

# Grace Notes

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Culver City



## 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.



## OCTOBER 2010

*Have faith!*

*[Jesus said] "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." Matthew 13:31-32*

# Reformation



Stewardship

*Consecration*

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# Pastor's Page

*“For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us...”(Romans 12:4-6a)*

The Fall Season is upon us... and with it again comes the challenge to “roll up our sleeves” and dig into the many activities and ministries available before us. Our annual Chili Cook-off, Congregational Meetings, New Member Classes, the Blessing of the Animals, and a Pipe Organ Concert are just a few of the happenings this month. Plus there are so many ways we need your volunteer enthusiasm — Grace Diner, Service Assistants, Altar Guild, committees, Crafters. For those who are ready to delve into their faith life we offer on-going Tuesday night and Wednesday morning study groups . . . And we are always open to suggestions, too, so if you see a need you can fill, please let us know!

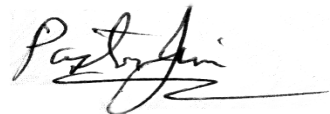
I continue to be thrilled to see so many of God’s people sharing their diverse talents and gifts with the many and varied ministries at Grace Church. It continues to gladden this pastor’s heart to witness such hard work and devotion.

A vital church is one that involves all members, no matter our age or background. Each of you is needed... with your time, talents, gifts, and yes, even finances, so that we can more effectively be the Christ to this community in which we live. Please do NOT ever think that somehow your gifts or ministries are insignificant...or not needed! You truly are important to this congregation... and to this pastor!

As we continue doing ministry together, it is my prayer that God will continue to lift up and empower his people for ministry! And do not ever forget... **YOU ARE THOSE PEOPLE!**

I would ask that you prayerfully consider how the Spirit might lead you in the days ahead... in your learning, growing and serving! We are living in some exciting and challenging times and I can’t think of a better people that I would like to be in this world with, than the People of God at Grace Church in Culver City —trusting God each step of the way!

Serving alongside you...



## 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*



**Pastor’s Tuesday Night Bible Study.** Studying the book of Galatians. All are welcome!

### **Wednesdays at 10am God Renewing Our Women (GROW)**

For the Fall season, we will be exploring *Captivating* by John and Staci Eldredge (\$10.50, study guide optional \$8.00). Just one chapter a week! Come and be captivated by the living God who loves you.

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

## *For Women*

**October 15-17, 2010 Women’s Retreat at El Camino Pines**

Dr. Georgie Rodiger

Theme: *He Maketh Me to Lie Down in Green Pastures*

Please contact the office for more information and the form.



## . . .and Fellowship Opportunities



**Calling all “Crafters” -- and Wanna-be Crafters, too!**

Wednesdays at 11:00am immediately following the GROW meeting. Bring a sack lunch and learn/share crafts in this fun club!

**Chili Cook off**                      **October 17** (please see page 5 for details)

**Concert and Reception**            **October 23** (see page 6 for details)

**Halloween Fun**                      **October 31** (see page 6 for details)

## Ways to help . . .

### Please remember our Shut-Ins

Some Grace members would love to have visits, cards, phone calls. . . **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.



Joanie Maines would be cheered and comforted by cards or emails. She broke her knee cap and is recovering from surgery to wire the thing back together. 12 Hidden Valley Road, Monrovia CA 91016-1601 or [JMaines12345@gmail.com](mailto:JMaines12345@gmail.com).

### Don't know how to help? Short on time and resources?



Let us help you figure it out. Check out our new 2011 TIME AND TALENT SHEET for ideas. Whether you can help periodically or regularly, please know that we are blessed by your presence.

If you can, please bring the T&T sheet along with you to Consecration Sunday (Oct 31). If you haven't received one, please call the office: 310-559-1027.

### NOV 5 & 6 Yard Sale Friday 9-5 and Saturday 9-1

We need the stuff that you no longer need! Please bring it to the back patio at your convenience. If you see a yard sale in the neighborhood let them know that Doris needs their left over stuff for our outstanding yard sale.

We begin pricing this month on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays 10am-noon. If you are available to come help that would be terrific. Please talk with Doris if you have questions. Remember your discards are someone else's treasure. Tax receipts available upon request.

Oct 31 is the last day to receive goods for the sale since the entire first week of November is spent arranging everything. God bless you for your donations and support for a super sale!!!



# Upcoming . . . October 1-6

**OCT 1 Parent's Nite Out 6-9:30pm** In the nursery. Come play games and watch a movie. Call Doris to RSVP 310-559-1027.

**OCT 2 CHIEFS at 6:30pm**

All are welcome to join this potluck and card games fellowship. Call Dolores Johnson for more info: (323)292-9998.

**OCT 3, 10, 24 Catechumens Class offered**

For young adults and older youth to find out more about the tenants of Christianity. Please meet in the Pastor's office at 10:20am. Participants will be received as new members on Oct 31 with the participants of the new member classes (see below).

**OCT 3 Blessing of the Animals at 12:15pm**

Bring your special pet to this service on the lawn in honor of St Francis of Assisi. Please have your dog on a leash and cats and smaller animals in carriers. No wonder people enjoy the opportunity to take their animal companions to church for a special blessing. Church is the place where the bond of creation is celebrated!



**Oct 3 First Communion Class at 1:30pm — part 1**



Pastor Jim and Doris will guide children 3yr and older through the preparation for 1<sup>st</sup> communion. We will spend time explaining the process and sharing about the love of God. Two classes will be held: October 3 at 1:30pm and October 6 at 3:30pm. Please RSVP — 310-559-1027

**OCT 5 Culver Palms Meals on Wheels** will hold their 2nd fundraiser of the year at Truxton's American Bistro Restaurant.

Eat lunch or dinner at Truxton's on the 5th and CP MOW will receive 15%. YOU MUST HAVE A FLYER for CP

MOW to receive the money. Flyers are available from: Doris & Larry Green, Doris MacGregor, Barbara Jefferson, & the CP MOW office (Parish Hall).

**Truxton's—8611 Truxton Ave., LA,  
open 11:00a.m.—10:00 p.m.**

**GOD BLESS YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY!**



*“Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.” Proverbs 11:25*

## Upcoming . . . October 10-20

**OCT 6 First Communion Class at 3:30pm — part 2**



**OCT 10 Que Pasa? 10:15am**



What's happening? In El Salvador, that is! Don't miss the opportunity to hear about Pastor Ellen's latest trip to El Salvador. A short "temple talk" during worship and a 20-minute video and discussion between services. Find out more about the amazing Lutheran ministries around San Salvador, the capital city. See you there!

**OCT 10, 17 and 24 New member classes at 12:15pm**



Find out about the good works of Grace Church and how your talents can find expression through Grace.

Yes, we all love Jesus and now is the time to join faith community! By joining the church you can help us to bless this community every day.



**OCT 13**  
church.

**XYZ to Loyola Marymount Gallery, meet 10am at**

**OCT 17 1st Congregational Meeting—Between Services**



Please make plans to attend! Elect Council members and view the proposed budget. If you are interested in running for Council, or would like to learn more about it, please contact the church office immediately. 6 officers will be elected for 1 or 2 year terms.

**OCT 17 Chili Cook Off at 12:30pm on the front lawn & Fire-side Room**

Perfect time to have a taste sensation that will knock your socks off!

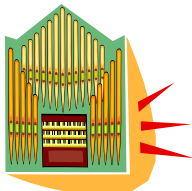
- We need 5-6 excellent cooks to volunteer to make chili
- We need 3-4 great cooks to volunteer to make cornbread
- We need 2-3 fine cooks to make mac & cheese
- We need 8-10 kids small or large to make Jell-o



# Upcoming . . . October 21-31

6

## OCT 23 at 8pm P.A.M. CONCERT featuring John Cannon on the Pipe Organ



Master of Pipe Organ Performance, John has played at York Minister and Wells Cathedral in England and has been awarded scholarships and prizes for his excellence. Come listen to this dynamic player blow the roof off Grace Church! :-) No charge, but your generous donation will benefit the Performing Arts Ministry summer camp.

## OCT 24 Lutheran World Relief

On this Sunday we will host a fund raiser between services to collect money for LWR. It is a wonderful Lutheran agency that works with the following projects that truly make an impact in the world.

- Ensuring productive and profitable agriculture and livestock, Building and strengthening microenterprise, Increasing fair trade and market access, Ensuring a safe and sustainable environment, Expanding community understanding of environmental issues and impact, Ensuring adequate clean water, Combating HIV/AIDS

On October 24<sup>th</sup> we will ALSO host our annual Aebleskiver tasting with an all-new LWR Fair-trade Coffee tasting. We will be rating the best tasting coffee to enter a contest. Aebleskiver available for donations. Fair-trade coffee will be on sale.

## OCT 31 Reformation/Consecration Sunday



Whew, that's a mouthful! On Reformation Day we glorify God for what he accomplished through his servant Martin Luther. We also pray that we will stay faithful to the gospel and joyfully declare it to the world!

One of the ways we can do that is by offering our time, talent and treasure to God through Grace Church — which brings us to Consecration. On this day we will also bring our time & talent sheets and commitment cards to the Altar for consecration. Please prayerfully prepare your commitment and God bless you for your loving spirit!

AND we will also receive Catechumen grads and New Members!

## OCT 31 Halloween Fun to be held between services

- Children may bring costumes to change into after worship.
- We will host a costume parade on the lawn.
- Then children may visit the different classrooms to find treats
- Adults may dress up as well and join the fun in the Parish Hall



*“You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.” Corinthians:9:11-12*

It's that time of year when many bank certificates of deposits mature. If renewal rates leave you looking for other income options, you might want to consider a charitable gift annuity. A charitable gift annuity provides you with a favorable guaranteed annual payment for the rest of your life and your gift continues to give even after death.

When you make a gift, you also name your congregation or other ministries that will receive the remaining portion of your annuity at the end of your life. You have been a good steward all your life, why not be a good steward at the end of your life? You not only enjoy the giving of a gift, but also receive significant financial and tax advantages.

The ultimate satisfaction comes in knowing you are making an important contribution that will help support the ministries of the church for decades to come.

For further information, contact our congregation's gift planner, Greg Shepherd, at (909)910-6823 or by email at [gregory.shepherd@elca.org](mailto:gregory.shepherd@elca.org)

### **Stewardship at Grace Church**

At Grace Church contributions vary from \$1 per week to \$1,000 per week.

In 2009, Median annual giving was \$1,120; Average was \$2,041. Does this mean that the average income for giving units is \$20,000?

Analysis is limited in that it only shows us that we have a diverse congregation in terms of income and giving. Giving must be an individual decision, from the heart, and it will vary with the income and age of the congregation.



Stewardship means we will always need to manage with what God gives us — with his help. Let us thank God for the many blessings of the church and its ministries as we prayerfully consider how much to give in support of the church this coming year.

# Kid News! 😊

8

**Confirmation class** is held every Tuesday 3-4pm in the fireside room. This class is a 3 year class for youth 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade. We have ongoing registration, so please come join the class.



**Catechumen class** for high schoolers and adults that did not complete the confirmation class will be held Oct 3, Oct 10, Oct 24 from 10:15-11am. Please call Doris MacGregor if you are interested.

**OCT 1 Parent's Nite Out** to be held in the nursery 6-9:30pm. Come play games and watch a movie. \$10 donation to Youth fund.

**OCT 8 Knott's Scary Farms meet at 5pm, return at 12am.** Cost for church youth \$24 plus your own food. Cost for friends \$44. Please RSVP by October 1<sup>st</sup> to [Dor4Mac@aol.com](mailto:Dor4Mac@aol.com)

**OCT 10 Youth meeting** at 11am in the fireside room, with refreshments.

**OCT 31 Halloween Fun at Grace 10:15am**

This is also Reformation Sunday which is important in the Lutheran Church since Martin Luther was one of the great reformers of the church. Fun to be held between services.

- Children may bring costumes to change into after worship.
- We will host a costume parade on the lawn.
- Then children may visit the different classrooms to find treats
- Adults may dress up as well and join the fun in the parish hall

**Nov 5 & 6 Yard Sale** Lots of youth needed. We will have a sleepover Friday night with a movie. Please RSVP to Doris

**Nov 11 Mystery trip for high school youth** meet at 10am and bring a change of clothes and swim suit and towel. Lunch provided.

**Nov 19-20** Middle School event in Anaheim includes stay at hotel, program and Disneyland. Cost for youth will be \$50 for church youth only. Please RSVP asap!



## ETC . . .



### Fall Music Concerts at Grace



Choraliers Christmas, Wedn., Dec 8 at 8pm  
T.A.G. Performance coming in December

Future concerts will be held by Opera Plus! and the Oceanaires.

We also hope to present an original musical composed by Cody Gillette based on the children's classic "**The Princess and the Goblins**" in May 2011.

### WALKATHON for Lutheran Social Services on October 24 at 1:30pm.

Meet at the track at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School. The monies raised support services to over 10,000 persons/month with a range of programs helping create long-term solutions to emergency situations. Please contact the office if you would like to be the Grace Church representative at this event.

House-sitter needed for animals — please call the Engen's at (310)398-1063

**How about a trip to the Grand Canyon?** Sometime in the Spring . . . Take a train from Union Station or drive and meet up at the Canyon. The "walk" is done which extends about 40' over the Canyon. More to come after Christmas. If interested please call Joan Engen: (310)398-1063.



### 2010-2011 Entertainment Books Available



You asked for them, we got 'em! The Entertainment books are on sale in the office for \$30/book. If you travel, there are car rental and hotel coupons. If you purchase groceries from Ralph's there are \$30 worth of coupons. Coupons are available for fast food, fine dining and special attractions throughout California. Buy the book, use the book and you will definitely save money.

## 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  
 Paula Boelsems  
 Oscar Carter  
 Fran Codd  
 Betty Davis  
 Lynn Erickson  
 Marion Firnhaber  
 Jerry Frascella  
 Elaine Goodyear  
 Bette & George Gregory  
 Goller family  
 Jack Harrier  
 Lorene Jones  
 Patti LaBarbera  
 Joanie Maines  
 Trudi Moore  
 Shirley Nowlin  
 Lois Ostlund  
 Pastor Ed Petersen  
 Albert Prabhu  
 Maxine Stenstrom  
 Thomas Tidwell  
 Margaret Zamorano

### **Members in the Military**

Natalie Meyers  
 John Meyers  
 & your  
**Prayer Partner  
 or Compadre**

## Church Staff & Council

### **The Rev. James S. Maines, Pastor**

Doris MacGregor, Youth & Family Parish Worker  
 Marina Tidwell, Church Administrator  
 Mary Lou Basaraba, Director of Music Ministries  
 Jim Snodgrass, Handbell Choir Director  
 Bets Danko, Children's Music Director  
 Laura Chapman, Bookkeeper  
 Don Martin, Custodian  
 Jim Harrold, Facilities Manager  
 Wanda Hunter, Nursery Attendant

Jim Snodgrass	President & Property/Support
Marty Hente	Secretary & Property/Support
Marsha Heath	Treasurer
Norman Auslander	Fellowship & Outreach
Cathy Biggs	Fellowship, Christian Service
Margaret Lowe	Stewardship & Finance
Grace Elliott	Fellowship, Education
Dolores Johnson	Christian Service
Lu Petersen	Property & Support
Ken Smith	Stewardship & Finance
Len Lovgren	Worship & Music
Margaret Lowe	Stewardship
Colin Tidwell	Youth
Beverly O'Brien	Sunday School Superintendent

## Happy Birthday



10/01 Agnes McClain	10/18 Finn Swenson
10/02 Marina Tidwell	10/19 Frances Codd
10/03 Eric Seeberger	10/20 Kennedy Simon
10/07 Natalie Meyers	10/21 Nancy Watson
10/10 Cathie Seeman	10/22 Joan Engen
10/10 Lila Swenson	10/25 Joanne Scheduling
10/11 George Audet	10/27 Michael Riban
10/11 Kim Jacobi	10/27 Kent Seeberger
10/12 Robert Tidwell	10/27 Carol Auslander
10/14 Cindy Lundquist	10/28 Elaine Goodyear
10/14 John Ziegler	10/28 Marjorie Joy
10/16 Sara Grimm-Weeks	10/31 Elizabeth Moss

**GRACE NOTES**  
**OCTOBER 2010**  
**Vol. 40, No. 10**

**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.**

# Reformation Sunday

**OCTOBER 31**



On Reformation Day we glorify God for what he accomplished through his servant Martin Luther.

We also pray that we will stay faithful to the gospel and joyfully declare it to the world!