

# Grace Notes

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Culver City, California

April 2011

## Journey to Easter

### Words from our Pastor:

As we continue in our Lenten journey, we are reminded of Holy Week fast approaching, and with it we enter into the passion of our Lord.

It is a difficult time! It is a time in which we are reminded of a “flaky and fickle” people. One day they are shouting their Hosanna’s, the next we hear... “Crucify him, crucify him!”

As our Lord and his disciples gathered for the Last Supper, we are told to remember that in the breaking of the bread and the drinking of the cup, that it is his body broken for us... and his blood shed for us... for the forgiveness of OUR sins.

We see the shadows of darkness encircle his tortured form hanging on a rough wooden cross... and we look away. We cannot bear to see the pain in his face – and our own.

FOR US he was brought into the world...

FOR US he lived and taught and healed...

FOR US he suffered and died.

As I gaze at his crucifixion, I see my death, indeed – but my death DONE. His death is the death of my sinful, ugly self... the self I can’t bear to see. Thank you, Lord!

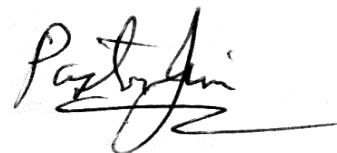
As we struggle to continue these 40 days of Lent with you, O Lord, and as we soon approach the most Holy of Weeks, help us to remember that you have died the death of sin in our stead. You chose to reveal the tremendous truth of your grace and forgiveness by hanging on a cross. You took our sin away so that all who turn to you... *MIGHT LIVE*.

<b>Spirit Matters:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Upcoming Events:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Stewardship:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Youth:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Volunteering:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Service Roster:</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Calendar:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>The Back Page</b>	

Help us, O Lord, to place our lives and our trust FULLY in your hands!

I pray that it might be so. Amen.

Continuing that Lenten Journey with you...



# SPIRIT MATTERS

The first Wednesday of the month includes extended time for meditation and prayers at 6:45pm.



**Tues. 7pm Pastor's Bible Study**—Your favorite psalms. All are welcome.

**Wed. 10am G.R.O.W.** (God Renewing Our Women) — Lenten gospel readings.

## Lenten Wednesdays April 6 & 13

Join us for soup-supper at 6pm followed by the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer Service at 6:45. Let this be a time of meaningful meditation, giving glory to God who sacrificed so much for us.

## Holy Week

**April 17 Palm/Passion Sunday** tells of Jesus' triumphant ride into Jerusalem, then of his arrest and conviction. This is an occasion for reflecting on the final week of Jesus' life, and a time for Christians to prepare their hearts for the agony of His Passion and the joy of His Resurrection.



**April 21 Maundy Thursday Worship** 7pm. Come commemorate Jesus' last supper with his disciples before his arrest in the garden of Gethsemane. This is a powerful service that ends in silence.



**April 22 Good Friday Tenebrae Service** 7pm. Readings, hymns, candle-light, and the tolling of bells help us as we mourn and meditate on the death of our Lord.



If you are unable to attend these services and would like to enter the sanctuary for private mediation, please call the office to schedule a time. Otherwise the sanctuary will be closed until 6pm both days.



# Upcoming Events



**April 5 Desert Hot Springs Trip** — for all ages, young and old. If you have never visited the natural hot springs in the desert, here's a great opportunity!

- There are 6 different tubs of differing temperatures, a large swimming pool and a sauna.
- The cost is \$5/person. For an additional fee have a massage! Bring a sack lunch or eat at the restaurant at the Hot Springs.
- We will leave at 8am and hope to be back between 5-6pm. It is approximately a 2 1/2 hour drive each way, but worth it.
- Please let the office know by April 3<sup>rd</sup> so we can make sure we have enough drivers.

**April 6 Soup Supper at 6pm**  
**Holden Evening Prayer Service 6:45 pm**

**April 9—6:30pm CHIEFS**—Potluck, cards and fellowship! 6:30pm. Please call Dolores Johnson to RSVP: 323-292-9998

## April 13 eXtra Years of Zest

This month we will go to the **Lake Shrine Temple** in the Palisades and then a restaurant in Santa Monica. We will meet at 10am for this hike around a beautiful lake that honors the 5 expressions of faith. Please RSVP to Doris MacGregor: 310-559-1027

**April 13 Soup Supper at 6pm**  
**Holden Evening Prayer Service 6:45 pm**

## April 16 ALL CHURCH CLEAN-UP 8:30-12:30

Jobs include:

- Dusting
- Decorating for Palm Sunday
- Painting the balcony wall
- Gardening
- Kitchen clean up
- Setting up for the bake sale
- Shampooing carpets
- Painting the office hallway
- Cleaning the sign



If you are unable to make the clean-up, but can come during the week, please let us know. We love to accommodate all who are interested in making the church look beautiful!

**Easter Lilies for sale—\$8**, to help decorate the church at Easter. May be designated in memory of or in honor of a loved one. You may take your lily home after the 2nd service or donate it to a shut in. Call the office to purchase.

## Upcoming Events, continued

### April 17 PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE



Please contact Marjorie Joy to volunteer as a baker or a seller. (310)839-6252

Be sure to come stock up on home-made DELICIOUS goodies! Money raised to replace Narthex carpeting.

### April 23 Easter Decorating Party 9am-noon



There is much to make ready for the Easter celebration, this includes:

- Making the calla lily cross
- Putting Easter lilies in church
- Decorating the pews and narthex
- Decorating lawns & rooms

### Or help prepare the Easter Brunch (at 1pm)

We will be making a variety of egg strata's, breakfast rolls and muffins, ham, bacon, sausage, juice, coffee. A new addition this year will be pancakes fresh from the grill Sunday morning! Please let the office know if you are available to help.

### RELAY FOR LIFE May 14 at Culver High

Relay For Life celebrates the lives of those who have battled cancer; remembers loved ones lost to the disease; and fights back against a disease that takes too much. Contact Elaine Hente or cut and paste the link::

[http://relay.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY11CA?fr\\_id=31367&pg=entry](http://relay.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY11CA?fr_id=31367&pg=entry)



### El Camino Pines

<http://www.lrcchome.com/programs/>

**Rubies and Pearls—A retreat for girls and women (ages 12 and up)** Come with your daughter, mom, aunt or grandma! **April 29 - May 1**

**ALL CHURCH CAMPOUT MEMORIAL WEEKEND**

## Highlights from Church Council



- PJ presented a plan on how to use his 6-week sabbatical this summer. He created a timeline for his sabbatical, and discussed several retreat opportunities. The Council approved his plans and will support PJ during his retreat.
- The Council discussed at length the many pros and cons to selling the Franklin Street property. The council ultimately voted not to propose to the congregation that the property be sold at this time.
- Grace had many hospitalized members this month; much prayer, love and concern was sent to those facing health problems.
- The current year's budget is roughly on track, but we encourage members to keep up with their giving.
- Stephen Jahn will begin seminary studies this summer, and the Council voted to support him with a \$400/month stipend.
- The church resumed small "Worship Directory" ads this month in the Culver City News.

### ¿Habla Español? Do you speak Spanish? Would you like to?

Great opportunity to learn or to review and add to your Spanish fluency!!!!

**iHola!  
Hello!**

\$350 per student (includes the books).

At Angelica Lutheran, 1345 S. Burlington, LA 90006

Proposed dates: Mon – Fri, July 11-22 or October 10-21 OR 3 Saturdays, 6 hrs each: July 9, 16, 23 or Oct 8, 15, 22. We need a minimum of 12 persons per session in order to proceed.

**Please let us know your interest by April 30, and get more info:**

Rev. Brian Eklund: <brian@newcityparish.org>  
Rev. Ellen Jennrich: <jennrich@ucla.edu>



## Thank You, Volunteers!

Volunteers have made great advances in fixing up the church property in the past few months: they have installed lights, painted the office and Sacristy, replaced the attic ladder, removed graffiti, fixed the bell rope, cleaned pew cushions, and painted the bellows hatch door. We are very, very grateful for the contributions of time, talent and resources of each member our Grace family!

## The Gift that Keeps On Giving

You have often heard the phrase before, "Give the gift that keeps on giving". When you give a gift to your congregation or a ministry for which you have a passion, the money is usually used immediately and you are delighted to have been helpful.



Would you also like the joy of giving a gift to your church "that keeps on giving"? That is possible through an endowment fund. When you make a gift to our congregation's endowment fund, your gift is pooled with other gifts to be invested, and the earnings are utilized to provide for various mission ministries of the church. Your gift remains invested in perpetuity and "keeps on giving".

For further information on leaving a current gift, or a future gift as part of your estate plan, contact our congregation's gift planner, Greg Shepherd at: (909)910-6823 or [gregory.shepherd@elca.org](mailto:gregory.shepherd@elca.org)

**Please remember to turn in your Endowment Survey**

Your input will help us plan for the future!

## Youth Ministry



### GET INVOLVED!

#### Spring break activities:

- Monday, April 4—9am to go to beach
- Tues, April 5—8am for Desert Hot Springs day
- Wedn, April 6—9am to hang out and then at noon go to the movies
- Thurs, April 7—9am to hang out, then bowling

Bring \$10 for movies & bowling, plus bring a lunch or money for lunch each day  
RSVP to Doris MacGregor/ [Dor4Mac@aol.com](mailto:Dor4Mac@aol.com)

#### Other special activities

**All Church Clean-up April 16, 8:30-12:30**  
(and decorate for Palm Sunday)

**April 17<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday procession of palms**  
Children should meet with Colin Tidwell on the lawn at 8:50am for the 1st service parade, or 10:50am for the 2nd service parade.

Don't forget to bring money for the delicious  
**PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE**

#### April 24<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday

Worship 9am and 11am.

Huge breakfast between services plus Easter egg hunt and photo with the Easter bunny!  
(Please help Doris set up on Saturday! See p. 2)

#### And MORE:

- Confirmation on Tuesdays at 3pm
- TAG on Thursdays 3:30-5pm
- Middle school and teen volunteers needed for



## Grace Church Needs YOU!

I can help with the Church Clean Up (and decorate for Palm Sunday)  
Saturday, April 16 from 8:30am—12:30pm

### Palm Sunday Bake Sale, April 17

I will donate homemade baked goods  
 I will donate plastic wrap, bags, paper plates  
 I will help sell (please indicate time below):  
\_\_\_ 8:30-9am \_\_\_ 10-11am \_\_\_ 11am-12:30pm

Please call Marjorie Joy (310/839-6252) for more info

### Calla Lilies for the Lily cross — Saturday, April 23

I will donate calla lilies and/or lily greenery  
 I will help decorate the lily cross

### “Exit Greeters” Easter Sunday

Help greet and orient our visitors after the church service  
 10:15-10:40am  12:15-12:40pm

Please let the office know if you  
can help: 310/559-1027  
Thanks!



### What's An “Exit Greeter”??

We usually have 250 or so visitors at Easter (over and above our usual attendees!), so having "exit greeters" will ensure that visitors are introduced to the fellowship and warmth of Grace. You would stand outside the church doors at the end of the service and welcome just 1-2 visitor groups or individuals to step over to the lawn for Sunday brunch (after the 9am) or for coffee (after the 11am), introduce them around and stay with them until they get settled or eat brunch with them.

Sound fun? Let us know which service works for you. Thanks for being a part of this ministry!

**Feeding. . . Monday evening**—free hot supper for our neighbors in need. We serve about 35 clients and give out an additional 10-15 take-home meals each week. We always need and welcome new volunteers. Set-up starts at 3pm, the Dining room is open 4:30-6pm, and clean up is finished by 6:30pm. Contact the office for more information: 310-559-1027.



### Praying . . .

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

Patti & Sean Baker  
Mary Lou Basaraba  
Paula Boelsems  
Oscar Carter  
Fran Codd  
Betty Davis  
Lynn Erickson  
Marion Firmhaber  
Jerry Frascella  
The Goller family  
Elaine Goodyear  
The Gregory family  
Jack Harrier  
Pastor Bob Johnson  
Lorene Jones  
Patti LaBarbera  
Brenda Langdon  
Peggy Ledlie  
Pauline Lee  
Ileung

Len & Linda Lovgren  
Wayne Maass  
Pastor Gary Marshall  
Trudi Moore  
Shirley Nowlin  
Lois Ostlund  
Brian & Cherie Parks  
Albert Prabhu  
Cathie Seeman  
Maxine Stenstrom  
Thomas Tidwell  
Margaret Zamorano

### Members in the Military

Freddie Wilson  
Natalie Meyers  
John Meyers  
& your  
Prayer Partner or Compadre

**Many of these dear people  
would really appreciate  
calls or visits. Please  
check the church direc-  
tory or contact the office  
for contact info. Thank  
you SO MUCH for your  
caring ministry!**

### Serving . . .

**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  
Kelsey Harold & Colin Tidwell, TAG Club  
Laura Chapman, Bookkeeper  
Don Martin, Custodian  
Jim Harrold, Facilities Manager  
Wanda Hunter, Nursery Attendant

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

# April Service Assistants

We are so grateful for your help. If you are unable to make your assigned time, please find a replacement and contact the office with the information. Blessings on those who serve in God's house!

<b>Sunday, April 3—4th Sunday in Lent</b>		
9:00 a.m.		11:00 a.m.*
<i>Asst Minister</i>	Marty Hente	Betty Davis
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Elaine Hente	Patti Baker
<i>Lector</i>	Barbara Knipple	Brian & Cherie Parks
<i>Cantor</i>	Emily Reppun	Sean Baker
<i>Crucifer</i>	Katie Timm	Babak Kamjou
<i>Acolyte</i>	Brandon O'Brien	Robert Condinus
<i>Children's Sermon</i>	Ron Engen	Ron Engen
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Barbara Jefferson	ILeung/Jefferson
<i>Greeters</i>	The Skelleys	M. Joy & C. Rooney

<b>Sunday, April 10—5th Sunday in Lent</b>		
9:00 a.m.*		11:00 a.m.
<i>Asst Minister</i>	John Priebe	Katie Timm
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Joan Engen	ILeung
<i>Lector</i>	Cathleene Biggs	Keeshawn Andrew
<i>Cantor</i>	Jack Skelley	Cherie Parks
<i>Crucifer</i>	Patti Baker	Choir member
<i>Acolyte</i>	The Priebe girls	Alexis Andrews
<i>Children's Sermon</i>	Brad Sick	Brad Sick
<i>Altar Guild</i>	The Meyers	Guy/Jefferson
<i>Greeters</i>	Biggs/Elliott	tbd

<b>Sunday, April 17—Palm Sunday</b>		
9:00 a.m.		11:00 a.m.
<i>Asst Minister</i>	Tom Hayes	Lila Swenson
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Carol Hayes	Jerry Gottschalk
<i>Lector</i>	Marina Tidwell	Diana Kirkpatrick
<i>Cantor</i>	Pastor Ellen	Sherry Hutson
<i>Crucifer</i>	Carol Hayes	Babak Kamjou
<i>Acolyte</i>	Ian Carter	Robert Condinus
<i>Children's Sermon</i>	Tom Hayes	Tom Hayes
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Seeman /Jefferson	Barbara Jefferson
<i>Greeters</i>	The Engens	Erna Guy
<i>"Exit" Greeters</i>	Engen, Patti Baker, Tidwells, Stephen Jahn, Petersens	Erna Guy, Tidwells

<b>April 21—Maundy Thursday</b>	
7pm	
<i>Asst Minister</i>	Marina Tidwell
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Patti Baker
<i>Lector</i>	Marina Tidwell
<i>Crucifer</i>	Choir Member
<i>Acolyte</i>	TBD
<i>Altar Guild</i>	M Tidwell

<b>April 22—Good Friday</b>	
7pm	
<i>Lector</i>	Marty Hente
Bells	Elaine Hente
<i>Acolyte</i>	Sarah Moss
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Jeannie Meyers

<b>EASTER SUNDAY — April 24</b>		
9:00 a.m.		11:00 a.m.
<i>Asst Minister</i>	Ron Engen	Katie Parks
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Joan Engen	Leah Wouters
<i>Lector</i>	John Priebe	Marina Tidwell
<i>Cantor</i>	Claire Skelley	Madeleine Krueger
<i>Crucifer</i>	Stephen Jahn	Leah Wouters
<i>Acolyte</i>	The Priebe girls	Savannah Ridgely
<i>Kids' Sermon</i>	Pastor Jim	Pastor Jim
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Hayes/Jefferson	Snodgrass/Jefferson
<i>Greeters</i>	The Danners	Marilyn Schneider
<i>"Exit Greeters"</i>	Stephen Jahn, Tidwells, O'Briens	Marilyn Schneider, Tidwells

*Grace Notes Sponsors Sponsorships are \$25 to defray the cost of materials and postage. Your dedication "in honor of" or "in memory of" is noted in the newsletter. Please sign up in the Narthex.*

**The April issue of Grace Notes  
is sponsored by:  
Elaine Hente in honor of Marty's birthday, 4/16,  
The Keisters in honor of Frank's birthday,  
and  
Ginny MacInnis in honor of wedding anniversaries**

# April birthdays

## Calendar

1

2

Elizabeth Hawkes 04/01

Bernice Mathison 04/14

Carly Priebe 04/19

Claire Skelley 04/03

Gertrude Moore 04/15

Amanda Gripp 04/20

Claudia Van de Ven 04/05

Freddie Wilson 04/15

Margaret Lowe 04/25

Carol Hoebink 04/06

Martin Hente 04/16

James Harrold 04/25

Jack Skelley 04/10

Barbara Jefferson 04/16

Raymier Simon 04/27

Len Lovgren 04/12

Lena Johnson 04/17

Ruth Moreno 04/12

Frank Keister 04/19

3

Services 9 &amp; 11am

4

3-6:30pm  
Grace Diner

5

8am-6pm  
Desert Hot Springs  
Trip5:15-Property Mtg  
6-7pm—Bell Choir  
7pm—Pastor's Bible  
Study

6

10am-GROW Bible  
Study  
2:30-Cherub Choir  
3:30-W&M mtg6pm-Soup Supper  
6:45 Holden Service  
and Prayer/Meditations

7

1pm-Office Angels  
3:30-5pm--T.A.G.  
7:30pm-Chancel Choir

8

9

CHIEFS  
6:30pm

Spring Break for CC Schools

10

Services 9 & 11am  
Sunday School 10:15  
  
11am-Educ. Mtg  
  
12:30—Youth lunch/  
movie

11

3-6:30pm  
Grace Diner

12

3-4pm—Confirmation  
6-7pm—Bell Choir  
7pm—Pastor's Bible  
Study

13

10am XYZ outing-  
Lake Shrine Temple  
10am-GROW Bible  
Study  
2:30-Cherub Choir  
  
6pm-Soup Supper  
6:45 Holden Service

14

1pm-Office Angels  
3:30-5pm--T.A.G.  
7:30pm-Chancel Choir

15

16

ALL CHURCH  
CLEAN UP,  
decorate for  
Palm Sunday,  
and set up for  
Bake Sale  
  
8:30am-12:30

17

Palm/Passion  
Sunday  
Services 9 & 11am  
Sunday School 10:15

18

3-6:30pm  
Grace Diner

19

3-4pm—Confirmation  
6-7pm—Bell Choir  
7pm—Pastor's Bible  
Study

20

10am-GROW Bible  
Study  
2:30-Cherub Choir  
  
No supper or service  
tonight.

21

1pm-Office Angels  
3:30-5pm--T.A.G.7pm  
Maundy Thursday  
Service

22

7pm  
Good Friday  
Service

23

Decorate for  
Easter  
9-noon  
  
Brunch prep  
1pm

24

Easter Sunday  
Services 9 & 11am  
  
10:15 Easter Brunch  
  
10:30 Egg-hunt

25

Office closed.  
  
3-6:30pm  
Grace Diner

26

3-4pm—Confirmation  
4:15—Stewardship  
6-7pm—Bell Choir  
7pm—Pastor's Bible  
Study

27

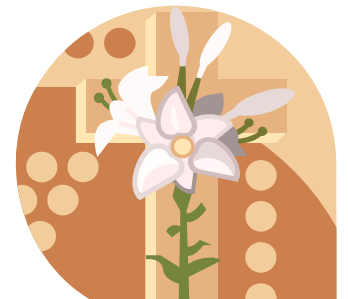
10am-GROW Bible  
Study  
2:30-Cherub Choir  
  
6pm-Fellowship Dinner  
6:45 Worship Service  
  
7:30—COUNCIL

28

1pm-Office Angels  
3:30-5pm--T.A.G.  
7:30pm-Chancel Choir

29

30



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**APRIL 2011**  
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**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.

***Please Join Us for Holy Week***

**April 17 Palm/Passion Sunday 9 & 11am**

Palm processional, special music, and the story of Jesus' Passion.

**April 21 Maundy Thursday Worship 7pm**

Jesus' Last Supper — a powerful service that ends in silence.

**April 22 Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7pm**

Readings, hymns, candlelight, and the tolling of bells.

*If you are unable to attend these services and would like to enter the sanctuary for private meditation, please call the office to schedule a time. Otherwise the sanctuary will be closed until 6pm both days.*

**April 24 Easter Sunday 9 & 11am**

He is Risen! Celebrating the Risen Christ with horns, bells and voices at two glorious worship services.

Easter Brunch between services plus  
Easter egg hunt and photo with the Easter bunny  
for the little ones!

