jon is going to do his best to get this taken care of.
4. Tabs on roof missing. This should be taken care of by the end of next year. This could cost up to \$7500. This will need to be budgeted for in the Property Committee 2012 Budget.
5. Fellowship Hall carpet has been brought forward again. This gets completed once a year and does cost \$800. It is only budgeted for to be completed once, not twice. Jon will make sure it gets completed again this fall.

Motion made to spend up to \$4500 on boiler (\$2500) and fixing cracks in the driveway (\$2000). Approved money to come from property budget as well as the Capital Improvement Fund. M/S/A (Rob, Herm)

Council discussed making sure to get these types of items into yearly budget. Jon will be getting information on the other items to Andrea to do an article of some sort for Grace Notes.

Jon also wanted Council to be aware the Property Committee will be looking at an insurance bid for the end of the year. The two companies that will be looked at will be: American Family Insurance and Church Mutual.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Katie Baird.

Envelope offerings down \$12,701. Total income down \$9,195. However, expenses are down mainly due to the property budget and payroll expenses not incurred of \$4,391.

Approve for Audit Treasurer's Report: M/S/A (Herm, Nelson)

Call process update given by Luther Olsen: Lots of positive discussion.

Grace Notes Electronic update:

Council decided that we will moved forward with electronic Grace Notes for this month. Jessica has done a great job getting this together working with Chris and Katie. Council decided that we will send one more mailing out to those that didn't respond to the request on how they would like to receive. After this month, if we still haven't heard from them, we will be placing them in their church mailbox.

*All of the shut-ins and homebound members will still have Grace Notes delivered.

Request from Jessica to use the \$350 for continuing education funds for her summer classes. M/S/A (Herm, Rob)

Jessica will no longer be placing her own vacation in the Grace Notes. Going forward, she will be emailing committee chairs and council when she will be out on a planned vacation.

Request to use the church building for the preschool summer fun program for Grace Pre-School. Summer program runs from June 27th thru June 30th.

Mutual Ministry Team asked Council to review their Communications Covenant. Council reviewed document shared by Joan prior to meeting and came back with some suggestions that Joan will take back to Mutual Ministry Team for further discussion.

Motion to adjourn: M/S/A (Herm, Chris)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Mills

Council Secretary

Scholarship and Endowment Fund Grant to Joshua Stibb

The Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Committee presented a \$8,500 scholarship to Joshua Stibb on Sunday, June 19. Of this, \$2,000 was given by the Endowment Fund, \$6,016 was given by members of the church and \$484 was given out of our In-house benevolence. These funds will be applied toward his college expenses as he continues pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Luther Seminary in St. Paul.

The Endowment Committee scholarship is possible because of generous bequests and memorial gifts received from members over past years who wanted to perpetually make a difference in the life of our church and its mission. The Committee is very pleased and proud that a member of Grace Church is preparing for a career in the ministry. Our best wishes and prayers are with Josh as he continues working toward completing his degree.

SPECIAL WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WITH GRACE

Outdoor Worship - July 3

Join us on the lawn (weather permitting) for a special worship experience on Sunday, July 3rd, at 9am. We'll celebrate God's creation under the canopy of heaven, and give thanks to God for our nation, our freedoms, and for God's claim on our lives. Please bring your own lawn chairs or blankets to sit on.

Celebrate Holy Communion - July 10 & 31

This month we will be offering Holy Communion at Sunday services on July 10th and 31st. Come and feast on the goodness of the Lord!

God's Word takes Flight - July 31

Join us for worship on Sunday, July 31st, at 9am, to hear how God is working in the lives of missionary pilots. In connection with the EAA Airventure, Grace will be hosting one of several missionary pilots participating in the Oshkosh festivities. Come and be inspired as sharing the love of Jesus soars to new heights!



Addisyn Johnson 07/01
 Logan Spillner 07/01
 John Steinbring 07/01
 Margaret Jeske 07/03
 Gail Albright 07/04
 Mary Johnston 07/04
 Sue Mokler 07/04
 Patti Albright 07/06
 Dave Pischke 07/06
 Layne Neuenfeldt 07/07
 Payton Draeger 07/09
 Kayla Hetzel 07/09
 Tom McCann 07/11
 Earl Ristau 07/11
 Tim Sweeney 07/11
 Alaina Sasada 07/12
 JoAnn Wittwer 07/12
 Jim Borell 07/14
 Jeff Langeberg 07/14
 Nancy Floyd 07/15
 Rebecca Hetzel 07/15
 Kylie Larschied 07/15
 James Thiem 07/15

Caebrie Larson 07/16
 Peggy Buethin 07/17
 Dean Slark 07/18
 Kerstyn Ziesmer 07/18
 Marlene Gibbons 07/19
 Jane Redman 07/19
 Ed Scoville 07/19
 Allen Stibb 07/19
 Marlene Buslaff 07/20
 Tonia Larschied 07/21
 Ethan Murphy 07/22
 Lori Sall 07/24
 Bailey Fernau 07/25
 Gemma Krause 07/25
 Terry Mathias 07/25
 Frank McShane 07/25
 Olivia Voight 07/25
 Elaine White 07/25
 Elmer Kuhs 07/26
 Don Lueck 07/26
 Sandra Steinbring 07/26
 Terri Otto 07/27
 Hunter Merrill 07/28
 Scott Baldwin 07/29
 Lynn Mathias 07/30
 Evelyn Kohnke 07/31
 Shirley Vollbrecht 07/31



Harry & Marlene Walkowiak 07/02
 Myron & Ruth Gross 07/09
 Gerald & Diane Zacharias 07/11
 Brian & Lesley Ernst 07/12
 Tyler & Melissa Lundt 07/21
 Bill & Linda Kinziger 07/23
 Mark & Jane Bradley 07/24
 Robert & Karla Spinks 07/24
 Earl & Carol Floyd 07/25
 Mark & Jackie Peterson 07/28
 Alan & Lisa Jorgenson 07/29



Evelyn Kohnke, Florian Laper
Prairie Place: Kelly Kutzleb,
 Mary Alice Linde, Shirley
 Stewart, Naomi Kelm-Carley,
 Mel Sorensen

Altar Flowers for 2011

The 2011 Altar Flowers sign-up calendar is posted on the wall next to the church office door in the entryway. You may designate Altar Flowers in honor or memory of loved ones or a special occasion. This information will be printed in the bulletin for that Sunday. Sign up in advance by writing your name on the chart or by calling the office. The cost for Altar Flowers is \$15.00. After the last service for that Sunday, you may pick up your flowers. If you need to take the vase liners home, please return them by the following Tuesday. If you do not want to take your flowers home, please notify the church office. If no one signs up for flowers for a given Sunday, there will be no flowers on the altar that day. For more information, contact the church office.

Markesan Residence Center: Orin & Arla Galow
Russell Manor: Gail Albright, Marion Boire, Ruth Gransee
Fountain View Care Center: Freda Falk, Elaine Heatley
Maple Crest: Joan Kedrowski, Elmer Kuhs, Alton Meyer, Dollie Miller, Dolores Hunger
Barrett House: Duane Wittchow, Eugene Wittchow, Michelle Koentopp
Michalene's: Elsie Clark, Phyllis Suksi
Willowbrook: Irmgard Timm
Lake View Estates: Don Lueck



Ready for a Wild Adventure?

New friends • Amazing crafts • Wild games • Lip-smacking snacks • Wild Bible adventures • Incredible music

Location: RIPON AREA VBS at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 430 W Griswold St. Ripon

PandaMania will last from: August 7-11, 2011

PandaMania fun begins at: 5:15 p.m. dinner, 6:30 p.m. VBS

Panda Mania fun ends at: 8:15 p.m.

For more information, call: 748-5433, Registration is now open! HS and Adult Volunteers needed

Vacation Bible School Church Sponsors: Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hillside Assembly of God, Immanuel United Methodist Church, St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Ripon Area VBS – Middles School Program

Movies – Message – Mission



For Who: Middle School Students – incoming 6th through 8th grade

When: Sunday, August 7th – Thursday, August 11th

Dinner served 5:15pm – 6:00pm

Program 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Where: Grace Lutheran Church - 430 W Griswold St, Ripon

What we do: Watch movies – do fun activities – engage in God's message – participate in a meaningful mission – HAVE FUN

Registration now open

Sponsored by the following churches –

St Peter's Episcopal, Immanuel United Methodist, Hillside Assembly, Grace Lutheran



2011 VBS VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Name- _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone1 _____
Phone2 _____
Availability _____
Shirt Size _____
Home Church _____
Are you High School or Adult _____

Circle All That Interest You:

Bamboo Blast Games (Elementary) Games (Preschool)
Crazy Crafts (Elementary)
Movie-Message-Mission (Middle School)
Wild Bible Adventures (Elementary)
Rowdy Wrap-Up Crew Leader (Preschool or Elementary)

PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR CHURCH OFFICE

OR REQUEST AN ELECTRONIC COPY FROM:
mspillner@charter.net

QUESTIONS CONTACT MIRA STEPLETON AT: 312-2314

2011 VBS STUDENT REGISTRATION

Student Name _____
Parent Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone1 _____
Phone2 _____
Emergency Contact _____
Emergency Contact Phone _____
Emergency Contact Relationship _____
Allergies _____
Grade Entering _____
Home Church _____

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GRACE PRE-SCHOOL

ENROLL NOW FOR FALL 2011

- * Classes 3 half days a week
- * Limited space available in our 3 & 4 year old classes!
- * Non-denominational, faith-based preschool for children ages 3-5

Contact us now to enroll!!

920-748-5465

gracepreschool@centurytel.net

Visit our website at www.gracepreschoolripon.org

Grace Pre-School * 430 Griswold St. * Ripon, WI

Worship Assistants

The sign-up board will be left open until our newsletter, Grace Notes, will be published (about the 22nd of the month). At that time, the Worship Committee will assign the open slots with the names of those who indicated on their Time and Talent Sheets that they'd like to participate. Please do not change the board without notifying the office. Thank you for your help with our worship services.

IF YOU CANNOT HELP on the date(s) assigned, please find someone to take your place. Please notify the office of the change.

Worship Assistants for July

Date	Greeters	Lectors	Communion
July 3—9:00 am Outdoor Worship	None	Bill Reininger	N/A
July 10—9:00 am	James & Carol Beier	Sue Mokler	Sue Mokler, Joslyn Anderson, Charlotte Sherman
July 17—9:00 am	Scott & Phyllis Baldwin	Lydia Schwertfeger	N/A
July 24—9:00 am	Myron & Ruth Gross	Lisa Schwertfeger	N/A
July 31—9:00 am	Jerry & Diane Zacharias	Shirley Vollbrecht	Lynn & Terry Mathias, Karen Kelm

Usher Teams				
Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5
July 24—9:00 am	July 31—9:00 am	July 3—9:00 am	July 10—9:00 am	July 17—9:00 am

Grace Canoe Adventure VIII

Mark your calendars now and join the fun & fellowship as we paddle down the Fox River on Saturday, July 16th, with local historian and guide Jerry Disterhaft of Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe LLC. We will meet at Grace at 7:15 a.m. and convoy out to Princeton where our one day voyage will begin. We will paddle down the river in an authentically constructed 17th century voyageuring canoe that seats up to 14 paddlers and will share a meal on the river with our guide. We expect to be back at Grace by about 4:00 p.m. Watch for upcoming announcements and a sign-up sheet. Please contact Scott Rogalsky for more information. Phone 748-3167 or e-mail scott.rogalsky@gmail.com

WOMEN OF GRACE NEWS



Women of Grace Salad Supper

When: Thursday, August 4th

Time: 5:30 pm

What to Bring: Items for the Personal Care Kits and the School Kits



Your favorite salad add-ons to share with others (shredded cheese, green peppers, tomatoes, croutons, etc.)

BE CREATIVE!

The Women of Grace will supply the lettuce, different dressings, and lemonade.

Come and enjoy an evening of food and fellowship while collecting items for our mission projects.

Items Needed

Personal Care Kits

- One bath towel (medium weight, dark color)
- Two bath-size bars of wrapped soap (4-5 oz.)
- One packaged adult-sized toothbrush
- One sturdy comb
- One metal nail clippers

School Kits

- Four 70-sheet notebooks (no loose-leaf paper)
- One 30-centimeter ruler (inches on one side, centimeters on the other)
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- Five ballpoint pens
- One box 16-24 ct. crayons
- One sturdy backpack approx. 14"x17" with shoulder straps

Baby Care Kits

- Cloth diapers
- Diaper pins

EAST CENTRAL SYNOD OF WI HIGH FIVE CHURCHES



Top 5 Monetary Givers to Mission Partners in 2010.

Grace—Green Bay
Redeemer—Plymouth
Peace—Rosendale
Grace—Ripon
Grace—Appleton

Your gifts of love nurture congregations that reach out to others in the strong name of Jesus Christ.

LATE NIGHT CATECHISM

Thursday, July 14, 2011

Fox Cities Performing Arts Center

'Til Death Do Us Part: Late Nite Cathchism 3 is the latest in this series, including a wacky version of "The Newlywed Game." You don't have to be Catholic to enjoy this show!

Lunch: Mary's Place

Bus Leaves: 10:45 AM

Cost: \$60

Bus leaves from the Berlin Wal-Mart Parking Lot

The program is presented by the Berlin Senior Center.

MUST sign up—Call 361-5422 to save your seat!

Holy Humor #1

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter.

Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note, "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."

Holy Humor #2

There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday morning and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JULY	2011				1	2 10:00 AM Private Baptism
3 SCRIP Deadline 9:00 AM Outdoor Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour	4 OFFICE CLOSED— INDEPENDENCE DAY	5 6:30 PM Christian Education Team Meeting	6	7	8	9 10:00 AM –4:00 PM Hall Use: Baby Shower
10 9:00 AM Worship with Communion 10:00 AM Coffee Hour	11 5:30 PM First Place 4 Health Meeting	12 1:30 PM Rebekah Circle 6:30 PM Property Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Evangelism Committee Meeting	13	14	15	16
17 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour	18 5:30 PM First Place 4 Health Meeting 6:00 PM Council Meeting	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour	25 12:00 PM Grace Notes Deadline 5:30 PM First Place 4 Health Meeting	26 5:00 PM Pre-School Board Meeting @ Amy's	27 10:00 AM Anna Circle	28	29	30
31 9:00 AM Worship with Missionary Speaker and Communion 10:00 AM Coffee Hour						



Grace Lutheran Church

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Ripon, WI 54971



Inside This Issue:

Message from Pastor Clay	1
Thank You, 2010-2011 Council Members	2
May Council Minutes	3-4
Scholarship, July Special Worship Opportunities	4
July Birthdays & Anniversaries, Homebound Members, Altar Flowers	5
Vacation Bible School	6
Vacation Bible School Registrations, Grace Pre-School Fall Enrollment	7
July Worship Assistants, Canoe Adventure VIII	8
Women of Grace News	9
High Five Churches, Late Night Catechism, Holy Humor	10
July Calendar of Events	11



COMING EVENTS!

- July 3 Outdoor Worship
- July 4 Closed—Independence Day
- July 31 Missionary Speaker