

Grace Notes

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Culver City, California

July 2011

PASTOR JIM UPDATE



Pastor wants you to know he was very grateful for the warm and gracious Sabbatical send-off on Pentecost Sunday! Unfortunately, the next day didn't start out so well... on the road to his seminar in Colorado, the car broke down in Nevada and had to be towed. John thoroughly enjoyed riding in the tow truck!

The car was repaired after a few days (and costs covered under warranty—whew!). Safely in Colorado, Joanie and John are enjoying the forests and mountains while Pastor Jim attends classes. He will be back to spend some time in a seminar in Santa Barbara and returns to Grace Church on July 26. We will have a special welcome home between services on July 31.

EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP

Pastor Ellen will again be spending a week in El Salvador, visiting and helping out with Lutheran ministries in the capital, San Salvador, and nearby rural areas. It's time to collect donations for her to take along! A suitcase in the Narthex will be ready to receive:

- ◆ School supplies
- ◆ Over-the-counter medicines such as
Ibuprofen, Tylenol
Children's Tylenol
Vitamins
- ◆ Toys
- ◆ Books in Spanish
- ◆ Men's new underwear and socks
- ◆ Gently used clothing for adults and children



And, of course, dollars are always welcome. Please make checks payable to Grace Lutheran, noted El Salvador. Thanks for your wonderful support for this inspirational ministry.

DORIS MACGREGOR . . .retiring?!

We are sad to announce that Doris MacGregor, our devoted and long-time Youth and Family Director, plans to retire in January 2012 in order to spend more time with her husband and family.

She will start cutting back her work hours beginning this Fall. Lisa Skelley has expressed interest in the position and is taking time this summer to learn some of the many components of the job.

Inside this issue	
Spirit Matters:	1
Upcoming Events:	1-2
Stewardship:	3
Youth:	3
Volunteers:	4
Service Roster:	5
Calendar:	6
The Back Page	

At this time, we are not aware of anyone else who may have an interest in the Youth & Family Director position. However, the Personnel Committee will accept and seriously consider other applications received between now and the end of the year (or until the position is filled). Please contact the office for more information.



My Walk with Jesus as a Reiki Practitioner

by Margey Whalen

Many people ask me what Reiki is, and what I do when I perform it. Reiki is the energy of unconditional love and as it flows through me into another we are both healed. The source is the Holy Spirit.

The Reiki Art is not a religion or affiliated with any religious beliefs. It is available to everyone, just as everyone can love and show compassion. However, through Reiki, my relationship with Christ has strengthened.

Before I start a Reiki session I ask that God use my mind, heart and hands as instruments of love and healing. I ask that God's love flow to the client's body where there is need for healing and into those areas of their spiritual and emotional life in need of balance and wholeness. Because I do not know fully where these areas are, I trust that God who lives within them will complete the work. God knows where the healing is ultimately needed!

The results far exceed my own expectations and most days I am awe-struck and deeply thankful since I **know** I didn't do the healing – I was only the human instrument.

Some clients report feeling Jesus' presence and the touch of His hands; others have told me they have felt like they were being held and embraced in love. Many have experienced diminished physical pain, and others explain it as feeling relaxed, calm and peaceful.

Have
Faith
in
GOD

I often look at Reiki energy as similar to what Jesus did. Jesus performed many miracles in his life, and the Bible clearly indicates that he did healing by laying on hands and also indicated that we could do the same. The teachings of Jesus, as well as the example he set are a great inspiration for us.

Jesus Himself told us in Mark 16:18 "....and they will be able to place their hands on the sick and heal them". And in John 14:12 Jesus said "I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works because I go to the Father." How awesome is that?

Margey emcees VBS for Grace Church, and volunteers with other camps. For more information on her Reiki Ministry, visit: <http://www.margeywhalenhealing.com/>



July at Grace

Tuesday Night Bible Study 7pm. All are welcome!

Wed. 6:45pm worship service. Come as you are for a quick faith-lift! Potluck at 6pm.

Wed. G.R.O.W. (God Renewing Our Women) is "on hiatus" until after Rally Day. For the summer you're invited to read *Hind's Feet on High Places*. Copies are available in the office for \$7 - please make checks payable to Ellen Jennrich.

JULY 3 ONE SERVICE —10am.



Bring a pie in **RED, WHITE, or BLUE** for after service fellowship. Ideas: cherry, blueberry, lemon meringue, maybe rhubarb...endless possibilities to celebrate July 4th!!

JULY 4 Office Closed for Independence Day Grace Diner picnic dinner 1-4pm

July 5-8 Fairytale Theater Camp

July 11-15 Lisa Skelley's Art Camp

July 18-22 Art Camp

Led by Linda Lovgren, Sherri Moss, and Miriam Stenshoel.

July 20 COUNCIL Mtg

July 24 Ice Cream Social at 10:15am.

We'll have fun enjoying homemade ice cream and maybe some store-bought, and fruit (so halfway healthy).



July 25-29 Science Camp

Led by Margey Whalen and Marina.

JULY 30 PRAISE BAND CONCERT 5pm & COUNTRY



PRAISE BAND

SUPPER at 6pm

Open to the public — so invite your friends!

\$7 for dinner; free will donation for concert. Come listen to some great Christian music in the peace of the sanctuary. Followed by YUMMY BBQ chicken supper! Please RSVP so we can purchase the right amount of food. 310-559-1027.

July 31 Between services
Don't miss Pastor's welcome home reception!

MORE SABBATICAL STUFF:

July 3	Dr. Rodiger ONE service, 10am
July 10	Marina Tidwell
July 17	Pastor Floyd Lawson
July 24	Stephen Jahn



Pastoral Care volunteers and home-visitors: Ron Engen, Ginny MacInnis, Marty Hente, Stephen Jahn, and MJ Petersen. Pastor Ellen is on-call.

Tuesday Bible Study and Wednesday Night Worship: Marty Hente

Liaison between staff, Council, members:

Stephen Jahn (952)797-4084 or stephenajahn@gmail.com.

Stephen is attending the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley in September. We are grateful for the help of this dedicated and gifted young man!

Please pray for Pastor Jim during his Sabbatical.

And in August . . .

August 12, 13, 14—Performances of the howling courtroom musical comedy "The Big Bad Musical" presented by the Grace Player Kids.



August 21 Fellowship at the Hollywood Bowl!

A summer evening with a picnic under the stars and music from Disney's *Fantasia*. Tickets are \$25/person. We will carpool from the church. Please see Marina for tickets asap.



Aug 26-28 Grace Church at Fiesta La Ballona

The Fiesta celebrates Culver City, the arts, organizations and businesses. It's held at Vets Park at Culver & Overland. We get a food booth to sell popcorn & lemonade for \$1.00 each — and outreach to the community.



The key to success is having lots of volunteers, so we're looking for people for 2 hours shifts on Saturday & Sunday. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex in August.

Council Meeting Notes

- ◆ Pastor Jim began his Sabbatical June 12, and the church has scheduled guest pastors and lay speakers until his return on July 26.
- ◆ Decision about the best interest-bearing account for the **Designated and Memorial funds** was referred to the Stewardship & Finance Committee.



- ◆ **The Endowment Fund** has accrued over \$2000 in interest and discussion was held over how to use the funds to benefit the missions and ministries of Grace. Grace groups may apply for funds soon.
- ◆ **Franklin Street house** has been cleaned and freshly painted using money from P&S committee as well as the Building Fund. The rent was raised to \$2100/month. A new family moves in July 1.
- ◆ **The repair on the baby grand piano** is done! Forty-five strings were replaced, the rest were refurbished, new pegs were put in, and the instrument was cleaned and tuned. The repair was paid for out of the PAM, Choral/Choir and Lautenschlager funds. Our 84 year old piano is now in excellent shape and should last 25 years.



- ◆ **A Madeleine Krueger Scholarship** has been created to assist her with fundraising for her studies at Cal Lutheran University. Cal Lutheran will match funds up to \$5000.
- ◆ **Praise Band Concert** in the church on July 30th at 5pm, followed by a chicken supper at 6pm. Money raised will go to improve the praise band sound system.





DID YOU KNOW....?

It takes \$4928/wk at Grace Church for ministries to children, youth, adults, and the poor and needy; for education, salaries, utilities, taxes, church supplies, insurance, and facilities maintenance!

Your offerings support and bless ministries on the local level through Grace Church — and the poor and needy on the state, national and international level as well, through the ministries of the greater church organization of which we are a part: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).



We are VERY grateful for your generous support. Your prayerful giving makes a difference in countless lives and enables Grace Church to be a beacon of God's love in the community. God bless you!

Please see Marina in the office about "Simply Giving" — an automated offering system that helps our church stay on an even keel financially!

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. *2 Corinthians 9:10*

ENDOWMENT

A Gift to Live In

Perhaps you are considering leaving part of your estate as a gift to the church. If the gift you are thinking about giving to the church, upon your death, is your home, you might want to consider giving it to the church now.

You still get to live in the home, but you are able to take advantage of tax deduction currently. You will be able to carry over any unused portion of the tax deduction up to five years.



For more details about this gift planning strategy, contact our congregation's gift planner, Greg Shepherd at: (909)910-6823 or gregory.shepherd@elca.org

Youth Ministry

Intergenerational Summer Sunday School (ISSS)

Nearly every Sunday during the summer we will have a session of ISSS between services in order to discover a new country each week that has a great Lutheran tradition.

1. We will find out where they are located
2. How many Lutherans are there
3. What they like to eat
4. How are they similar or different that us

Sundays of discovery

June 26	Iceland
July 3	Nordic countries
July 10	Greenland
July 24	Germany
July 31	Estonia
Aug 7	Indonesia
Aug 14	Tanzania
Aug 28	Madagascar



2011 Grace Summer Camps



Space still available in the following camps:

July 11-15 Art Camp Age 6 & up

July 18-22 Art Camp Age 9 & up

Aug 1—14 Musical Theatre Camp Age 8 & up "The Big Bad Musical"—includes public performances! August 12, 13, and 14.

\$60/wk. 9am-1pm. Registration forms are in the Narthex or contact the church office.

Your “STUFF” can help support many ministries!

- ◆ Soda cans & bottles for recycling in the back patio — money raised goes to the Youth fund
- ◆ Magazines and stationery in the Fireside Room— for the Prison ministry
- ◆ Campbell labels in the basket in the narthex—for the American Indian ministry
- ◆ Hotel soaps and lotions put in Doris’s office—for the Homeless ministry
- ◆ Gently used flat shoes put in wheel barrow in a bag—for the Homeless ministry
- ◆ Mayonnaise, peanut butter, jam, and tuna, put in narthex wheel barrow —for the AIDS ministry
- ◆ Coupons for food in a basket in the Fireside room —anyone is welcome to take and use what they need.

And . . . if you have a fruit tree or grow vegetables and have more than you can use, why not bring them on Sunday to put out for people to take? Share your blessings!

God bless you!



Volunteer/s needed

Barbara Jefferson will step down as head of the Altar Guild, September 1. She has done an AMAZING job for many years, but now it’s time for someone else to head up the Guild.

Are YOU being called to head up or to help in this ministry? We could use more than one leader.

Components include:

Monthly scheduling Training new members
Purchasing Altar supplies Overseeing cleaning and repairs

Please contact the office to learn more.

Prayers

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

Patti & Sean Baker
Paula Boelsems
Oscar Carter
Fran Codd
Betty Davis
Lynn Erickson
Marion Firnhaber
Jerry Frascella
The Goller family
Elaine Goodyear
The Gregory family
Jack Harrier
Lorene Jones
Patti LaBarbera
Brenda Langdon
Peggy Ledlie
Pauline Lee
ILeung
Wayne Maass
Trudi Moore

Shirley Nowlin
Lois Ostlund
Brian & Cherie Parks
Albert Prabhu
Maxine Stenstrom
Claudia Van de Ven

Members in the Military

Freddie Wilson
Natalie Meyers
John Meyers
& your Prayer Partner

Expectant mothers

Lila Swenson
Erin Asheghian
Wendy Elgin
Kimberly Elder
Lindsay Thompson

Many of these people would appreciate calls or visits. Please check the church directory or contact the office for information.

Thank you SO MUCH for your caring ministry!

GRACE COUNCIL & STAFF

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

July 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!

Sunday, July 3— ONE SERVICE at 10am	
10 a.m.	
<i>Asst Minister</i>	Stephen Jahn
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Patti Baker
<i>Lector</i>	Barbara Knipple
<i>Cantor</i>	Michele Moreno
<i>Crucifer</i>	Babak Kamjou
<i>Acolyte</i>	Robert Condinus
<i>Kids' Sermon</i>	Brenda Langdon
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Timm/Jefferson
<i>Greeters</i>	C Seeman and Biggs

Sunday, July 10		
	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
<i>Asst Minister</i>	Betty Davis	Patti Baker
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Jerry Gottschalk	M. Zamorano
<i>Lector</i>	Jerry Gottschalk	K. Andrews
<i>Cantor</i>	Sherry Hutson	Sherry Hutson
<i>Crucifer</i>	Jerry Gottschalk	Alexis Andrews
<i>Acolyte</i>	Claire Skelley	April Andrews
<i>Kids' Sermon</i>	TBD	TBD
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Meyers crew	Guy/Jefferson
<i>Greeters</i>	The Danners	Joy/Rooney

Sunday, July 17		
	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
<i>Asst Minister</i>	D. MacGregor	Marina Tidwell
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Betty Davis	Jerry Gottschalk
<i>Lector</i>	ML Basaraba	Jerry Gottschalk
<i>Cantor</i>	Rebecca Tuttle	Rebecca Tuttle
<i>Crucifer</i>	Babak Kamjou	Leah Wouters
<i>Acolyte</i>	Priebe girls	Robert Condinus
<i>Kids' Sermon</i>	Ron Engen	Ron Engen
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Seeman/Tidwell	Jefferson
<i>Greeters</i>	Skelley Family	Erna Guy

Sunday, July 24		
	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
<i>Asst Minister</i>	Tom Hayes	Katie Parks
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Carol Hayes	Leah Wouters
<i>Lector</i>	C. Biggs	Ray Lanthier
<i>Cantor</i>	Delicia Smith	Delicia Smith
<i>Crucifer</i>	Patrick Hayes	Leah Wouters
<i>Acolyte</i>	Megan Hayes	The Priebe
<i>Kids' Sermon</i>	Brad Sick	Brad Sick
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Jefferson	Snodgrass
<i>Greeters</i>	Biggs & Elliott	Tidwells

Sunday, July 31		
	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
<i>Asst Minister</i>	Ron Engen	Stephen Jahn
<i>Com. Asst</i>	Joan Engen	Michelle Moreno
<i>Lector</i>	Larry Green	Michelle Moreno
<i>Cantor</i>	Clare Snodgrass	Clare Snodgrass
<i>Crucifer</i>	Ian Carter	Babak Kamjou
<i>Acolyte</i>	Robert Condinus	Robert Condinus
<i>Kids' Sermon</i>	Pastor Jim	Pastor Jim
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Seeman/Jefferson	Jefferson
<i>Greeters</i>	Carter family	Schneiders

Grace Notes Sponsors

*Sponsorships are \$25 to defray the cost of materials and postage.
Please sign up in the Narthex.*

The July issue of Grace Notes is sponsored by:

***Marty & Elaine Hente in honor of
their 10th wedding anniversary***

***John & Lila Swenson in gratitude
for God's blessings***

***The people of Grace in honor of
Doris MacGregor's ministry***


July Calendar

July Birthdays

Hayden O'Brien	07/04	Dariya Stenshoel	07/11	Norman Auslander	07/27
William Sick	07/04	Patricia Stephan	07/15	Addison Myers	07/27
David Olson	07/07	Bruce Tepley	07/15	Grace Elliott	07/28
Colin Tidwell	07/08	Gabriel Koppula	07/16	Marsha Heath	07/31
Doris MacGregor	07/10	Joyce Elder	07/17	Stefanie Tepley	07/28
Mary Jane Petersen	07/11	Dana Goller	07/21	Christopher LaCroix	07/31

1
Last day of VBS

2
No CHIEFs this month

3 ONE Service at 10am Guest Speaker: Dr. Georgie Rodiger	4 Independence Day Office closed  Grace Diner Picnic 1-4pm	5 5:15-Property Mtg 7pm— Bible Study	6 6pm-Supper 6:45 Worship Service	7 1pm-Office Angels	8	9
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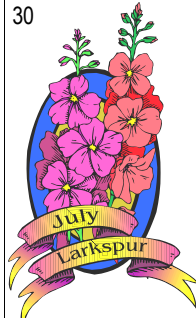
Fairytale Theatre Camp

10 Services 9 & 11am Speaker: Marina Tidwell	11 3-6:30pm Grace Diner	12 7pm— Bible Study	13 10am—XYZ 3:30-W&M mtg 6pm-Supper 6:45 Worship Service	14 1pm-Office Angels	15	16
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Art Camp-Skelley

17 Services 9 & 11am Guest speaker: Pastor Floyd Lawson	18 3-6:30pm Grace Diner	19 4:15—Stewardship 7pm—Bible Study	20 6pm-Supper 6:45 Worship Service 7:30—COUNCIL	21 1pm-Office Angels	22	23
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Art Camp

24 Services 9 & 11am Speaker: Stephen Jahn 31—Pastor Jim in the pulpit Services 9 & 11am PARTAY between services	25 3-6:30pm Grace Diner	26 Pastor Jim back in the office 7pm— Bible Study	27 6pm-Supper 6:45 Worship Service	28 1pm-Office Angels	29	30 
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Science Camp

GRACE NOTES

JULY 2011

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Grace Lutheran Church
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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.

July at Grace

Summer camps--

Sundae Sunday--

And MORE!



JULY 30th
PRAISE BAND CONCERT 5pm &
COUNTRY SUPPER at 6pm

Open to the public — so invite your friends!

\$7/dinner; free will donation for concert. Come listen to some great Christian music in the peace of the sanctuary . . . followed by a delicious BBQ chicken dinner on the lawn.

Please RSVP so we can purchase enough food: 310-559-1027