GRACE NOTES

November 2011 Grace Lutheran Church ELCA

A monthly publication of Grace Lutheran Church, 312 Prospect, Howell, MI 48843 517-546-3350

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE AND POTLUCK

A potluck dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23. Bring a dish to pass and a nonperishable food item for the Foodbank. Sign up on the bulletin board.

The Thanksgiving Eve service will follow at 7:00 p.m.

FALL BACK!

Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 6, at 2:00 a.m. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour and enjoy the extra sleep!

ANNUAL MEETING

This year's annual meeting will take place on Sunday, November 6, after the 11 a.m. service. Please attend.

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER

Please join us for this wonderful project to help the hungry in the world. We have raised over $3200 for this project. Thanks to everyone that has donated money in any of the fundraisers over the past few months. We also want to thank Thrivent Financial for arranging the equipment and logistics of the project, as well as donating money toward the packing costs. What we need now is lots of people to be a part of the assembly of 10,000 vacuum packed meals. We will be doing this project on Saturday, November 5, from 9:00–11:30 a.m. in Grace's Fellowship hall. Come and join us!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, November 26, at 9:00 a.m., to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. Donuts and coffee will be provided. Sign up on the bulletin board.

In This Issue:

What's Going On.....p. 2
Youth & Family Ministries.....p. 3
ELC.....p. 4
From the Pastor.....p. 5
Senior Worship.....p. 5
Council Corner.....p. 6
Health Ministry.....p. 7
Stewardship.....p. 7
Social Ministry.....p. 9
Birthdays & Anniversaries.....p. 11
Servant Schedule.....p. 12
Poinsetta Order Forms.....p. 14
Calendar of Events.....p. 15

THANKOFFERING

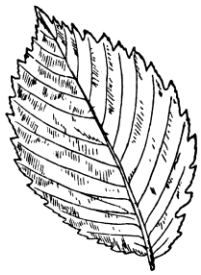
Women of the ELCA
Thankofferings

The Women of the ELCA Thankoffering Ingathering will be Sunday, November 6, at both services. Bring your boxes. Envelopes will be handed out at the door for those who didn't use boxes and desire to make a donation. Thankoffering boxes are a project sponsored by the Women of the ELCA. The intent is to provide funds to various projects for women throughout the world. The boxes are distributed yearly to women of the church with the instructions that when you have a joyful moment of thanks, drop a coin in the box.

WOMEN'S ADVENT TEA

All women are invited to attend the annual Advent Tea on Tuesday, November 29, at 6:30 p.m. We will need eight volunteers to each bring a center piece and 10 volunteers to each bring a dessert. The Fellowship committee will provide tablecloths, dishes and teas. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to attend.

LEAVES OF GRACE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



Our annual stewardship program is entitled "Leaves of Grace." Beginning on October 30, each family will receive a letter from the church with one leaf per family member on which to make their commitment. A barren tree will be placed in the narthex, and we are asking that each person bring back their leaf as a sign of their commitment to the church. God's will is that we do the work of Christ in the world, and as we have been blessed, so we bless others. We are rooted in God; help us to grow and flourish.

WREATH CEREMONY DONATIONS

On November 10, at 7 p.m. at the Howell Carnegie Library—Rick C. Anderson, director of the Great Lakes National Cemetery will be talking on the history, services, eligibility, military honors and ceremonies including the laying of the wreaths that take place at Holly Cemetery. Forms for donating wreaths will be on the bulletin board. For any further information contact Dave and Pat Isom 517-545-3885.

On November 11, at the Livingston County Courthouse in Howell—Veterans Day, a 21 gun salute, flag raising and taps will take place at 11:00 a.m. Ken Stokes will honor veterans with a performance of White Cliffs of Dover. Please take a few moments out of your day to honor those who have fought for our freedom.

YOUTH AND FAMILIES MINISTRIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School

November Schedule
November 6—Phillip & the Ethiopian
November 13—Saul To Paul
November 20—Service Project
November 27—A Ruler From Bethlehem

We are in the planning stages of the Children's Christmas program that will be performed on Sunday, December 18, at both worship services. Look for more information about signing up and rehearsals.

R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Christian Kids)

The Fall Session of the R.O.C.K., after school program for children in Kindergarten through 7th grade, is going well. This program meets on Wednesdays from 4:00–6:00 p.m. Many activities are available each week including crafts, games, music, Bible stories, and dinner. There are three weeks left in November and these are the themes for those weeks:

November 2—Animals
November 9—Wild West
November 16—Thanksgiving

If you don't want to miss any of the fun, come on one of these dates and sign up!

TEEN CLUB (High School teens)

Don't forget to register for The Gathering, an exciting event for all Lutheran High School teens, that will happen Tuesday, December 27 through Friday, December 30. This year The Gathering will be at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing. Many fun activities are included such as Speaker Pastor Reggie Hansom, music by The Spark and Jetty Rae, skillshops, small group Bible studies, and recreation times. If you don't want to miss out on all of this fun, see Coach Cap or Karen Warsop with your $130 registration fee by Tuesday, November 1.

It is the heart that gives; the fingers just let go.
—Nigerian proverb

YOUTH FUNDRAISING

VG's Receipts—We continue to collect VG's receipts with Community Share Points in the green box in the narthex. Remember you need a VG's Yes Rewards Card to get the points. Thanks to the Love Day Ladies that prepare and turn in the receipts. We received a check for $117 in October that went to programming for youth at Grace. That brings a total of about $300 that we have received in 2011. Thanks for your help in getting Grace's teens some extra programming money!

Meijer Rewards—Continue to use your Meijer 1 Card when you shop! If you do not have a card, you can sign-up at the store or on-line, using Grace's code of 772497. Grace periodically gets a check for a percentage of the sales registered on the Meijer 1 Card to be used for youth programming.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

November is here already, but October is far from forgotten for the children at the Early Learning Center.

The two year old playgroup started up with a bang. We have a Thursday evening group and a Friday morning group again this year. The children are having a wonderful time singing, doing art projects, and playing with the different sensory toys. We still have a few openings in our Friday morning class, so if you know someone who would like a great activity for their two year old send them our way.

The three year olds started the month by going to Linda Peckens' home for their Woodland Wonders fieldtrip. Some of the highlights were taking a nature walk, fishing, making mud pies, decorating pumpkins, and playing with the golf ball tunnel! The children are now learning about nocturnal animals. What fun!

The four year old class began the month by completing their unit on the zoo (Fur, Feathers and Fins), then they began their unit on forest animals, leaves and of course Halloween! The 4's class also had a fieldtrip this month, they went to Spicer's Orchard where they picked pumpkins, had doughnuts and went on a hay ride.

The month ended with the annual Halloween show and parade. The children sang Halloween songs and performed Halloween rhymes for the parents. What a fun way to end October!

Michelle Tatara
Administrator

GRACE'S FALL RUMAGE SALE

Thank you to all who donated toward our fall rummage sale. A total of $917.50 was collected. A special thank you to the volunteers who helped set up, worked at the sale, and cleaned up afterward.

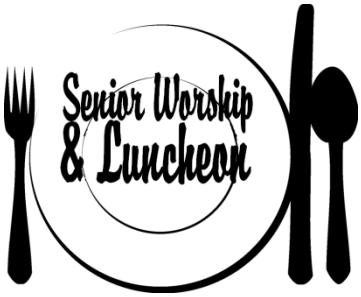
GOD'S LOVE

The city of Howell was doing some digging when they came upon an unmarked grave and inadvertently unearthed some human remains. They contacted MacDonald's funeral home to see if they could assist the city and MacDonald's contacted me to see if I would be willing to officiate at a graveside service. I agreed to perform a committal service and hours later realized that we don't know a thing about this person. We don't know if the remains were male or female, we don't have a name, we don't know if they were ever married or had children etc. I then asked myself this question, what do we know about this person?

We know that they were buried over a hundred and twenty years ago, we know that this individual never heard of an airplane, an automobile, World War I or World War II, we know they never owned a computer, an I-pod, I-phone, or I-pad, and we know this individual never listened to music by Elvis Presley or the Beach Boys. But we also know something else; that God's love for this person was the same yesterday, today and tomorrow into all eternity.

Our world is changing exceedingly fast but one thing remains forever, that God sent His son to die for our sins that we might be forgiven and live forever with our creator. If in a hundred and twenty five years someone were to unearth our remains the world would look much different than today, but God's love changes not. God's love is one thing that we can count on yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Pastor Tom



Welcome all seniors. Service at 11:00. Luncheon to follow.
Wednesday, November 16, 2011.

CROP HUNGER WALK

Grace Lutheran raised $3,227.40 on behalf of the CROP Hunger Walk. Grace's total includes $610 raised on-line, and $300 in matching funds from Thrivent. The walk raised over $14,000. Thank you for your generosity.

COUNCIL CORNER

The Council met on Thursday, October 13.

- The Treasurer reported the "Kids Against Hunger" campaign is right on track to fill 10,000 bags of food. Now all we need are the volunteers to pack them. This will occur on Saturday November 5. Please come and bring the family from 9 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
- The draft of the budget was presented and approved for the Annual meeting on Sunday November 6. Come and help move the work of the congregation along.
- The Early Learning Center is well ahead of capacity from last year. Almost all the classes are full.
- The pastors' report included several funerals for September.
- The Council will meet in a special meeting on Sunday October 23, to review the sound system proposal.
- A proposal for an exhaust fan for the kitchen was approved. Funds to be taken from the Fellowship budget.
- The replacement of the sign for the church is almost complete and looks beautiful. The name Grace Lutheran and crosses will be in wrought iron.

Our next meeting will be the Annual Congregational meeting on November 6. Election of officers will take place.

Yours in Christ,
Barbara Carter, President

Thank you for all your thoughts, prayers and cards during our mother's battle with cancer. It was such a comfort knowing how many people were praying for her and the family during this time. God Bless.

Kevin and Lori Jennings and family

Thank you for hosting our preventive health screening event today! We hope that we saved lines in your community as a result of your hospitality! See you next time!

Your Friends at Life Line Screening, Lansing Team, Gail, Krista, Olesya, Christin, Sierra and Jen

Thanks from all of us!
Your generous donation of stamps has been received and on behalf of the many children and adults that have been helped by your donation I thank you so much. It is caring folks like you that contribute to the success of this program. It is an on going program so please continue to save and send those stamps.

Thanks again, Tubfrim, Sons of Norway, Ray & Mickey Kristiansen

HEALTH MINISTRY

Protect Those Peepers
It's easy to take our eyes for granted. But eyes need attention to keep them healthy. Low vision affects 3.3 million Americans age 40 and up. Here are a few tips to keep your eyes and vision healthy.

1. Have regular eye exams at least every two years and more as you age. The exam should include a test for glaucoma, which is pressure on the optic nerve and if undetected can lead to blindness. Also, dilating the pupil allows a check of the retina to view damage to small blood vessels which may be a result of diabetes. As we age the range of vision may change so an exam should include a test for range and reaction to light.
2. Wear sun glasses which block 100% of UV rays to protect the eye from cancer or cataracts. Get the broad rimmed glasses to protect rays coming into the sides of the eye.
3. Wear safety glasses if working with wood or metal or when playing sports like racquetball.
4. If you are diabetic control your blood sugar to prevent retinal damage to those small blood vessels in the eye.
5. If you wear contacts don't sleep with them in as it increases the chance for infections which damage the cornea.
6. Eat healthy fruits and vegetables like dark green leafy veggies to prevent macular degeneration a disease affecting the retina causing loss of central vision. They also help to prevent cataracts.
7. Quit smoking as it is the primary risk factor in macular degeneration and also causes decrease in tear production leading to dry eye and irritation.
8. If you do a great deal of computer work you don't blink as much as you should causing dry eye, blurry vision and fatigue. Take a break from the computer every hour or two and blink normally to restore the tears to the eye and decrease fatigue.
9. Try not to rub your eyes when tired as it could damage the surface of the eye. Use tear drops to flush the eye.

To your health……

The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.
Proverbs 20:12

Like Sheep Without a Shepherd

Grace Duddy

While working at a Bible camp I learned a song called, "I Just Want To Be A Sheep." I remember exuberantly singing the song and doing the motions with the kids as we sang.

But, while singing it, I wondered, "What does it really mean to be a sheep? If I really knew what it meant would I still want to be one?"

Continued…

Continued from previous page…

In Mark 6:30-44, the feeding of the 5,000, Jesus has compassion on the crowd, "because they were like sheep without a shepherd" (6:34, NRSV).

While many people are tempted to skip straight to the miracle in the feeding of the 5,000 story, the verses right before the miracle offer insights into the theme of this passage, Jesus the Good Shepherd.

The narrative begins with Jesus' invitation to his disciples to come away with him to a deserted place and rest. However, the crowds, seeing Jesus and his disciples leaving in their boat, follow on foot to the other side of the sea. As Jesus arrives on the shore and sees the crowd, he has compassion on them, "because they were like sheep without a shepherd" (6:34, NRSV).

In the following verses, Jesus reveals himself as the Good Shepherd through his provision for and protection of his sheep.

While Jesus literally provides for the needs of the 5,000 present, this story also figuratively reminds its readers of the ways in which God has provided and will continue to provide for God's people.

This miracle recalls God's provision for God's people throughout the Old Testament, specifically God's provision of manna in the wilderness (Ex. 16:14-35).

This miracle anticipates God's provision through Christ at the Last Supper (Mark 14:22-25) as well as God's provision at the great feast to come in God's approaching kingdom.

Similarly, in the story following the feeding of the 5,000, Jesus protects his sheep from predators by calming the wind on the lake. In this passage, we find the disciples straining to oar their boat because of the strong winds and Jesus walks to them on the lake, calming their fears, as well as the wind.

Unlike a hired hand, the Good Shepherd does not flee from danger, but rather comes to his sheep in order to protect them, even at the risk of his own life. The HarperCollins Bible Commentary (2000) titles the section Mark 6:31-56 as "Jesus the Shepherd of Israel." In it, John R. Donahue said, "Jesus is the compassionate shepherd who feeds a pilgrim people, comes to the aid of storm-tossed disciples and extends his ministry to the masses."

As we look at this passage through the lens of stewardship two things stand out. **Stewardship is about God and not about us.** All that we have is God's and has been provided for us by God. God is the one who provides and protects, we are only sheep dependent upon the care of the shepherd. We feed upon the abundance that God has provided for us and rest knowing that God will also protect us.

We see that we serve a God of abundance—God multiplies what we place in God's hands. When placed in the hands of Christ, a little boy's lunch was multiplied to meet the needs of many.

As Halford E. Luccock writes in his exposition on the Gospel of St. Mark in the Interpreter's Bible Vol. VII, "Jesus does multiply above measures ... five loaves and two fishes in human personality and equipment, when placed in his hands and blessed by him, have been enough, again and again, to meet great and deep human needs. He has always given back what was given to him, enlarged and multiplied."

As I think about that old camp song in light of this passage, I realize that being a sheep is not as easy as it seemed. Sheep are dependent animals, reliant upon the provision and protection of their shepherd. Sheep need only to know and trust their shepherd.

Continued…

Continued from previous page…

In a world where independence and self-reliance reign, being a sheep is countercultural—it instead requires that we realize that we are completely dependent on God for all that we have and all that we are. We can only rely on the shepherd, heed his call and trust that no matter the situation he will seek us out in order to provide for us and protect us.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Team Grace……. Grace Filled Walkers!!

Congratulations Grace Filled Walkers! We have raised $2,622 (so far) for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. We had a goal of $2,000 and we have exceeded our goal. Relay for Life raised $55,031.96 for the Fight Against Cancer. There will be one more fund raiser this year. On November 13, from 12:00–4:00 p.m., Grace will be hosting a Holiday Market Square. It is a vendor and craft fair. We will be featuring a chance to meet reindeer owned by Joe and Judy Walsh! Bring your camera.

A very windy, rainy morning in downtown Howell did not stop the 590 walkers supporting the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. Thirty-eight thousand dollars was raised to continue to help save lives and create a world with less breast cancer and more birthday celebrations.

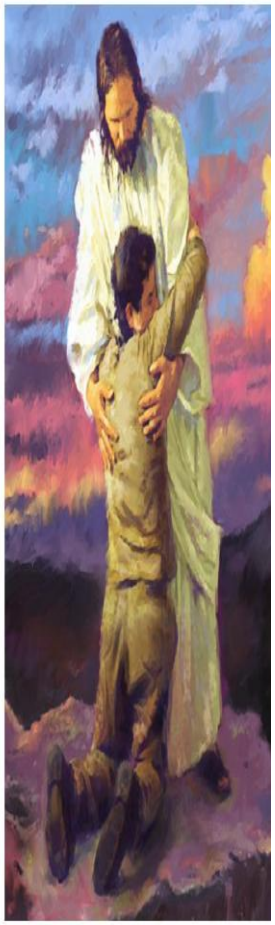
Grace Lutheran has graciously opened it's doors to host meetings for the ACS planning events. Thank you!

As the seasons change we approach the need to turn up the thermostat. OLSHA annually helps the community distribute funds to those in need of assistance to stay warm. OLSHA will have a fun filled event this winter where Grace Filled Walkers will be able to again be visible in the community. Don't put away the walking shoes! More information will follow.

It is the goal of the Social Ministries committee to participate in our community locally, regionally and globally. As a committee we agree that to make a change in the lives around us we need to involve the whole congregation. It begins with our preschoolers! The Sunday School sponsors a child through Compassion International. Take the time to talk about how our support is a fulfillment of Mathew 25:40.

The Social Ministries Committee is excited to be working closely with our youth in upcoming events. Our vision is Team Grace out in the community lead by our youth and supported by our congregation

The King will reply,
'Truly I tell you, whatever



you did for one of the least
of these brothers and sisters
of mine, you did for me.'
Matthew 25:40

The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and he has no one to thank.
—G.K. Chesterton

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®
Let's thrive.®

Tired of juggling multiple retirement accounts?

You've worked hard for your money. You shouldn't have to work hard to manage it.

If, for example, you've changed jobs, started a business or gotten married or divorced, chances are you have more than one retirement account. As a result, you're likely getting multiple statements, managing multiple investments and paying unnecessary fees.

You're not alone. Many people leave the money they've accumulated in their retirement plans just where it is because they aren't sure what their options are.

There's a better way: Simplify your financial future by rolling over your retirement savings into a Thrivent Financial Rollover IRA. A rollover IRA makes it easier to transfer and consolidate assets from several retirement accounts, such as 401(k)s or 403(b)s.

You'll enjoy:

- Tax-deferred growth potential*
- Penalty-free, income tax-free distributions (up to $10,000) before age 59 ½ for major life events such as buying your first home.
- Advice from a financial professional who'll help you with appropriate asset allocation and regular rebalancing of your assets.
- 24-hour access to your account.
- More control over your investments and possibly more investment options.

To learn more about IRAs or how Thrivent Financial can help you achieve your financial goals, contact Michael Miller, Financial Associate, at 734-260-4284 or michael.e.miller@thrivent.com today, or visit Thrivent.com.

*Withdrawals from an IRA prior to age 591/2 may be subject to a 10% early withdrawal penalty tax. Insurance products issued or offered by Thriven Financial for Lutherans, Appleton, WI. Not all products are available in all states. Securities and investment advisory services are offered through Thrivent Investment Management Inc., 625 Fourth Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55415, 800-847-4836, a FINRA and SIPC member and a wholly owned subsidiary of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Thrivent Financial representatives are registered representatives of Thrivent Investment Management Inc. They are also licensed insurance agents of Thrivent Financial.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and its respective associates and employees cannot provide legal, accounting, or tax advice or services. Work with your Thrivent Financial representative, and as appropriate, your attorney and/or tax professional for additional information.

•NOT A DEPOSIT •NOT FDIC INSURED
•NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERMNET AGENCY
•NOT GUARANTEED BY THRIVENT FINANCIAL BANK •MAY LOSE VALUE

For additional important disclosure information, please visit thrivent.com/disclosures.

November Birthdays *and Anniversaries*

2 Bruce Richardson
Patricia Showerman
Dave Hebert
Craig Huff
3 Marjorie Coy
7 Ed Estepp
8 Kristen Capra
10 Randy Showerman
11 Diane Thompson
Michelle Hebert
12 Autumn Wolverton
13 Susan Jones
Caitlyn Pease
14 Lauren Elias
15 Kaylyn Tabaka
16 Lucas Breidinger
17 Shaylynn Edmunson
20 Amy Bell
21 Sharon Childers
Ryan Pease
23 Linda Schick
Michael Capra
Katie Ilahi
26 Kelly Snyder
28 Adam Reicher

Special Birthday wishes to:

Radney Tucker celebrating his 79th birthday on November 6th.
Shirley Burge celebrating her 78th birthday on November 10th.
Max Willmore celebrating his 72nd birthday on November 12th.
Ron Peterson celebrating his 74th birthday on November 21st.
Joan Tewers celebrating her 84th birthday on November 22nd.
Norma Wherley celebrating her 80th birthday on November 26th.

November Anniversaries:

1 Tom & Sharon Huff
23 Jim & JoAnn Merians
Dan & Susan Kaba

Memorial Gifts

MEMORIAL FUND

Royal Bennett
Ken & Kathie Keith
Arlene Beyer
Judy Wright
Frank Campbell
Judy Wright
Kathleen Fournier
Don & Betty Yax
Marjorie Mc Clelland
Ken & Kathie Keith
Robert Geschwender
Judy Wright

Olga Hewett
Ken & Kathie Keith
Judy Wright
Helen Hiser
Dave & Karen Bird
Ken & Kathie Keith
Judy Wright
Raimee Knorr
Judy Wright
Edna Krueger
Judy Wright

Evelyn Parker
Judy Wright
Liz Sawallich
Judy Wright
Lee Smith
Judy Wright
Gladys Wright
Judy Wright
Gabby Lumley's Graduation
Judy Wright

November Servant Schedule

	November 6		November 13		November 20		November 27	
	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00	8:30	11:00
Lay Asst		Deb Evens	Tammy Lane	Dale Salewsky	Trudy Esch		Barb Carter	Karen Warsop
Lay Rdr	Kim Richardson	Sally Chan	Tammy Lane	Dale Salewsky	Trudy Esch	Dean Norton	Barb Carter	
Comm Asst	Judy Hanner & Pat Isom	Mike Capra & Russ Evens	Ken Lane & Ginny Gunning	Jason Scott & Cindy Salewsky	Pat Isom & Earlene Grubaugh	Mike Capra & Beth Baker	Judy Hanner & the O'Briens	Mike Capra & Bill Johnson
Acolytes	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending	Schedule Pending
Ushers	Ken Keith & Bob Clise	Jim Merians & Greg Stiles	Ken Keith & Bob Clise	Jim Merians & Greg Stiles	Ken Keith & Bob Clise	Jim Merians & Greg Stiles	Ken Keith & Bob Clise	Jim Merians & Greg Stiles
Altar Care (Clean Up)	Pat Isom, Joan Hartwick/Al Halliday	Pat Isom, Joan Hartwick/Al Halliday	Earlene Grubaugh, Al Halliday (Cindy Salewsky)	Earlene Grubaugh, Al Halliday (Cindy Salewsky)	Joan Hartwick	Joan Hartwick	Pat Isom	Pat Isom
Greeters	Robert & Judy Clise, Tom & Nancy O'Brien, Darrel & Diane Sterzinger	Jane Thompson	Al & Jane Halliday, Tom & Kathy Trader, Don & Betty Yax	Jeanette Vlahos	Dave & Pat Isom, Keith & Kathy Boyes, Ken & Kathie Keith	Matt & Julie Evens	Bill & Chris Manuel	Gary & Darcy Honaker

Sign up for next month on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please call the church office to sign up to fill empty slots.

The deadline for articles or items for the December Grace Notes is:

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2010

Please be sure to submit any items for the December newsletter prior to this date. You may send submissions to the church office, or email to: grace312@sbcglobal.net

Lutheran World Relief

No items for November or December

Watch this space for future items

Donation basket located in the narthex

WOMEN OF JOY BIBLE STUDY

All women are invited to join us for the Women of Joy Bible study on Monday, November 28, at the home of Michelle Hebert, 409 Conover Ct, Howell. We are studying the Seven Deadly Sins and have had many thought provoking discussions from the material presented.

For an off hours medical or pastoral emergency, please call the Pastors at home at 517-552-1782.

GIVING THANKS FOR ALL THINGS

It's easy to list the blessings in life: good health, family, a satisfying career, a comfortable home. We might even be thankful for things others take for granted such as freedom and clean drinking water, reliable transportation and food enough to eat. Then there are the little things, such as gardens, sunrises, pets and coffee.

But what about life's storms or unanswered prayers? Should we be thankful for these? Loss and hardship remind us of our dependence on God. He uses trials to draw us closer to him, to show us that he is our rock and refuge. In misfortune and grief, we discover God's comfort and strength. Should we not, then, be thankful for the storms, too?

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

—Psalm 103:2-5, NRSV

The psalmist's all-encompassing list is a good example of all the gifts of God we should gratefully acknowledge. Personalize this ancient prayer by pondering your own experiences of God's forgiveness, healing, redemption, love, mercy and satisfaction of your daily needs.

GOD'S PRECIOUS SAINTS

A man mourning the sudden death of his young wife wondered, "Where was God when Jenny died?" Unable to sleep one night, he turned to Scripture and read Psalm 116:3 (NIV): "The anguish of the grave came upon me: I was overcome by trouble and sorrow." The man's anguish echoed the psalmist's.

Reading on, he discovered verse 15: "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints."

"What does it mean by precious?" the man wondered. The footnote proved helpful: "Not in the sense of highly valued, but of that which is carefully watched over." The widower pictured God watching over his wife in her last moments. "That's where God was," the man thought with relief, "with Jenny the whole time."

May we, too, be assured that God truly cares for his saints — not only at death but also in life, through grief and into healing.

Poinsettias for Christmas Eve

I wish to place ___ Red Poinsettia(s) in the church for Christmas Eve.

Or: Make a donation to ELCA World Hunger Appeal
(make check to Grace Lutheran, write ELCA World Hunger on memo line)

Enclosed amount $_____
($11.00 per 6" potted plant)

Circle One: In Memory of In Honor of

_____
(Please Print Name(s))

Circle One: In Memory of In Honor of

_____
(Please Print Name(s))

Given by:

Name: _____ Phone# _____
(Please Print)

Please complete the form and return it to the church office or place in the offering plate, along with a check, by **Sunday, November 27, 2011**.

Poinsettias may be picked up following the last service on December 24, 2011.

November 2011

November 2011

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2011

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Oct 30 - Nov 5	Oct 30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4	5
			9:30am T.O.P.S	4:00pm R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Christian Kids) (Fellowship hall) 5:30pm Praise Team 6:30pm Adult Choir 6:30pm ELC Family Night	6:00pm NAMI meeting (Conference room) 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall)		7:47am Grace Men's Group 9:00am Kid's Against Hunger Event 12:00pm Private Event (Fellowship hall)
Nov 6 - 12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	2:00am Daylight Savings Time Ends 8:30am Trad. Worship 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Annual Congregational meeting 12:00pm Children's Choir re	Product Development Corp (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alanon	Election Day (United States) 9:30am T.O.P.S 10:30am Cancer Support	12:00pm Circle Bible Study 4:00pm R.O.C.K. (Raising O 5:30pm Praise Team 6:00pm The Edge 6:30pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Private Event (Fello	6:00pm NAMI meeting (Conference room) 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall)	Veteran's Day (United State	
Nov 13 - 19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	8:30am Trad. Worship 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Children's Choir reahearsal 12:00pm Holiday Market Square	Product Development Corp (Fellowship Hall) 7:30pm Alanon	9:30am T.O.P.S	11:00am Senior Worship & Luncheon 4:00pm R.O.C.K. (Raising Our Christian Kids) (Fello 5:30pm Praise Team 6:30pm Adult Choir	6:00pm NAMI meeting (Conference room) 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall)	10:00am Gracie's Quilters	5:00pm The Edge Bake Sale Prep
Nov 20 - 26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	8:30am Trad. Worship 8:30am Bake Sale 9:30am Blood Pressure 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Children's Choir re 6:00pm HMA Community T	Product Development Corp (Fellowship Hall) 12:00pm Grace Notes Newsletter deadline 7:30pm Alanon	9:30am T.O.P.S	5:30pm Praise Team 6:00pm Thanksgiving Potluck 6:30pm Adult Choir 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	Thanksgiving Day (United S 7:00pm Family Martial Arts (Fellowship hall)		9:00am Church Decorating
Nov 27 - Dec 3	27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
	8:30am Trad. Worship 11:00am Cont. Worship 12:00pm Children's Choir reahearsal	Product Development Corp (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm Women of Joy (Hebert's) 7:30pm Alanon	9:30am T.O.P.S 6:30pm Women's Advent Tea (Fellowship hall)	5:30pm Praise Team 6:30pm Adult Choir			

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
312 PROSPECT STREET
HOWELL MI 48843

Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. Traditional Service
9:45 a.m. Learning Hour (all ages)
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

Nursery provided all morning.

Grace Lutheran Church Staff

Pastors	Rev. Tom & Rev. Sharon Huff
Early Learning Center Administrator	Michelle Tatara
Office Manager	Lisa Pristas
Youth Director	Mike Capra
Administrative Liaison for Youth	Karen Warsop
Director of Music	Brooke Pierson

Office Phone: (517) 546-3350
e-mail: grace312@sbcglobal.net
Web site: www.gracelutheranhowell.org

Early Learning Center: 545-5640
M-F am & pm preschool sessions for 3 & 4 year olds
2-year olds playgroup on Thursdays & Fridays
In session September through May
For information, please call Michelle Tatara (517-545-5640)