

Grace Notes

Grace Lutheran Church

May 2010

Come Holy Spirit

Pentecost, May 23

One service May 30—10am



Pentecost

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Pastor's Page

Dear Friends:

Spring has sprung! Everywhere I look I see nature exploding in full bloom...and it is wonderful! I guess that old saying, "April showers bring May flowers" carries much truth!

As we move into May, we also approach another of the great truths of the Church...that marvelous festival known as **PENTECOST**; a time when the church exploded into "full bloom" as God's Holy Spirit was poured into the hearts and lives of the people of that day. The Church was literally "birthed" on that Pentecost Day and has continued to blossom and grow to this day. It remains my vision and hope that we would be that CHURCH... a church that continues to explode with God's renewing and empowering love.

Remember, the Church was never meant to continue apart from the very **POWER SOURCE** that gave it life and vitality!

May we as the very people of God stay firmly rooted and connected to that power source, that our Lord's resurrecting power continue to surge through our hearts and lives so that we, too, would blossom and grow filled with God's empowering love!

It is my prayer that our lives, and the life of the Church, continue to move in ever-increasing ways into the flow of God's current—the very River of God!

Pastor Jim

Upcoming events

Committees Meetings at Grace

The many committees at Grace do a lot of work and organization. If you have the time interest, you are invited to participate with committee work. Most meetings are at church. Please call the office for more information. All are welcome!



- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Tues., May 4, 4:30 p.m. | Education meeting |
| Wed., May 5, 7:30 p.m. | Christian Service at Nancy Watson's house |
| Tues., May 11, 4:15 p.m. | Fellowship & Outreach meeting |
| Wed., May 12, 3:30 p.m. | Worship & Music meeting |
| Tues., May 18, 4:15 p.m. | Stewardship meeting |



SPECIAL WORSHIP EVENTS

- | | |
|---------|---|
| May 9 | Mother's Day |
| May 23 | Pentecost Sunday & TAG Concert |
| May 30 | One Worship Service at 10:00 (Memorial Day Sunday) |
| June 13 | Children's Sunday |
| June 20 | Father's Day, Men's Brunch between services |
| June 27 | Women's Sunday, Women's Tea between services |

CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES

- | | |
|------------|---|
| May 29-31 | El Camino Pines Memorial Day Family Camp-Out—register online at http://www.lrcchome.com |
| July 11-16 | Confirmation Camp at El Camino Pines (\$350) |
| July 18-23 | Backpacking/Canyoneering in Zion National Park (\$425), led by Pastor Glen Egertson from El Camino Pines |
| July 18-23 | El Camino Pines for 1st-7th grades (\$350) |
| July 25-30 | El Camino Pines for 3rd-12th grades (\$350) |

Upcoming Events. . . .

You are invited to Grace Lutheran Church's

May Day Gala

Saturday, May 1, 2010 at 4pm

A Community-wide Benefit for
Grace Church Summer Camps (open to ALL children)

Music Concert

*Light opera, musical theater & nostalgia songs
with BELLA DIVA Cindy Snyder*

Sopranos Bets Danko and Clare Snodgrass

Baritone Ben Lowe

Directed by California Philharmonic

Choral Maestra, Marya Basaraba

Silent Auction & Wine Reception

Thanks to generous gifts from

Culver City business owners:

Gift certificates to La Ballona Restaurant, Victor Jrs.,

The Warehouse and Overland Café

Trader Joe's

Gift Baskets from Mary Kay and Pampered Chef

Wristwatch from Anytime Jewelers

Free Dry-cleaning from Raintree Cleaners

Toyota Sports Center tickets

Deluxe Dodger Game tickets

Fine art, beautiful handcrafted jewelry,

Personal services and MUCH MUCH more!

RSVP 310/559-1027

Marina@GraceCulver.org

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, May 12—eXtra Years of Zest We will meet at 10:00 a.m. to go to the Autry National Center. The special exhibit is "Home Lands: How Women Made the West." This exhibition includes a Georgia O'Keeffe painting as well as exhibiting spirituality in a wooden figurine by Gloria Lopez Cordova.



Wednesday, May 12 FUNDRAISER FOR CULVER PALMS MEALS ON WHEELS

Culver Palms Meals on Wheels is holding a fundraiser at Ugo's Italian Café (corner of Culver & Cardiff in downtown Culver City) on Wednesday, May 12, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. One hundred percent of ticket sales (\$20) go to Culver Palms Meals on Wheels. CPMOW relies on contributions from the local community to support its meal delivery program.



May 13, 7:00 p.m. Ascension Day — Joint Worship Service St. Mary in Palm's Episcopal Church, 3647 Watseka Ave., Los Angeles

Celebrate Ascension Day at a joint worship service with Grace & St. Mary's at St. Mary in Palms Episcopal Church (about 2 1/2 blocks north of Venice). Since parking is limited, consider carpooling with a friend.



May 15 & 16 — Join our Team "GRACE WALKING SAINTS" Culver City High School

Relay For Life is a life-changing event that brings together more than 3.5 million people to:

- ♥ **Celebrate** the lives of those who have battled cancer. The strength of survivors inspires others to continue to fight.
- ♥ **Remember** loved ones lost to the disease.
- ♥ **Fight Back.** We Relay because we have been touched by cancer and desperately want to put an end to the disease.



There's a place for YOU at Relay! To participate, see Elaine between services.

Etc. . .

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

to everyone who helped make this year's Palm Sunday Bake Sale a big success. With your generosity, we made \$683. This year's proceeds will go towards a new high-speed duplicator for the bulletins and newsletters. We had a lot of fun socializing and eating great baked goods!



Marjorie

Joy, Coordinator

Remember our Shut-Ins

The following Grace member are either shut in at home or in a nursing facility. They would love to have visits, cards, etc.

**Jack Harrier, Pauline Lee, Trudi Moore,
Lorene Jones, Fran Codd, and Lois Ostlund**

Please call the office if you need any addresses. Thank you.



Remember our Shut-ins

O POSITIVE BLOOD NEEDED

Our friend Maxine Stenstrom will be undergoing surgery on May 7. She is in need of your prayers **AND** your **O+ blood!**

If you or anyone you know has **O+ blood** and are able to donate blood on Maxine's behalf, she would surely appreciate it. The donation **MUST** be made at Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center, 501 Buena Vista, Burbank, CA 91505.



If you are able to donate for Maxine, please first call the Grace church office for Maxine's Social Security number which is necessary. Then call Saint Joseph's at (800) 469-9555 for an appointment. Tell the staff that you are giving blood on behalf of Carol Stenstrom (Carol is Maxine's first name).
THANK YOU!

Youth Calendar



- ♥ May 8: Meet at church at 7:00 a.m. for a work day at El Camino Pines. Wear old clothes and bring money for breakfast. Lunch is provided.
 - ♥ May 15-16: American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, a 24-hour walk at the Culver City High School track. Youth may spend the night with Doris **ONLY** if they raise at least \$100 for the American Cancer Society and have a signed parent release form!
 - ♥ May 23: Youth meeting at noon and lunch at Souplantation.
 - ♥ May 29-31: Memorial Day Family Retreat at El Camino Pines—register NOW!
 - ♥ June 11-12: Spring Yard Sale/Sleep-over/movie
 - ♥ June 13: Youth meeting at noon with a cookout at church
-

Are you looking for something special for your child to do this summer? We offer educational, fun and interesting summer camps.

Check this out!! Summer Programs 2010

- Musical Theatre Camp:
June 28-July 16, & Performances July 16, 17, 18
- Art Camp: July 19-23 (*subject to change*)
- Science Camp: July 26-30
- Vacation Bible School: Aug 2-6
- Art-a-Texture: Aug. 9-13
- Beach days: Aug 16-20 & Aug 23-27

**Cost: Each camp is 9am-1pm — \$60/week;
Aftercare: 1pm-5pm — \$60/week
Sibling discount \$5/child**



Stewardship

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Cor 9:7

While watching a college baseball game, my young daughter retrieved a foul ball. If it had been a professional game, she would have been allowed to keep the ball, but at this level fans are expected to return baseballs. I wished she could keep it because I thought it would be a big thrill for her. Then I saw how she enjoyed giving it back.

In reality, the young man who collected the ball was just the batboy or equipment manager. But to a six-year-old, he was a “real live ballplayer,” and athlete in uniform. She couldn’t have been more delighted and awestruck if she had been giving the ball back to Babe Ruth himself.

In a similar way we present gifts to God. Just as the baseball wasn’t really my daughter’s. What we give to God isn’t really ours. At our best, we are only being obedient—doing our duty—with the gifts first given to us. As Jesus tells us in the Gospel of Luke, “When you have done everything you were told to do, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty’” (Luke 17:10, NIV). But wouldn’t it be great if we could return our gifts of money and service to God with the same sense of joy and wonder that my daughter had in returning the baseball? It’s not the gift that’s special but the One receiving it.

Prayer: Dear God, help us to give joyfully. Amen.

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Memorial Day Family Camp

May 29-31

A great weekend for all ages! There will be lots of activities with traditional camp favorites and some surprises. Come with your whole family, or come alone and meet some new friends! Children will have their own activities led by the friendly El Camino Pines staff. The retreat begins Saturday, May 29, with registration at 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch at noon. The retreat ends on Monday, May 31, after worship and an early lunch. There are two different housing options: **Cabin** or **Tent/Trailer/RV**. Registration is available online at http://www.lrcchome.com/family_camp.

Residential Camping

Includes shared lodging

in one of our A-frame cabins with bathrooms, shower house facilities on site, five meals and all programming.

COST:

Adults (ages 12 and up) - \$99

Children (ages 4-11) - \$85

Children (ages 0-3) - FREE

Family Maximum - \$325 Campsites

For tents, trailers and RV's.

Includes meals and all programmed activities.

COST:

Adults (ages 12 and up) - \$70

Children (ages 4-11) - \$65

Children (ages 0-3) - FREE

Family Maximum - \$289

ONE SERVICE AT GRACE THAT SUNDAY: 10AM

MUSINGS

PENTECOST IS COMING SOON!

The word “Pentecost” means “fiftieth day.” Those 50 days span seven Sundays after Easter, so Pentecost is the seventh Sunday after Easter (7 weeks times 7 days = 49 days, plus Pentecost Sunday).



For Christians, Pentecost Sunday is a day to celebrate hope, a hope evoked by the knowledge that God through His Holy Spirit is at work among His people. It is a celebration of newness, of recreation, of renewal of purpose, mission, and calling as God’s people. It is a celebration of God’s ongoing work in the world. Yet, it is also a recognition that His work is done through His people as He pours out His presence upon them.

OPPORTUNITIES TO REALLY SERVE (OTRS)

- ♥ Monday mornings join the Ladies at California Hospital making flower arrangements for the gift shop.
- ♥ Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. — small flower arrangements for shut-ins.
- ♥ Monday evenings at Grace Diner—please schedule times with Marina
- ♥ Worship assisting, acolyte, crucifer, usher and altar guild—need volunteers to assist with worship on Sunday mornings. Please speak with Marina about serving.
- ♥ Come be part of the library committee. Again check with Marina
- ♥ Volunteer for the snack force for summer camps. Check with Marina
- ♥ Come be an adult volunteer with VBS or the other summer camps!

We need crucifers and acolytes for the 11:00 services. The Worship & Music committee agreed to use the choir for those positions on the first and third Sundays until the summer, but we’ll need volunteers for June, July and August.

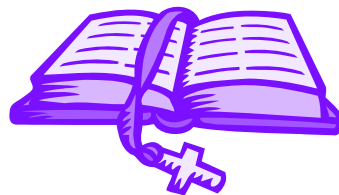


Spiritual Growth

“I, the Lord, will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.” Psalm 32: 8

Wednesday Night Worship service—praise music, homily, fellowship and communion. A much needed, mid-week FAITH LIFT! Come to the potluck at 6pm, too!

Tuesday Night Bible Study: We have begun a study of the book of the Acts of the Apostles on Tuesday evenings at 7:00. Refreshments are always available. Approximately a dozen people attend this bible study every week.



GROW (God Renewing Our Women): Pastor Ellen continues to lead the women’s bible study every Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. We are currently reading through our favorite Psalms.



MUSIC NOTES

Choir: Pentecost is May 23—the choir will be asked to sing at both services, then summer break until September 9.

Summer music—please speak to Mary Lou and plan to spend the morning helping with hymns and cantoring. She’s also asking for participants for Temple Akiba’s high holy days.

Happy Birthday!

5/1	Christine Lyall	5/15	August Berger	5/22	Kelly Lyall
5/3	Wayne Maass	5/15	Barbara Knipple	5/23	Jennie Weaver
5/4	John Meyers	5/15	Lisa Skelley	5/24	Jerry Frascella
5/5	Shawn Lasley	5/15	Marilyn Schneider	5/26	Marion Firnhaber
5/6	Leota Thorne	5/16	Patrick Hayes	5/26	Grace West
5/6	Peggy Ledlie	5/16	Betty Karlberg	5/27	John Maines
5/8	Derrick Hent	5/16	Rodney LaCroix	5/28	Ron Engen
5/8	Loren Petersen	5/16	Crystie Rooney	5/28	Linda Lovgren
5/12	Miriam Stenshoel	5/16	Todd Miller		
5/14	Margaret Zamorano	5/18	Tricia Lowe		

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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.

Prayer Concerns

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

Everett Aspenson
Patti & Sean Baker
Debbie Berger
Paula Boelsems
Oscar Carter
Fran Codd
Betty Davis
Lynn Erickson
Marion Firnhaber
Jerry Frascella
Bette & George Gregory
Goller family
Jack Harrier
Lorene Jones
Babak Kamjou
Patti LaBarbera
Trudi Moore
Shirley Nowlin
Lois Ostlund
Lu Petersen
Imogene Robbins
Maxine Stenstrom

Members in the Military

Natalie Meyers
John Meyers
Derrick Hente
and your
Prayer Partner or Compadre
(Remember them in prayer
and a card or small gift now
and then).