

Grace Notes

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Culver City, California
May 2012

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A Note from our Pastor . . .

We are Easter people! We are a people called to live in the **NOW** thru the power of our resurrected Lord. Not fretting over the past or filled with anxiety and worry about the future... but alive and living in the present!

That is why I loved the following quote I came across many years ago via the internet that some of you may have heard in a recent sermon (and many have asked for a copy):

*I was regretting the past and fearing the future.
Suddenly, God was speaking:
“My name is I AM.”*

*I waited. God continued:
“When you live in the past with its mistakes and
regrets, it is hard. I am not there.
My name is not I WAS.*

*When you live in the future, with its problems and
fears, it is hard. I am not there.
My name is not I WILL BE.*

*When you live in the moment, it is not hard.
I am here. My name is I AM.”*

To live in the moment -- neither regretting the past or fearing the future -- this is my prayer for us as the people of God.

This month has two important dates: Ascension on May 17th and Pentecost on May 27th. I hope you will join us on those dates. Pentecost occurred ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven, when his followers gathered together in Jerusalem. While they were indoors praying, the disciples were suddenly empowered to proclaim the risen Christ. They began preaching with boldness and vigor, and by a miracle of the Holy Spirit they spoke in the native languages of the people in the street.

As we head toward the great Pentecost Day celebration, I pray that you are always turning to God for the power of the Holy Spirit, so that you may fully live and spread the love of Jesus. May we never cease to be God's Easter people!



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

*Mary Cheatham in memory of Jerry Frascella
and
The Swenson family in gratitude for our wonderful Grace family*

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](mailto:GraceCulver@sbcglobal.net)

Early Bird Special Available until May 15



July 2-6—Jesus' Superhero-Sidekicks, 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

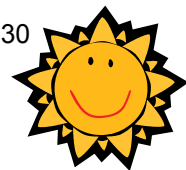
July 23-27—Beach & Bible Camp, Age 11 and up. \$60

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.



May Events



Days for Girls
International

May 3 "Days for Girls" Sewing and assembling sanitary supplies and kits for Pastor Ellen to take to the women of El Salvador on her mission trip this summer. Parish Hall from 7-9pm. Also, donations urgently needed: Quart & gallon-size freezer bags (Ziploc brand only), women's new undies (size 5, 6, 7), new washcloths, travel-size soap, gift cards from Joann Fabrics or Target. More info: Linda at 310/508-8407.

May 5 6:30pm—CHIEFS potluck, Crazy 8's and fellowship. Contact Dolores for info: 323/292-9998

May 6—"HEALTHY" SUNDAY—10:15am Katie Timm, RN, will be back to take your blood pressure and talk to you about any health concerns you may have. **Please check out her "needs" list in the Narthex for items you can donate to our first aid kits.**



May 6 at 12 noon our congregation's Gift Planner, Greg Shepherd, will present "Willing Witnessing Workshop"

Learn how you can bear witness to your faith through your will, and important estate and gift planning strategies such as "wealth replacement" and "give it twice trusts" for preserving assets for your heirs. The workshop will include lunch. Please RSVP to the church office 310/559-1027.

May Events, continued

May 9—Meals on Wheels, 5-7pm at Joxer Daly's

11168 Washington in Culver City.

\$20 for entry, drink, appetizers, music by Moore Street Band, and a chance at the door prize. 100% of the ticket price goes to Culver Palms MoW. Purchase tickets at the door or call 310-559-0666. Bring a friend!



May 17 Ascension Day. Commemorates Jesus taken up into heaven and his followers assured that the Holy Spirit will empower them to witness throughout the earth. Joint Worship Service at St Mary's in Palms at 7pm.

MAY 19 at CCHS—Relay For Life, American

Cancer Society. Celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones, and fight back against the disease. Who has NOT been touched by this disease in some way? Please sign up to support the CERT Team with Marty or Elaine Hente.



May 20th at 10am. Celebrate Pastor Jim's 15th year at Grace and 35th year of Ministry.

Bishop Nelson will preach.

The service will be followed by a luncheon— please sign up to bring an Italian entrée to share. And be sure to RSVP to the office so we'll know how many beverages, salads, desserts, and rolls to provide.



May 27—PENTECOST SUNDAY—ONE SERVICE at 10am

(Memorial Day weekend tradition)

Followed by a "Pentecost Picnic" with a bounce house, hot pepper-eating contest and potluck BBQ. **Please join us for this celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

El Camino Pines Memorial Weekend Camp Out

Take a "time out" of our regular busy lives as laborers, volunteers, parents, grandparents and practice centering our lives in God. SIGN UP asap at: www.lrcchome.com/programs/memorial_day_family_camp.php



WHAT'S COMING UP

!!YARD SALE!!
June 1 & 2

Needed: Useful items in good condition, and people to price and help set up the sale.

Contact Lisa Skelley at 310-559-1027

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

June 5 at 7pm—Dinner at Dinah's

6521 So. Sepulveda Blvd 310-645-0456.

Tired of cooking? Get out of the kitchen! Come and enjoy some good old fashioned fried chicken with all of the fixin's! Pick up a flyer from the church office so that 10% of the proceeds will be given to Grace. All are welcome!!!! SEE YOU THERE!!!!

June 7 in the morning Grace's sidewalks will be a site for CPR and emergency training sessions

for the public held by the CC Fire Dept. You'll learn important emergency healthcare skills (from some of the handsomest men in L.A.!). 😊

June 10—Women's Tea

An elegant, delight repast between services. We'll need hostesses, petit sandwiches, teas, finger foods...



May Birthdays

Christine Lyall 05/01

Kyle Peters 05/02

Wayne Maass 05/03

John Meyers 05/04

Shawn Lasley 05/05

Leota Thorne 05/06

Loren Petersen 05/08

Derrick Hente 05/08

Jennifer Roberts 05/11

Miriam Stenshoel
05/12

Margaret Zamorano

05/14

August Berger 05/15

Marilyn Schneider

05/15

Lisa Skelley 05/15/

Barbara Knipple 05/15

Rodney LaCroix 05/16

Todd Miller 05/16

Crystie Rooney 05/16

Patrick Hayes 05/16

Betty Karlberg 05/16

Patricia Lowe 05/18

Jessica Parr 05/21

Patrick Case 05/22

Grace West 05/26

Marion Firnhaber 05/26

John Maines 05/27

Ron Engen 05/28

Linda Lovgren 05/28

Why I Give . . .

From Cathy Biggs:

#1 reason . . . Because it's in the Bible. God talks about it in the book of Malachi 3:8 "Do not rob God."

2 reason . . . Grace Lutheran is my church!

And out of the mouths of babes . . .

From Paul and Bram Skelley, age 8:

Paul: I give because I think if we don't give-- nothing is going to work out the way you want it to go because you won't feel good. I will feel bad if everyone else gives and I don't.

Bram: I give because I feel good and I want other people to feel good too.

Why do YOU give? Send Marina your thoughts for the next issue of Grace Notes.



Charitable Annuity

A charitable gift annuity is a great way to make a difference in the lives of others as well as your own. Yes, you can have your cake and eat it, too. Give and receive. Create your legacy, provide for the ministries for which you have a passion, and improve your income over current CD rates.

For a gift of \$10,000 or more, you designate one or more ministries of the church to benefit from the remainder of the annuity upon your death. During your lifetime, you receive payments based on your age at the time you make the gift. If you qualify (itemize your income tax deductions) you enjoy the added benefit of a charitable deduction in the year the gift is given. Also, a portion of your gift annuity payment is tax free for a number of years.

For an illustration, call our ELCA congregational gift planner, Greg Shepherd at (909)910-6823, or by email at: gregory.shepherd@elca.org

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—TUES. 3:15pm

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

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. With Colin Tidwell.

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

Group All youth ages 8th grade through freshman college are invited. The evening begins at 6:30pm. Contact Michelle Moreno for info:

junglecruisebarbie@gmail.com

May Service Assistants

MAY 6

	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m. *
Asst Minister	Tom Hayes	Betty Davis
Com. Asst	Carol Hayes	Patti Baker
Lector	C Biggs	Lila Swenson
Cantor	M Moreno	Colin Tidwell
Crucifer	Carol Hayes	Patti Baker
Acolyte	Megan Hayes	Finn Swenson
Kid's Sermon	Tom Hayes	Tom Hayes
Altar Guild	Timm/Moreno	Ginny MacInnis
Greeters	O'Brien Family	Marilyn Schneider

MAY 13

	9:00 a.m.*	11:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	M Zamorano	Paul Lindquist
Com. Asst	Leah Wouters	K Andrew
Lector	J Gottschalk	K Andrew
Cantor	Claire Skelley	B & C Skelley
Crucifer	Katie Garner	Alexis Andrew
Acolyte	Cassie Fay	April Andrew
Kid's Sermon	Patti Millet	Patti Millet
Altar Guild	M Zamorano	Jason Silver
Greeters	The Engens	Joy/Rooney

MAY 20—ONE SERVICE

(Celebration of Pastor Jim's Ministry)

	10:00 a.m.
Asst Minister	Marty Hente
Com. Asst	Elaine Hente
Lector	Marty Hente
Cantor	Clare Snodgrass
Crucifer	Leah Wouters
Acolyte	Katie Garner
Kid's Sermon	Brenda Langdon
Altar Guild	Tidwell
Greeters	M Schneider/Tidwells



MAY 29-ONE SERVICE

PENTECOST SUNDAY

	10:00 a.m.*
Asst Minister	Marina Tidwell
Com. Asst	Betty Davis
Lector	Marina Tidwell
Cantor	TBD
Crucifer	Patty Baker
Acolyte	TBD
Kid's Sermon	Pastor Jim
Altar Guild	Erna Guy
Greeters	Cindy Lundquist

Thanks!

God bless our many volunteers, including those who help with Grace Diner, worship services, Yard Sale, and all who serve our church with their time and talents. In the last month or so, we've been especially blessed by:

- ♥ Buck-a-Chick donors (\$300=300chicks!)
- ♥ Those who donated, cleaned up and/or set up for Holy Week and Easter
 - ♥ Margaret Lowe for new crayons
- ♥ Linda Schumitzky and Maribel Cortes for their help in preparing Easter brunch
- ♥ Patti Baker for teaching the guys how to hula during the Luau
- ♥ Rowen Bilbrey and the P&S committee for their help on the parsonage
 - ♥ Blood donors
 - ♥ Margaret Zamorano in the library
 - ♥ Josh Rayner for help with kids, 'n shelves, 'n stuff

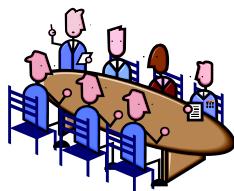
Blessings on those who serve in God's house!

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

May Calendar



		1	2	3	4	5
		5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study	10am—GROW 2:30 Cherub Choir 6pm-Soup Supper 6:45 Worship service	1pm-Office Angels 3:15-5pm TAG 7:30pm-Chancel "Days for Girls" Sewing group starts 7pm Parish Hall	6:30-Youth Meeting	CHIEFS 6:30pm
6 Services 9 & 11am Parish Nurse between services Willing Witness Workshop 12:15pm See p. 2 for details	7 4:30-6pm Grace Diner	8 3:15pm- Confirmation 5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study	9 10am—GROW 2:30 Cherub Choir 6pm-Soup Supper 6:45 Worship service Meals on Wheels Fundraiser 5-7pm See p. 2 for details	10 1pm-Office Angels 3:15-5pm TAG 7:30pm-Chancel	11 6:30-Youth Meeting	12
13 Services 9 & 11am	14 4:30-6pm Grace Diner	15 3:15 Confirmation 4:15-Stewardship 5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study	16 10am—GROW 2:30 Cherub Choir 6pm-Soup Supper 6:45 Worship service	17 1pm-Office Angels 3:15-5pm TAG Ascension of Our Lord 7pm Worship service St Mary in Palms 7:30pm-Chancel	18 6:30-Youth Meeting	19 RELAY for LIFE Support the Hentes and the CERT group. Details on p. 2
20 One service 10am Come celebrate Pastor Jim's 35th year in Ministry at 15th year at Grace! Luncheon at 11:30am 	21 4:30-6pm Grace Diner	22 3:15 Confirmation 5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study	23 10am—GROW 2:30 Cherub Choir 6pm-Soup Supper 6:45 Worship service	24 1pm-Office Angels 3:15-5pm TAG 7:30pm-Chancel	25 6:30-Youth Meeting	26
27 One Service 10am All-Church Pentecost Picnic 	28 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED 4:30-6pm Grace Diner 	29 3:15 Confirmation 5:30pm—Bells 7pm— Bible Study 7:30-Young Women's Bible Study	30 10am—GROW 2:30 Cherub Choir 6pm-Soup Supper 6:45 Worship service SET UP YARD SALE	31 1pm-Office Angels 3:15-5pm TAG 7:30pm-Chancel SET UP YARD SALE	 Church YARDSALE Donors, Shoppers and Volunteers welcome!	



Council Notes

Council meetings are on the 4th Wednesday of every month. Next meeting is May 23 at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

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**

The Power of Giving

Romans 12:13 — "Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

◆ First Aid and Earthquake supplies needed for Grace Church

Donate bandages, antibiotic cream, thermometers, OTC meds, clean blankets, tennis shoes or sneakers, or new socks —see the complete list in the Narthex

Thank you and God bless you!

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

Larry & Doris Green

Stephen Jahn

Ellen Jennrich

Lorene Jones

Marjorie Joy

Patti LaBarbera

Brenda Langdon

ILeung

Lisa McDaniel

Trudi Moore

Ruth Moreno

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

MAY 2012

Vol. 42, No. 5

**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.



You are Invited!

**May 20th at 10am
Pastor Jim's 15th year
at Grace &
35th year of Ministry**

Praise God!

This special service will be followed by a party of Italian food, music, a comedy skit, and lots of fellowship.
You may sign up to bring an Italian entrée to share.
Please be sure to RSVP to the office, 'cuz we need to know how many beverages, salads and rolls to provide.