

Grace Notes

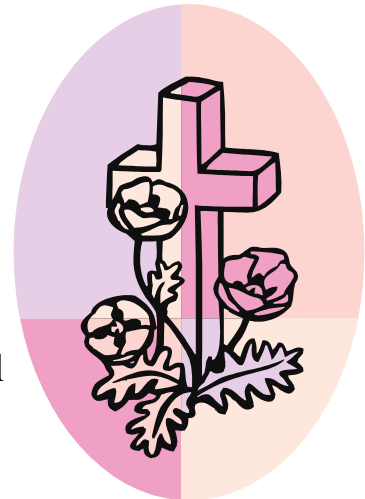
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Culver City, California

APRIL 2012

A Note from our Pastor . . .

Dear Friends,

We are about to enter the holiest of weeks in the church year, and emotions run high! One moment we are up, with the shouting of our hosannas on Palm Sunday, followed by the despair of the dark and dismal Good Friday. What's a Child of God to do?



We can't just come on Palm Sunday and hear the hosannas and then show up for Easter Sunday amidst the shouts of alleluias. We miss the crucial message of our Lord's greatest gift of all, the willing surrender of his life—of his crucifixion and death. I believe that it's not until we fully understand and enter into our Lord's death that we fully grasp the importance of his gift of life!

Please join us this Holy Week, starting April 1st, as together we hear the whole message of our Journey to the Cross and beyond! Don't forget our Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. on April 5th and our Good Friday Tenebrae Service, also at 7:00 p.m., on April 6th.

And I hope that amid the bustle of the upcoming Easter week, you find time for fellowship and volunteerism — the all-church clean up and decorating for the holy days, helping meet and greet our many visitors on Palm Sunday and Easter, even a Luau on April 15th. We are truly blessed with a busy and active church!

May you be especially blessed this glorious Easter season, and may the same power that blasted our Lord Jesus out of that dark tomb of death so raise and empower the people of God! I pray it be so!

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Christian Education

Tuesday Night Bible Study with Pastor Jim at 7pm

Tuesday Night Young Women's Group at 7:30pm— Study and sharing for young women (20ish to 40ish). Please contact Michelle Moreno for more info: (818) 294-0289 or junglecruisebarbie@gmail.com

Wednesday, at 10am "God Renewing Our Women" (GROW) Bible Study with Pastor Ellen. All women welcome!



SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE—Email for a registration form: GraceCulver@sbcglobal.net

Early Bird Special Available until May 15

July 2-6—Mini-Musical Theater, Age 4 to 8 (10am-12pm). \$30

July 2-6—Camp ROCK! Age 4 to 8 (1pm to 3pm). \$30

July 9-13 —Science Camp, Age 8 and up. \$60

July 16-20—Native American Art Camp, Age 6 and up. \$60

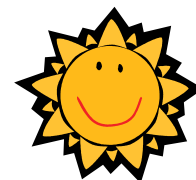
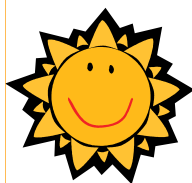
July 23-27—Beach & Bible Camp, Age 11 and up. \$60

July 30-Aug 3—Vacation Bible School, Age 4 and up. \$60

Aug 6-17—Musical Theater Camp, "Annie, Jr," Age 9 & up. \$120 . Performances August 17, 18, 19, 25 & 26.

Aug 20-24 —**pARTy Camp**, Age 8 and up. \$60

Aftercare from 1-5pm is also available, \$60/wk.



COMING UP in June . . YARD SALE June 1 & 2

**Needed: Useful items in good condition,
and people to price and help set up the sale.
Please contact Lisa Skelley at 310-559-1027 if you can help.**

Did you know?

1. The Yard Sale raises money for the Youth and helps those in our community who are in need of very low cost clothing, shoes, and household items.
2. There is NO cost to the congregation for any Youth programs. Our youth rely on these sales alone for ALL their activities, supplies, and materials.
3. The Youth tithe 10% of the sale to the General Fund.

Please help support Grace kids, the church, and the community by volunteering.

Grace Notes Sponsorships are \$25 to help the church defray the cost of materials and postage. Please sign up in the Narthex. The April issue of Grace Notes is sponsored by:

***The Swenson Family in gratitude for Christ's Resurrection
And The Tidwell family in honor of Grace Church***

April at Grace

March 31—All Church Clean up and decorate for Palm Sunday, April 1st. Many hands make light work! Please deliver baked goods for the Sale that morning, and if you can help set up, so much the better — thanks! Please call Lisa to volunteer.

Spring Break Camp for students until April 5th. Please contact Lisa to sign up your youth or child.

Holy Week and Easter

April 1 Palm Sunday services at 9 & 11am
Palm Sunday Bake Sale (bakers & buyers needed!)
And check out the Raffle tickets for a May 2012 Golden State Pops "John Williams in Concert."

April 4 Maundy Thursday service at 7pm

April 5 Good Friday Service at 7pm

April 7 Set up and decorate for Easter

Pew decorations

Easter lily display

Calla Lily cross

Easter brunch set up

April 8 Easter Sunday, services at 9 & 11am

Brunch between services

Easter egg hunt

Pictures with "the Bunny"

Raffle tickets for Pops concert

April 15th—Luau Party between services. Why? I believe the correct question is. . . Why not?! Wear a Hawaiian shirt or tropical wear. We'll have a Men's Hula contest, wear leis, feast on kabobs, and announce the winners of the Pops Concert tickets.



April 19th—XYZ field trip — Call Lisa for details: 310/559-1027



Blood Drive on April 22nd.

The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be here. If you can donate, please drink plenty of fluids beforehand, and roll up your sleeve! Thanks so much!

April Birthdays

Claire Skelley 04/03

Claudia Van de Ven 04/05

Carol Hoebink 04/06

Monti Leeka 04/09

Jack Skelley 04/10

Kevin Kawamoto 04/11

Len Lovgren 04/12

Bernice Mathison 04/14

Gertrude Moore 04/15

Freddie Wilson 04/15

Martin Hente 04/16

Barbara Jefferson 04/16

Lena Johnson 04/17

Carly Priebe 04/19

Frank Keister 04/19

Amanda Gripp 04/20

James Harrold 04/25

Margaret Lowe 04/25

Raymier Simon 04/27

Kaiya Weeks 04/27



WHAT'S COMING UP

♥ **May 5th — Dinner/Dance in the Parish Hall.** Elegant Mexican theme,

soft lights and beautiful music! Couples \$25, Singles \$12.50. Tickets available April 15.

♥ **May 20th at 10am. Celebrate Pastor Jim's 15th year at Grace and 35th year of Ministry. Bishop Hansen will preach.** The service will be followed by a luncheon. You may sign up starting April 22 to bring an Italian entrée to share.

♥ **El Camino Pines Memorial Day Camp Out**
www.lrcchome.com/programs/memorial_day_family_camp.php

This year we welcome Pastor Stephanie Jaeger of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Santa Monica as our speaker. We will take a "time out" of our regular busy lives as laborers, volunteers, parents, grandparents and practice centering our lives in God. Sessions will include "Centering in God in Prayer," "Centering in God in Creation," "Centering in God in Scripture," and "Centering in God in Service." Please get your reservation in soon. Space fills up quickly.

"Buck-a-Chick" Sale continues through Palm Sunday. For only one dollar you can purchase and decorate a paper chick. For each \$1 donation, the ELCA will provide a chicken to a family experiencing hunger. The chicks become a source of eggs, food and income for families living in poverty. We will hang your colorful chicks in a prominent spot and announce the fundraising total on Easter Sunday. Bless you for caring and sharing!

It's catch-up time again!

The budget of the church is in need of contributions, and sooner, rather later, so we need to compare our pledged giving to our actual giving and make any upward adjustments necessary.

We're in income tax time, and if you're the lucky recipient of a refund, you might use this "found money" as a source of an additional offering.



Haven't made a pledge this year? Then please make a personal commitment to adhere to an amount every week (or every month, whatever suits you). **Better yet:** sign up for Simply Giving which will automatically channel money—in the amount and at the time you choose—directly to Grace. This way you can give consistently, even when you're away.

The financial needs of the church continue throughout the year, so we can't rely on the big attendance days alone (Easter and Christmas) to provide for these obligations.

For all we derive from our faith nourishment at Grace Church, we mustn't overlook our responsibility to support the nuts and bolts need in a dollar and cents way. Thanks for your help!

The IRS as Your Beneficiary

Whether you like it or not, the IRS is most likely a beneficiary of part of your estate. If your spouse has already passed away and you should die with assets consisting of an IRA, 401k, or an annuity that has grown in value, the IRS is part beneficiary in the way of taxes that are due on these assets. Gifting these assets to your church through your estate plan makes more sense than a bequest of other non-taxable assets. For a personal review of your gifting plan, please contact our congregation's gift planning specialist, Greg Shepherd at: (909) 910-6823 or gregory.shepherd@elca.org

ATTN: Young Adults

- ♥ **Tuesday Night Young Women's Group at 7:30pm.** Bible study for young women.
- ♥ **YOUNG ADULTS GROUP**
Age 20-30s. Monthly service projects, fellowship, & food. Junglecruisebarbie@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

Confirmation class--TUESDAY 3:15pm

6th to 8th grade kids explore their faith in this lively class of education, fun and fellowship.



March 26-April 5. Spring Break for Culver City students. Please contact Lisa to sign your youth or child up for Spring Break Camp — Mon-Th 9am to 1pm.

Cherub Choir—Wed. at 2:30



Ages 4-7 learn traditional children's songs for praise and worship in this fun class with Colin Tidwell.

Thursdays at Grace, 3:15pm

4th grade through high-school perform contemporary praise music in small groups or solos

for church services.

Friday Night Kick Back, Dinner, Bible Study and Awesome Instruments Group

All youth ages Middle School to freshman college are invited. The evening begins at 6:30pm. Contact Michelle Moreno for info:

junglecruisebarbie@gmail.com

April Service Assistants

If you are unable to make your assigned time, please find a replacement and contact the office with the information. Thanks!

APRIL 1—Palm Sunday		
9:00 a.m.		11:00 a.m. *
Asst Minister	Tom Hayes	Katie Parks
Com. Asst	Carol Hayes	Patti Baker
Lector	B Knipple	Katie Parks
Cantor	Sherry Hutson	Sherry Hutson
Crucifer	Patrick Hayes	Patti Baker
Acolyte	Megan Hayes	Katie Garner
Kid's Sermon	Tom Hayes	Patty Millett
Altar Guild	Timm/ Moreno	Ginny MacInnis
Greeters	Skelley Family	Joy & Rooney

MAUNDY THUR		GOOD FRIDAY
7PM		7PM
Asst Minister	M Zamorano	n/a
Com. Asst	Marina Tidwell	n/a
Lector	Marty Hente	Marty Hente
Crucifer	Marina Tidwell	n/a
Acolyte	Claire Skelley	Sarah Moss
Altar Guild	Jeannie Meyers	Jeannie Meyers
Greeters	Tidwell	Tidwell

April 8—Easter Sunday		
9:00 a.m.*		11:00 a.m.*
Asst Minister	M Zamorano	Paul Lindquist
Com. Asst	Betty Davis	M Zamorano
Lector	Nancy Watson	K. Andrew
Cantor	Clare Snodgrass	Claire Skelley
Crucifer	Jerry Gottschalk	Alexis Andrew
Acolyte	Brendan O'Brien	April Andrew
Kid's Sermon	Pastor Jim	Pastor Jim
Altar Guild	Zamorano/Tidwell	Guy/Silver
Greeters	The Engens	M Schneider

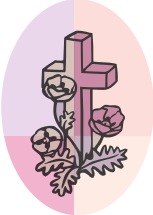
April 15—2nd Sunday of Easter		
9:00 a.m.		11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	John Priebe	Betty Davis
Com. Asst	M Zamorano	Jerry Gottschalk
Lector	John Priebe	MJ Petersen
Cantor	Michelle Moreno	Michelle Moreno
Crucifer	TBD	Jeannie Meyers
Acolyte	Katie Priebe	TBD
Kid's Sermon	Pastor Jim	Pastor Jim
Altar Guild	B. Jefferson	Ginny MacInnis
Greeters	The O'Briens	Erna Guy

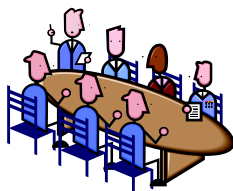
April 22—3rd Sunday of Easter		
9:00 a.m.*		11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	Lila Swenson	Elizabeth Moss
Com. Asst	Betty Davis	Sarah Moss
Lector	Lila Swenson	Jerry Gottschalk
Cantor	David Stamford	Jim Snodgrass
Crucifer	Patty Baker	Sarah Moss
Acolyte	Finn Swenson	TBD
Kid's Sermon	Brad Sick	Brad Sick
Altar Guild	M Zamorano	Pam Snodgrass
Greeters	Elliott & Sick	Tidwell

April 29—4th Sunday of Easter		
9:00 a.m.		11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	Ron Engen	Jason Silver
Com. Asst	Michelle Moreno	Leah Wouters
Lector	Cathleene Biggs	Paul Lindquist
Cantor	Tara Alexander	Tara Alexander
Crucifer	Jeannie Meyers	Leah Wouters
Acolyte	TBD	TBD
Kid's Sermon	Michelle Moreno	Michelle Moreno
Altar Guild	M Zamorano	Tidwell
Greeters	Robert Tidwell	Robert Tidwell

Blessings on those who serve in God's house!

April Calendar

<p>1 PALM SUNDAY Services 9 & 11am</p> 	<p>2 4:30-6pm Grace Diner Spring Break Camp, M-Th 9am to 1pm</p>	<p>3 5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>4 No service or supper this evening</p>	<p>5 1pm-Office Angels MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE at 7pm</p>	<p>6 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE at 7pm</p>	<p>7 No CHIEFS this month due to Easter Lily Cross and Easter decorating at 10am</p>
<p>Spring Break Camp thru April 5</p>						
<p>8 EASTER SUNDAY Services 9 & 11am</p> 	<p>9 OFFICE CLOSED 4:30-6pm Grace Diner</p>	<p>10 3:15pm- Confirmation 5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>11 10am—GROW 2:30 Cherub Choir 6pm-Soup Supper 6:45 Holden Evening Service</p>	<p>12 1pm-Office Angels 3:15-5pm TAG</p>	<p>13 6:30-Youth Meeting</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 LUAU SUNDAY Services 9 & 11am</p> 	<p>16 4:30-6pm Grace Diner</p>	<p>17 3:15 Confirmation 4:15-Stewardship 5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>18 10am—GROW 2:30 Cherub Choir 6pm-Soup Supper 6:45 Holden Evening Service</p>	<p>19 10am —XYZ 1pm-Office Angels 3:15-5pm TAG 7:30pm-Chancel</p>	<p>20 6:30-Youth Meeting</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 Services 9 & 11am RED CROSS Blood Mobile  American Red Cross</p>	<p>23 4:30-6pm Grace Diner</p>	<p>24 3:15 Confirmation 5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>25 10am—GROW 2:30 Cherub Choir 6pm-Soup Supper 6:45 Holden Evening Service</p>	<p>26 1pm-Office Angels 3:15-5pm TAG 7:30pm-Chancel</p>	<p>27 6:30-Youth Meeting</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 Services 9 & 11am</p>	<p>30 4:30-6pm Grace Diner</p>					



Council Notes

Council meetings are on the 4th Wednesday of every month. Next meeting is April 25 at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

Look for informative skits and booths from church committees in the coming months.

If you have any questions or concerns about the running of the church, please feel free to contact the office or any council member. >>>>>

GRACE COUNCIL & STAFF

The Rev. James S. Maines, Pastor

Marina Tidwell, Church Administrator

Lisa Skelley, Youth & Family Director

Michelle Moreno, Youth Leader

Mary Lou Basaraba, Director of Music Ministries

Jim Snodgrass, Handbell Choir Director

Colin Tidwell, Children's Music Leader

Beverly O'Brien, Sunday School Superintendent

Jim Harrold, Facilities Manager

Wanda Hunter, Nursery Attendant

Don Martin, Custodian

Laura Chapman, Bookkeeper

Marty Hente, **Council President**

MJ Petersen, **Vice President**

Ken Leung, **Recording Secretary**

Marsha Heath, **Treasurer**

Dolores Johnson, Nancy Watson—**Christian Service**

Johna Miller—**Education**

Robert Tidwell, Katie Parks—**Fellowship & Outreach**

MJ Petersen, Marty Hente—**Property & Support**

Marsha Heath—**Stewardship & Finance**

MJ Petersen—**Worship & Music**

Leah Wouters—**TBD**

Patrick Hayes—**Youth**

Margaret Lowe—**Council Liaison, Synod and ELCA**

To Our Prayer Ministers. . . . A Message from Margie Joy

In November I discovered that I had uterine cancer — a very scary revelation and dreaded word to hear about yourself. February brought a rigorous chemotherapy schedule. I am in the middle of this journey. With your kind words, prayers, loving hugs, cards and best wishes, this “Why did this happen to me?” thing has been made easier. Thank you for all your positive thoughts, support and most importantly your love..

*Sincerely,
Margie*

Prayers

Please keep these members and their families in your prayers for health and the loving care of our Lord.

Patti & Sean Baker

Paula Boelsems

Fran Codd

Sarah & Isaac Danner

Betty Davis

Lynn Erickson

Marion Firnhaber

Goller family

Elaine Goodyear

The Gottschalks

Bette Gregory

Stephen Jahn

Lorene Jones

Marjorie Joy

Patti LaBarbera

Brenda Langdon

ILeung

Trudi Moore

Shirley Nowlin

Brian & Cherie Parks

Albert Prabhu

Cathie Seeman

Maxine Stenstrom

Bryna Walden

Military

Freddie Wilson

Natalie Meyers

John Meyers

Sean Sloan

And . . .

Your Prayer Partner

God bless you in your prayer ministry!

GRACE NOTES

MARCH 2012

Vol. 42, No. 4

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.

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 intergenerational family;
- We resolve to support a strong youth ministry.



**Celebrate
Easter at Grace**

Christ is risen . . . He is Risen indeed!

Worship the Risen Lord , April 8th
Services at 9 and 11am
*Choirs, Horns, Bells, Pipe Organ,
& Praise Band*

Between Services

- *Easter Brunch in the garden*
- *Easter Egg Hunt for the little ones*
 - *Photos with the Bunny*

GRACE CHURCH
4427 Overland Avenue. Culver City
(310)559-1027
www.GraceCulver.org