

Grace Notes

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Culver City, California

January 2011

God's promise shines in the night



OUR MISSION

We are a Lutheran family in Christ—open, loving and caring.

- We seek to share God's love through our ministries of service and proclamation.
- We strive to nurture spiritual growth by understanding and teaching God's Word, and by listening and responding to the needs of others.
- We represent Christian witness to the community.
- We desire growth as an inclusive inter-generational family;
- We resolve to support a strong youth ministry.

From the Pastor:

Well... it's the start of 2011... and a brand New Year awaits us!

Have you ever wished that somehow you could predict what tomorrow will bring? Or maybe more importantly, what this New Year will bring?

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have some sort of time machine that could give us a glimpse of what's ahead?

Obviously, none of us has such a device... and expectations about the future are anyone's guess.

**BUT WHAT WE DO KNOW... is that as we walk into this New Year...
WE DO NOT WALK ALONE!**

For the God of all creation and the God of all time... **GOES WITH US!**
Thus we must always remember that we need **NOT** ever be fearful or afraid!

He who is the Great Shepherd is faithful...and He will not forsake His sheep!
Through the power of God's Holy Spirit, we know the Lamb of God will continue to lead, strengthen, and empower the people of God for the journey ahead.

It is my prayer that God's richest blessings be upon you as we together move forward into this New Year of 2011!

On behalf of the staff and their families at Grace Church,

A Blessed and Joyous New Year to you!

Looking forward to this New Year with you...

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Weekly Bible Studies



Tuesdays 7pm Pastor's Bible Study, Book of Romans

Paul's purpose in writing was to proclaim the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ by teaching doctrine to edify and encourage believers. Because he himself was a Roman citizen, Paul had a unique passion for the believers in Rome. This book was life-changing for Martin Luther and may be for you, too! All are welcome to attend.

Wednesdays 10am G.R.O.W. (God Renewing Our Women)

"From Beginning to End: Studies in Revelation" The book of Revelations has both inspired and confused many, but the images of Christ found in it also offer us glimpses into who Jesus is and who we are called to be in response. This is an Augsburg-Fortress 6-week study. Cost is \$9/book. All women are welcome to participate.

Wednesdays 6pm Fellowship Potluck Dinner and 6:45 Worship Service

Take years off — Come in for a faith-lift. 😊

Upcoming . . . Jan 1-15



JAN 2 Start the New Year off right! Services at 9 & 11am.

JAN 5 Service of Healing and Prayer 6:45pm

The first Wednesday of the month is a special service of powerful healing prayer. Give your cares and concerns to the Lord and let our prayer ministers help you receive God's goodness, love and healing.

JAN 6 Epiphany of Our Lord. Celebrate the revealing light of Christ to the world.

JAN 9 Baptism of our Lord. The miracle that occurs at Jesus' baptism is that in humility Jesus comes down to our level to break the barriers between God and us. Renew your baptismal blessings at Grace!



JAN 11 Starting at 11am MY BIG FAT GREEK FUNDRAISER

A fun (and TASTY) way to raise funds!



Daphne's Greek Café at 8516 Culver Blvd (next to the Pacific 12 Theater) will contribute 20% of net sales to the church for everyone who brings in a flyer this day. The food is delicious!

We need at least 25 supporters. . . .If you can come for lunch or dinner, please let us know and be sure to PICK UP A FLYER! Contact the office for an email version you can print out yourself.

JAN 12 eXtra Years of Zest to the Norton Simon Museum

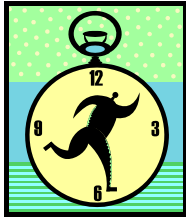
Meet at the church at 10am. See Raphael's Madonna and "Hiroshige: Visions of Japan" 175 prints by Utagawa Hiroshige (1797-1858), one of the most celebrated and prolific artists of his time. Then have luncheon at a cute Pasadena café. Please RSVP to Doris.



Upcoming . . . Jan 16-31

JAN 16 Volunteer Recognition in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

New Member classes begin after the 2nd service on Jan 16, 23 and 30th. A light lunch will be served. New Members will be received Feb 6.



Sunday Traffic Alert: Los Angeles Half Marathon 7am to 11am

The route is along Venice Blvd, from the beach to La Cienega and back. There will be rolling openings as the runners pass specific intersections and detour routes to help people navigate around Venice Blvd. at Pacific Ave., the 405, and La Cienega. If you have questions please contact the Race Director Brennan Lindner at brennan@genericevents.com 310.821.7898 office or 310.570.9501.

Jan 23 Sunday 12:15pm New Member class. A light lunch will be served.

Jan 29 Performing Arts Ministry Concert 7pm



Brighten a long winter evening with consummate musicians Cody Gillette (on organ, piano, keyboard) and Mika Krstic (violin). Maybe if we beg REALLY hard, they'll even play us something from Cody's fabulous new opera of "The Count of Monte Cristo" or his musical "The Princess and the Goblins" (which will premier at Grace Church in the summer!)

Jan 30 Sunday — Saying Good bye to the Danko Family



Celebrate their contribution and ministry as we say farewell to the Danko family. They are moving to a beautiful home in Pennsylvania the first week in February.

The family has been a blessing to Grace since they first started attending over 10 yrs ago. Among her many ministries, Bets has led the youth and children in summer shows, Christmas Pageants, VBS, TAG and Cherub Choir. Her seasonal monologues, Praise Band, Choir, and solos have truly graced Grace. Most of all, her compassion and powerful prayers for people who are hurting have been an inspiration and glowing example of faith in action.

Please join us in acknowledging the Dankos as we wish them God's blessings on the road ahead.

12:15pm New Member class. A light lunch will be served.

Grace Notes Sponsors

Three sponsors are needed on a monthly basis. Sponsorships are \$25 and your dedication of "in honor of" or "in memory of" is noted in the newsletter. Money raised goes to defray the cost of materials and postage. You may sign up in the Narthex.

The January issue of Grace Notes is sponsored by:

Margie Joy

Carol & Norman Auslander

"Happy New Year to the people of Grace!"

Stewardship

Your Resolution Will



How strong is your will to carry out your new year's resolutions? It's always easier to name your new year's resolutions than it is to have the will power to follow through and complete your goals.

Perhaps a more important question is this: was one of your resolutions to set up your will, or trust this year? Probably not, but if you have not completed your will or trust, it is most likely one of those things that nags at you every once in a while in the back of your mind throughout the entire year.

Many people put off completing their will or trust because it seems too complicated, or they may have a complicated family situation that makes certain decisions difficult. Whatever your reason may be, it may be simpler than you think, and there are people and resources to help you through the process.



Fortunately, the ELCA Foundation provides to our Lutheran members free consultation through our Regional Gift Planner, Greg Shepherd. Greg will provide you with a guide book called the "Will and Trust Work Book" that helps you prepare for the completion of your will or for meeting with an estate planning attorney to do a trust. God wants us to be good stewards of our resources and that would include proper planning for those resources upon our death. To get help, contact: Greg Shepherd, at (909)910-6823 or gregory.shepherd@elca.org

Youth Ministry

T.A.G. Club (Thursdays at Grace) starts up January 6 at 3:30pm.

Starting January 20th Kelsey Harrold and Colin Tidwell will be leading the Club starting January 20th, when Bets Danko departs.



Though no one can "replace" Bets, the kids will be in good hands. . . .

Kelsey has been heading the Dance Ministry for the past 11/2 yrs and was the lead choreographer of the P.A.M. camp last summer. Her Dance Ministry will become part of the TAG program, meeting on Thursdays instead of Tuesdays.

Colin was the music director for "The Wind in the Willows" and has had a piano ministry for the children of Grace afterschool since summer.

Colin will also be handling the **Cherub Choir** on Wednesday afternoons. Please support these young people as they seek to share their talent and become mentors and guides.

High school meeting on Sundays at 10:15am in the Fireside Room. Come share your week.



Middle school meeting on Tuesdays at the end of confirmation at 4pm. Discuss what adventures we will be attempting next.

Winter retreats coming up for Middle school & High school

El Camino Pines will host a retreat for high school youth on January 28-30 and middle school youth on February 11-14. And The cost per child will be \$129 with a \$79 subsidy from the youth account, so each person only pays \$50. Please sign up ASAP since these retreats book up quickly!

Ministries and More

“In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you . . .” — Matt. 7:12

<p>Prayer Concerns</p> <p><i>Keep these members and their families in your prayers for health and in the loving care of our Lord.</i></p> <p>Patti & Sean Baker Paula Boelsems Fran Codd Betty Davis Lynn Erickson Marion Firnhaber Jerry Frascella The Goller family Elaine Goodyear George & Bette Gregory Jack Harrier Derrick Hente Pastor Bob Johnson Lorene Jones Babak Kamjou Patti LaBarbera</p>		<p>Brenda Langdon Peggy Ledlie Pauline Lee Wayne Maass Joanie Maines Pastor Gary Marshall Trudi Moore Shirley Nowlin Lois Ostlund Brian & Cherie Parks Pastor Ed Petersen Albert Prabhu Maxine Stenstrom Thomas Tidwell Margaret Zamorano</p> <p>Members in the Military Freddie Wilson Natalie Meyers John Meyers & your <i>Prayer Partner or Compadre</i></p>
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Church Staff & Council	
The Holy Eucharist of Manna, Pastor	
<p>Doris MacGregor, Youth & Family Parish Worker Marina Tidwell, Church Administrator Mary Lou Basaraba, Director of Music Ministries Jim Snodgrass, Handbell Choir Director Kelsey Harold & Colin Tidwell, TAG Club Laura Chapman, Bookkeeper Don Martin, Custodian Jim Harrold, Facilities Manager Wanda Hunter, Nursery Attendant</p>	
<p>Jim Snodgrass Stephen Jahn Marsha Heath Grace Elliott Dolores Johnson Len Lovgren Margaret Lowe Marty Hente Lu Petersen Mary Jane Petersen Ken Smith Colin Tidwell Beverly O'Brien</p>	<p>President & Property/Support Secretary/Fellowship/Education Treasurer Fellowship & Outreach Christian Service Worship & Music Stewardship & Finance Property & Support Property & Support Property & Support Stewardship & Finance Youth/Education Sunday School Superintendent</p>

Remembering our elderly friends

Some Grace members don't get out a whole lot and would love to have visits, cards, phone calls. . .



Oscar Carter, Jack Harrier, Pauline Lee, Trudi Moore, Elaine Goodyear, Lorene Jones, Fran Codd, and Lois Ostlund. Call the office if you need addresses or phone numbers. God bless you for your ministry!

Grace Diner — Monday evenings

Grace Diner is the church's weekly free hot supper to our neighbors in need. We serve about 35 clients and give out an additional 10-15 take-home meals each week. Our "diners" are people like us who just need a helping hand — and it is an honor and pleasure to spend time in this ministry.

We always need and welcome new volunteers. Set-up starts at 3 pm, the Dining room is open 4:30-6pm, and clean up is finished by 6:30pm.

Please speak with Ken Smith, Grace Elliott, Lisa Skelley or Johna Miller to learn more, or contact the church office.



Happy Birthday



Zachary Lyall 01/07	Jane Corey 01/20
Robert Condinus 01/07	Jonell MacGregor 01/21
Brendan O'Brien 01/07	Alek Stenshoel 01/22
Dolores Johnson 01/09	Charlotte Gilbert 01/24
Judith Maass 01/09	Ashok Parikh 01/24
Diana Kirkpatrick 01/13	Cathy Biggs 01/26
Bram Skelley 01/16	Rich Krueger 01/27
Paul Skelley 01/16	Jesse MacGregor 01/27
Brenda Langdon 01/18	Nina Goller 01/29
Katie Priebe 01/18	

January Service Assistants

Sunday, January 2 – 2nd Sunday of Christmas

	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	Tom Hayes	Stephen Jahn
Com. Asst	Carol Hayes	Patti Baker
Lector	MJ Petersen	Diana Kirkpatrick
Cantor	Clare Snodgrass	Clare Snodgrass
Crucifer	Loren Petersen	Patti Baker
Acolyte	Megan Hayes	Robert Condinus
Children's Sermon	Tom Hayes	Tom Hayes
Altar Guild	Barbara Jefferson	Jefferson
Greeters	The Skelleys	Joy & Rooney

Sunday, January 9– Baptism of Our Lord

	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	Betty Davis	Lila Swenson
Com. Asst	Jerry Gottschalk	M Zamorano
Lector	Betty Davis	Keeshawn Andrews
Cantor	Jack Skelley	Sherry Hutson
Crucifer	Jerry Gottschalk	Krista Soderlund
Acolyte	Claire Skelley	Alexis Andrews
Children's Sermon	Brenda Langdon	Brenda Langdon
Altar Guild	The Meyers	Guy/ Jefferson
Greeters	The Danners	Ron & Joan Engen

Sunday, January 16 – 2nd Sunday After Epiphany

	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	John Priebe	Betty Davis
Com. Asst	Joan Engen	Jerry Gottschalk
Lector	John Priebe	Jerry Gottschalk
Cantor	Bets Danko	Stephen Jahn
Crucifer	John Priebe	Leah Wouters
Acolyte	Katie Priebe	Robert Condinus
Children's Sermon	Pastor Jim	Pastor Jim
Altar Guild	Seeman/Jefferson	Jefferson/Ledlie
Greeters	The O'Briens	Erna Guy

Sunday, January 23 – 3rd Sunday After Epiphany

	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	Ron Engen	Lila Swenson
Com. Asst	Joan Engen	Leah Wouters
Lector	Barbara Knipple	Lila Swenson
Cantor	Skelley/F King	Jim Snodgrass
Crucifer	Bruce Welmers	Leah Wouters
Acolyte	Ian Carter	Savannah Ridgely
Children's Sermon	Brad Sick	Brad Sick
Altar Guild	Hayes/Jefferson	Snodgrass/Jefferson
Greeters	Elliott/ Sick	Cathleene Biggs

Sunday, January 30 – 4th Sunday After Epiphany

	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	Marty Hente	Margaret Zamorano
Com. Asst	Elaine Hente	Betty Davis
Lector	Marty Hente	Ray Lanthier
Cantor	Bets Danko	Bets Danko
Crucifer	Jeannie Meyers	Babak Kamjou
Acolyte	Hayden O'Brien	Robert Condinus
Children's Sermon	Doris MacGregor	Doris MacGregor
Altar Guild	Seeman/Jefferson	Soderlund/Jefferson
Greeters	The Engens	tbd

Dear Service Assistants,
Please keep this where you can check it each week. If you are unable to make your assigned time, please remember that you are responsible for finding a replacement and contacting the office with that information. We are so grateful for your help.

January 2011 Grace Notes

 <p><i>Flower of the month: Carnation</i></p>						1 Happy New Year! <i>(No CHIEFs this month due to the holiday)</i>
2 2nd Sunday of Christmas Services 9 & 11am	3 3-6:30pm Grace Diner	4 3-4pm—Confirmation 4-5pm-Dance 6-7pm—Bell Choir 7pm—Pastor's Bible Study, Romans	5 10am-GROW Bible Study, Revelations 2:30-Cherub Choir 6pm-Fellowship Dinner 6:45 Worship Service With healing prayer ministry	6 1pm-Office Angels 3:30-5pm--T.A.G. 7:30pm-Chancel Choir <i>Epiphany of Our Lord Celebrating the revealing of Jesus to all nations.</i>	7	8
9 Baptism of Our Lord Services 9 & 11am Sunday School 10:15	10 3-6:30pm Grace Diner	11 3-4pm—Confirmation 4-5pm-Dance 6-7pm—Bell Choir 7pm—Pastor's Bible Study "My Big Fat Greek Fundraiser" At Daphne's Cafe 11am to 11pm	12 10am-XYZ to Norton Simon Museum 10am-GROW Bible Study, Revelations 2:30-Cherub Choir 3:30-W&M mtg 6pm-Fellowship Dinner 6:45 Worship Service	13 1pm-Office Angels 3:30-5pm--T.A.G. 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	14	15
16 Services 9 & 11am Sunday School 10:15 Volunteer Appreciation Sunday New Member Class 12:15pm in Fireside Rm. A light lunch will be served.	17 <i>Office closed for MLK Day</i> 3-6:30pm Grace Diner	18 3-4pm—Confirmation 4:15 -Stewardship 6-7pm—Bell Choir 7pm—Pastor's Bible Study <i>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity through the 25th</i>	19 10am-GROW Bible Study, Revelations 2:30-Cherub Choir 6pm-Fellowship Dinner 6:45 Worship Service 7:30—COUNCIL	20 1pm-Office Angels 3:30-5pm--T.A.G. 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	21	22
23 Services 9 & 11am Sunday School 10:15 New Member Class 12:15pm	24 3-6:30pm Grace Diner	25 3-4pm—Confirmation 6-7pm—Bell Choir 7pm—Pastor's Bible Study	26 10am-GROW Bible Study, Revelations 2:30-Cherub Choir 6pm-Fellowship Dinner 6:45 Worship Service	27 1pm-Office Angels 3:30-5pm--T.A.G. 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	28	29 7pm P.A.M. Concert Cody Gillette with Mika Krstic on violin
30 Services 9 & 11am Danko Tribute New Member Class 12:15pm	31 3-6:30pm Grace Diner					

Office hours: 9-5pm, Monday through Thursday. Closed Friday and Saturday.

GRACE NOTES
JANUARY 2011
Vol. 41, No. 01

Grace Lutheran Church
Rev. James S. Maines, Pastor

4427 Overland Avenue
Culver City, CA 90230-4118

graceculver@sbcglobal.net
www.GraceCulver.org

Phone: 310-559-1027
Fax: 310-559-9269
Youth: 310-841-5066

Worship Services
Sundays at 9 & 11 a.m.
Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.

*Check out our new format! The
older version cost us 61cents to
mail. This one is 44cents.*

Is it ever too early to be thinking about summer and summer camps for kids?
Nahhhhhh. . . . Here's the schedule for those of you who like to plan ahead:



*Registration begins
February 15*

Week 1. June 20-24. 9am to 1pm
Beach Camp and Youth Helper training (Middle School & up)

Week 2. June 27 to July 1. 9am to 1pm
Vacation Bible School (All ages)

Week 3. July 5-8. 9am to 11am
Fairytale Theatre (Ages 4 to 8)

Week 4. July 11-15. 9am to 1pm
Art Camp/TBA

Week 5. July 18-22. 9am to 1pm.
Science Camp (Ages 8 & up)

Week 6. July 25-29. 9am to 1pm
Art Camp/TBA

Weeks 7 and 8. August 1– August 12. 9am to 1pm
Performing Arts Camp Musical "The Velveteen Rabbit"
(Ages 8 & up)

Early Bird Specials
Feb 15—May 1,
2011

Ask about our
scholarship program
— parent volunteers
receive an add'l
discount.

