

Grace Notes

December 2009

Grace Lutheran Church

Volume 57 Issue 12

Our Mission: "Actively Share, Care, and Encourage others to follow Jesus"

Here's What's Happening at Grace

December 2, 9, 16 Advent Mid-Week Service 1

Dinners 5:30 p.m. ~ Services 7:00 p.m.

December 5 23rd Annual Cookie Festival 9 a.m. - Sold Out

2nd Annual Parent's Day Out 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

December 24 **Christmas Eve Service & Children's Program**

December 25 **Merry Christmas! Office Closed**

December 31 **New Year's Eve Communion Service 7 p.m.**

January 1, 2010 Happy New Year! **Office Closed**



23rd Annual
Christmas Cookie
Festival
Saturday,
December 5th
9:00 - until
SOLD OUT!



Beginning November 29

Regular Saturday/Sunday Worship Schedule

Wednesday Midweek

December 2, 9, 16 - Services 7:00 p.m.

Dinners will be held before services
beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Desserts & Clean up Help Appreciated

Schedule Changes During Advent

Confirmation Classes
will not meet again until January 6th

Special Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Service &
Children's Program

7:00 p.m. Thursday, December 24th

New Year's Eve Communion Service ~ 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 31st



Let us do your holiday baking for YOU!!!

A large assortment of different varieties of delicious homemade Christmas Cookies. Purchase your container at the door for \$7.00 and fill it with cookies of your choice. Decorated sugar cookies, bread bars, candy and other holiday treats will be sold separately. Hot cider and coffee will be served.

Come early for the best selection!

(Cookie bakers please note: Please bring your cookies to the church on Friday, December 4th between 8:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.)



"Tis the Season"

*From
Your
Deacon*

The Advent and Christmas Season is upon us. Retailers are busy trying to attract us to their store. I even heard on the news, "Due to the economy, the most popular toys will be in short supply on the retailer's shelves this season thus forcing more people to shop on line." To the world the clinking of coin in the cash register is of supreme importance. However, to a Christian, "the babe" takes center stage in our minds and in our lives.

In all the hassles of the season, it is important that we "STOP! LOOK! & LISTEN." Unlike the world whose one purpose is to "find the right gift" for everyone. We already have the "right gift." It was given to us by our heavenly Father many years ago. Because of that special gift, we now stand redeemed, forgiven, and holy before our Heavenly Father.

It saddens our hearts to see the world chasing after "the perfect gift" when it is found so easily in the Bible. Luke tells us about the gift in such simple words: ^{Luke 2:6} "And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn". And then Simeon declares the wonders of this gift: ^{Luke 2:25} "Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him..."²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all people, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

May you Advent and Christmas season be filled with wonder and excitement as you too declare to the world that the "Babe", that is Jesus Christ, is the perfect gift for one and all.

"A Babe is born and it is Christ the Lord"

Deacon Aaron Hastings



RESULTS OF GRACE/TRINITY DUAL
PARISH CALL MEETING ON
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2009

84 persons were in attendance at the Grace/Trinity Call Meeting held at Grace. Circuit Counselor, Rev. Mark Boxman opened the meeting with prayer and a review of the Doctrine of the Church and Ministry. Information was presented on both candidates, Rev. Shawn Boylan, Florida and Rev. Timothy Kinne, Minnesota. Questions were asked & answered about the candidates by the Call Committee. Balloting resulted in Rev. Timothy Kinne with 55 votes and Rev. Shawn Boylan with 24. A motion was made, seconded & carried to make a unanimous call to Rev. Timothy Kinne to serve as Pastor for Grace & Trinity Congregations. A phone call was made to Rev. Kinne following the vote and the appropriate Call Documents were sent out. *Please pray for REV. TIMOTHY KINNE for the Lord to guide him in his decision regarding our call to him as pastor of Grace & Trinity.*

DON'T
FORGET
THE



STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS FOR DECEMBER

"God offered His best for us; let us offer our best to Him."

"And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus..." is the way Luke's account of the Christmas story begins in chapter two (KJV). That decree caused Mary and Joseph to travel to Bethlehem, the city of David, where Jesus was born according to ancient prophecy. God's timing is perfect as He carries out His will. Galatians 4:4-5 reads, "But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons." (NIV)

God's promises are true and find their "amen" in Jesus. Throughout the Old Testament God inspired His prophets to write down many promises of a Savior. The faithful people of God believed His promises and were saved by that faith even though they had not seen the Savior with their own eyes. They lived before Christmas and we live after Christmas. We also have not seen Jesus with our own eyes and yet, by the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit, we believe that on that first Christmas Christ took on Himself our human form, kept the law perfectly for us, preached the good news of salvation, performed countless miracles and then offered Himself up as the precious Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, ours included!

Christmas is a very joyous occasion as we celebrate our Lord's first coming into the world but we also know that the shadow of the cross already hovered over the manger where the baby Jesus was laid. He was born to die in our place so that the door to heaven will be open to us and all who believe in Him as our only true Lord and Savior.

As Christian stewards we live in the light of the Gospel and freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes. God offered up His best for us and in response we strive to offer our best to Him. During this joyful Christmas season we have many opportunities to show our love for God by showing love to all the neighbors He has placed around us, especially those who have special needs of body, soul and spirit. May God help us to use our gifts of time, talents, skills and financial resources to His glory and the welfare of those around us. May He especially help us to be like the shepherds and spread the good news of salvation in Christ alone!

*Audrey Rolf, Chairman Board of Stewardship
Reprinted from LCMS Stewardship Resources*

Wayne Bacon (Sharon)

Ginny Doesken

Fred Evans

*Wilmer Grundeman

Ginger Manchesian (Rex)

Don & Jane McAdoo

Maynard & Esther Nelsen

Delbert Ruckle

Lorine Thrash

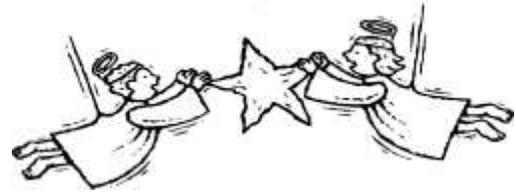
*Perry Sakata

* Lorraine Wiseman

** Live outside of Wichita*



BOARD OF SOCIAL MINISTRY



It's that time of year when thoughts of Christmas and helping others comes to mind. As has been our custom, we will be preparing Christmas boxes for needy families. Each child in the family will be presented with a small gift and personalized, decorated Christmas stocking. We need **donations of "stocking stuffer" items** Some suggestions are: Hot wheel type cars, small cosmetic items, crayons, pencils, markers, coloring books, stickers, hair ornaments, playing cards, McDonald gift certificates, gum, wrapped candy, and so on.



2nd Annual Parent's Day Out

Saturday, December 5, 2009

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Our Senior High Youth will be providing childcare and lunch at the Church while you do your Christmas Shopping.

Cost is \$10 per child.

(Discounts are given for 2 or more children in the same family)

Any Questions??

Contact a member of the Board of Youth

Sponsored by the Board of Youth



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Jesus!

THE ANGEL TREE & FOOD BANNER: is now in place. Praise the Lord!! Thanks to all the gifts we had already received we only have 7 angels left to be adopted. The Angels in need of adoption are on the Food Banner that is on the East wall of the Narthex. If you would like to sponsor a child you will be able to take an angel off of the *FOOD BANNER* (be sure to leave the White Angel on the banner). All the information you will need will be on the back of the Angel you select. A Mitten Box is also available. Angel gifts need to be turned in by Sunday, December 14th. Please take the Food Symbols  off the banner that you would like to donate for our Christmas Baskets. When you bring your food donation, do not put the symbols back on the banner. Place them in the jar below the banner. Sorting begins December 14th and as always volunteers will be greatly appreciated.

WHITE TUBE SOCKS FOR THE HOMELESS: We will be accepting donations of white tube socks that will be filled with "goodies" for the homeless and we will also be needing "goodies" to fill them with. Some suggested "goodies" are: hard candy, small packages of snacks, "Slim Jims", playing cards, etc.



We need the tube socks and "goodies" donated by Sunday, December 7th as we



will be filling the tube socks on Tuesday, December 8th beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Mueller Hall. We can use your help. be filling the tube socks on Tuesday, December 8th beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Mueller Hall. We can use your help. Any Questions? See Bee Cline, Chairman Board of Social Ministry.



Notes from Grace LWML

Romans 6:23b - The greatest gift of all, "But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The month of November is a meeting month for LWML, however, the weather kept us from meeting. When it gets cold and rainy, no one in our group needs or wants to be out and driving in it.

So, much business was left undone. That does not mean we are not doing.

We thank Marge Haefner and Shirley Matz for doing Nov. Communion service.

We continue to pray for a Pastor, one who is filled with the Holy Spirit and really cares for his flock. We know we will be asked to do many things, and we are willing and ready.

You will find many of us helping the Social Ministry with packing food boxes, wrapping gifts, making scarves, stuffing tube socks for the homeless. **This the time of year Bee and her "bees" need lots of assistance.**

Remember the cookie sale funds will be Thrivent matched and the matched monies will go to the funding of the food baskets and gifts.

We are busy baking cookies for the sale, and we thank each and everyone who has signed up to bake. The LWML could not do it without everyone's help. This is our 23rd year!! Ladies, do you think we will make it to 25??? We also have men helping with this project, whether it be baking, setting up tables, cleaning, frosting the cookies, and supporting us financially and encouraging us.

- ☆ Cookie Sale Dec. 5 - 9 am until they are gone, and we are usually winding down by 11:30.
 - ☆ Wed. Dec. 2 we will be tidying the Mueller Hall.
 - ☆ Thur. Dec. 3 we will help decorate the cut outs. 6:pm and thereafter, come when you can.
 - ☆ Friday Dec.4, someone will be at the church to accept cookies till 6:pm
 - ☆ Sat. Dec. 5 8:AM we will be putting the cookies out, making apple cider and coffee and whatever last minute things need to be done.
- We have advertised in newspapers, on radio and TV Public Announcements. Ladies have put posters around the city. So, come early, the cookies go fast.

Jean has reported the new Communion cloths have arrived. Thank you Jean.

It has been suggested the months we do not meet we have a Bible Study. Anyone interested in leading or attending see Audrey or Marge Haefner.

There will be a Christmas Party for LWML members Monday Dec. 14 - 6:30 PM, please let Audrey know if you plan to attend.

The Quilters will resume quilting Jan.27, 2010.

January meeting is scheduled Jan. 25, 2010.

May the love of Christ be in your hearts as we remember our Savior's coming into the world and what He accomplished for us.

In Christ, Audrey Rolf
God Bless and keep you!
President, LWML





"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

In 1865, a young American preacher named Phillips Brooks spent time in and around the fields of Bethlehem. On Christmas Eve, he attended worship in the Church of the Nativity, located on the site where tradition says Jesus was born.

Brooks was so spiritually touched by the experience that he later wrote a hymn for children to sing on Christmas Eve in his Philadelphia church. Lewis Redner, the church organist and Sunday school superintendent, composed the music for the beloved hymn, "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Today it appears in most denominational hymnals. Brooks, a

giant of a man physically (6' 6" tall), was known throughout America as an eloquent and dominant force in the pulpit.

There is a large statue of the gifted man of God in front of Boston's famous Trinity Church, where Brooks last served. His death in 1893 was a major event in Boston. Upon learning of his passing, a 5-year-old girl exclaimed, "Oh, Mama, how happy the angels will be."

You are invited to the
90th Birthday Party Celebration

For

Lorine Thrash

Open House & Card Shower

Sunday, December 20th

2-4 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church

Mueller Hall

3310 E Pawnee

Questions call: 316-685-5560



"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in it various forms." 1 Peter 4:10



"A Bethlehem A-B-C" Christmas Program

The Christmas Program, "A Family Christmas", will be on Thursday, December 24th during the Christmas Eve Candle-light Service at 7:00 p.m.



CHRISTMAS SACK DONATIONS NEEDED

The Board of Education is asking for donations of apples, oranges, Peanuts (in the shell), candy and Candy Canes to fill the Christmas sacks that will be distributed following the Christmas Program on the December 24th. Please bring your donations to the church office.

Would you consider serving as a hospice volunteer and being a gift to someone in the last months of their life? Faith Home Health and Hospice, LLC is looking for volunteers to serve hospice patients. Often the most important thing volunteers can do is just "be there" for patients to reassure them they are not alone, hold a hand, offer a smile or just listen. If you are interested in being this kind of a blessing to a hospice patient and their family, please call Cathy Jones, Volunteer Coordinator at Faith Home Health and Hospice, 316-618-6800. Cathy Jones will be speaking at the December 2nd Wednesday Bible Class that meets at 9:45 a.m. There is an informational poster in the Narthex.





The Miracle of Christmas

WHAT'S SO AMAZING ABOUT CHRISTMAS?

Consider this: God loved the world so much that he came visiting. God slipped into the world as a helpless baby, without fanfare or heraldry.

Think of it: The baby, born of humble parents, the man a carpenter, the woman still in her teens, scholars say. Jesus was born in a backwater town called Bethlehem, in a stable reeking with animal smells.

It took years before people fully comprehended God's self-revelation. Even John the Baptist, sitting in Herod's prison, sent a message to Jesus asking, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" (Matthew 11:3, NRSV). Jesus then explained that he was working miracles and bringing good news to the poor.

That became even more clear when Peter concluded that Jesus was "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16, NRSV).

What's amazing about Christmas is that it began in a manger. And today more than 2 billion people around the world celebrate Jesus' birth.

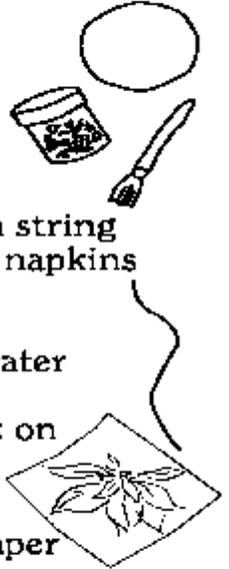
Not Just for Kids

Make Christmas Ornaments

Make Christmas ornaments for your tree or to give as gifts.

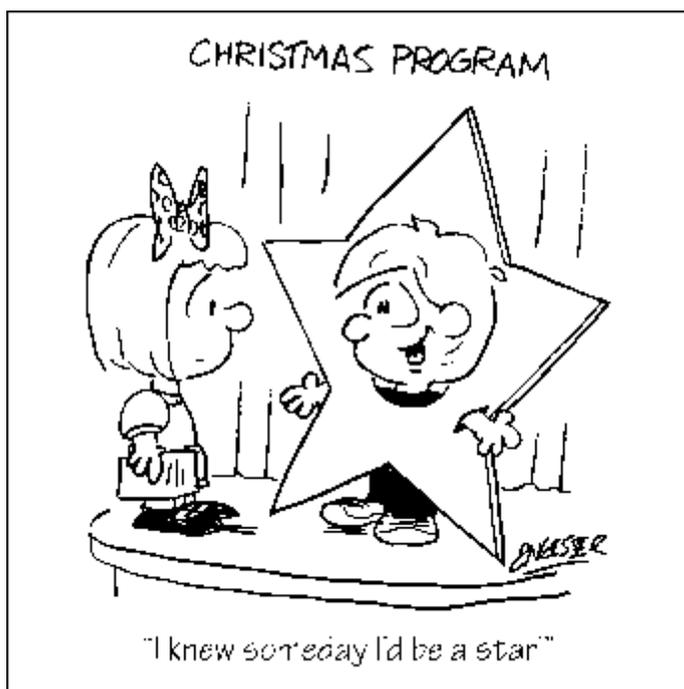
Materials you need:

- ★ a Styrofoam ball
- ★ glitter
- ★ white craft glue
- ★ a small art brush
- ★ fishing line or thin string
- ★ decorative holiday napkins
- ★ scissors
- ★ large paper-clip
- ★ small amount of water
- ★ small paper cup
- ★ newspaper to work on



Directions:

1. Lay out the newspaper to cover your work area.
2. Open a napkin all the way and cut out the design.
3. Put some glue in the paper cup and mix in a few drops of water to thin it. Use the brush to stir.
4. Spread some of the thin glue on one half of the ball.
5. Place the napkin's design (face out) on the glued half of the ball. Press gently to smooth.
6. Carefully brush glue over the picture.
7. Repeat on the other side of the ball.
8. Roll the ball in the glitter.
9. Let dry completely.
10. Use the paper-clip to drill a hole through the ball.
11. Thread the fishing line or string through the hole and tie the ends to make a big loop.



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Wichita, KS 67218

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Office Hours: 8:30 am - 2:30 pm Mon-Fri

Email: graceoffice@glc.kscoxmail.com



December 2009

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

Wichita, Kansas
Permit No. 442



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Saturday: Worship 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

*If you are in need of pastoral assistance,
please contact the church office,
Deacon Hastings or your Elder.*

<u>Your Last Name</u>	<u>Your Elder Is</u>
Adams - Clyborne	Al Matz
Comoro - Gardner	Warren Balke
Garrard - Landers	Jonathan Maltz
Leithoff - Murray	Rocky Kollmeyer
Mwankusye - Slavin	Al Gene Meyer
Smith - Zumalt	Glen Rolf

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 01 - Larry Busch
Terry Fortine
- 02 - Kyle Dillon
- 03 - Esther Nelsen
- 08 - Andrew Fortine
- 09 - Ivan Thomas
- 10 - Lorine Thrash
- 11 - Jaylen Davis
- 14 - Anthony Scheffer
- 17 - Conner Sultz
- 19 - Lorraine Koch
- 21 - Eleanor Evans
- 22 - Alan Bacon III
Kelsey Wellner
- 24 - Rocky Kollmeyer
Goldene Peck
- 25 - Christian Busch
- 26 - Bee Cline
- 27 - Dave Gardner
- 30 - Dean Mefford
- 31 - Adam Unrein



- 13 - Joshua & Ann Terrel Rust
- 23 - Oliver & Virginia Riffel
- 26 - Glen & Audrey Rolf
Jonathan & Crista Switzer



- 07 - E.J. Harber
- 10 - Aaron Tull
- 12 - Evelyn Gardner
Alexander Harber
- 14 - Allison Rust
Ann Terrel
Jason Terrel
- 16 - Pat Newlin
Chrystal Nunnold
Jackquelyn Scott
Melinda Taylor
Rachael Taylor
- 21 - Darral Marquardt
Becky Morse
- 22 - Shirley Matz
- 25 - April Warren



- December 2, 9, 16 Deacon Aaron Hastings
- December 5/6 Rev. Myron Maltz
- December 12/13 Rev. Myron Maltz
- December 19/20 Rev. Myron Maltz
- December 24 Deacon Aaron Hastings
- December 26/27 Rev. Myron Maltz

If we have incorrect information or have missed your special date, please contact the church office so we can update our records.