

Grace Lutheran Church Newsletter

FEBRUARY

GRACE NOTES

Pastor Will Olsen

Editor Debbie Patmore 2012

Vol. 33 No. 2

Letter from DeWayne Hayes, Council President

Dear Friends,

The survey taken on January 15th as to our continued membership with the ELCA was 76% yes to stay and 24% no. Although the survey was not considered an official vote, it appears the majority of our members wish to stay with the ELCA.

I realize the major concern of those choosing “No” is because of the resolution adopted by the ELCA in 2009 regarding homosexuality. Some of the letters from members voting “Yes” also expressed their concern about this resolution, but still wanted Grace Lutheran to remain with the ELCA.

Many have questioned how we, at Grace Lutheran, could respond to a pastoral candidate who is a homosexual. In a recent United States Supreme Court decision, they affirmed by a 9 to 0 vote that churches have “Ministerial Exemption” from complying with discrimination laws. This was confirmed in a case brought about by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission against the Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School of Redford, Michigan. I take this to mean we can ask any questions to a prospective candidate for pastor and don’t have to be concerned about discrimination.

Since the 2009 resolution, I have not experienced any changes in how the day to day activities have been affected at Grace Lutheran. We, as a congregation, still make the decisions on how we operate and I have no reason to believe this will change.

For those who expressed a desire to leave the ELCA, I would suggest you consider staying with Grace Lutheran until a new pastor has been called and accepted before making any final decision. I further suggest that we all pray for the call committee and our congregation during this period of transition. It is my hope we can remain as a Family of God and continue to serve Him as members of Grace Lutheran.

DeWayne Hayes

Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting

The Grace Lutheran Church Council met January 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. The following members were present: DeWayne Hayes, Charlotte Wilson, John Raforth, Arvid Meland, Deb Kopetsky, Mary Ellen Kreutz, Pastor Olsen, Deb Patmore, Conni Ziegenbein, Bryan Hencke, Dadra Avery, Alan Johnson, Bud Rank, and Donna Trigg. Council members absent were Angi Bergman, Matt Kreutz, Cindy Gehringer, and Lonnie Weidenbach. Agenda was reviewed and approved.

Devotions were provided by Arvid Meland

The November council meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with no changes.

The treasure's report was reviewed.

Committee reports were reviewed.

Old Business:

Sent teller sheet around for signups.

Mini Parish sheet was passed around for signups.

Donna went over the balance sheet and the proposed budget. A motion to accept the 2012 budget was made by Alan Johnson with a second by Arvid Meland and carried.

Election of officers. DeWayne Hayes will serve a second year as President, Bryan Hencke will serve a second year as Vice-President, Dadra Avery will serve a second year as secretary and Donna Trigg will serve a third year as treasure.

Committee's were assigned and they are Matt Kreutz will chair Youth and Family, Charlotte Wilson will chair Worship and Music, Conni Ziegenbein will chair Education, Cindy Gehringer will chair Stewardship, Alan Johnson and Arvid Meland will co-chair Congregational life, Donna Trigg will chair Finance, Dadra Avery will chair Mutual Ministry, Deb Kopetsky will chair Evangelism, Bryan Hencke will chair Personnel and DeWayne Hayes will chair the Executive Committee.

The board retreat will be next Sunday, January 22, 2012 beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Old Stone House.

New Business:

The monthly outside missions were assigned for January - April. January will go to World Hunger, February will go to Black Hills State University ministry, March will go to the Meade 46-1 School Nurses and April will go to Cameroon.

The Christmas Eve offering was split into three with 1/3 going to the Back Pack program, 1/3 stay with the church and 1/3 going to the local food pantry. \$150 was also given to Morgan Bossman and \$150 to Tim Sigman.

Board members will hand out and count the surveys after Pastor Olsen's talk on Sunday, January 15, 2012

All board members need to be at the Annual Meeting on January 22, 2012

Assign committees (see old business)

Budget for 2012 (see old business)

Next meeting will be February 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the Rose Room.

Dadra Avery, Secretary



February Library News

Happy Valentine's Day !

New additions include the book Pastor Dahlstrom mentioned in his sermon, *Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer as well as another book by the same author, *The Cost of Discipleship*. Thanks, Marilyn Bates, and anonymous donors for other donated books this month: *Rejoice With Us, My Faith Has Made Me Whole* by local author, Nancy Remington, *Pet Angels, Happy is the House, Hearts at Home, Angels: God's Secret Angels, An Invisible Thread, Church Signs Across America, He Chose the Nails, At First Sight, The Rescue*, and *Rediscovering God in America*. Several of these are large print editions. (The audio books have been moved to the bookcase under the clock and calendar.)

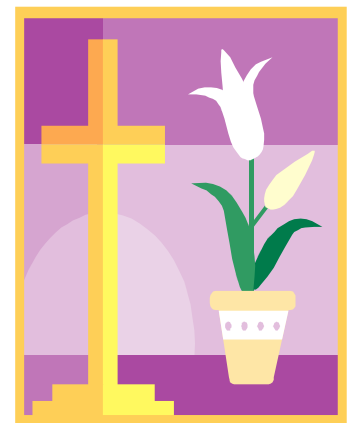


EASTER CANTATA

Sunday, April 1, 2012

and

Tuesday, April 3, 2012



Rehearsals begin Sunday, February 19 at 1:30 p.m. at
Grace Lutheran Church

and continue for 6 Sundays with one rehearsal on Thursday, March 29th.

Please let Marlene Kotab know if you plan on singing in the Cantata.

Email: kotabgmc@rushmore.com or call 720-5906

Chili with the Bishop is less than 2 weeks!

Join Bishop David Zellmer and members of the

South Dakota Synod Staff

for homemade chili,

engaging bible study,

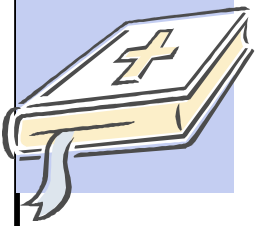
and lively conversation around our new

synod vision "That All May Be Fed".

Sunday, February 12, 2012

5:00p.m.

Calvary Lutheran, 5311 Sheridan Lake Road
Rapid City, SD



FINANCIAL REPORT

As of January, 2012

Dollar amount in General

Checking \$112,153.30

Year-to-Date Income \$12,855.15

Year-to-Date Expense \$ 7,278.72
\$ 5,576.43



The benevolence giving will be distributed as follows in 2012

January-World Hunger

February- BH Lutheran Campus Ministry

March - Meade 46-1 Nurses Office

April - Cameroon

May -

June -

July-

August-

September-

October-

November-

December-

FINANCIAL REPORT

DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERING	EXPENSES
1/1/12	126	\$3804.00	\$108.25
1/8/12	174	\$3573.15	\$4870.99
1/15/12	222	\$3725.00	\$2695.99
1/22/12	116	\$1753.00	\$812.25
1/29/12	0		
TOTAL	638	\$12,855.15	\$8,847.48

JANUARY—MEMBERSHIP

700 BAPTIZED, 574 CON-

FIRMED,

324 FAMILIES

0-Baptism

0-Wedding



The Thursday Morning Bible Study
9:45 a.m.

Lessons will be based on:
The Biblical Text for the coming Sunday.

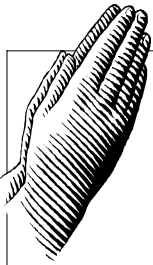
Led by Pastor Will



Is Happy to Introduce
the New Council Members

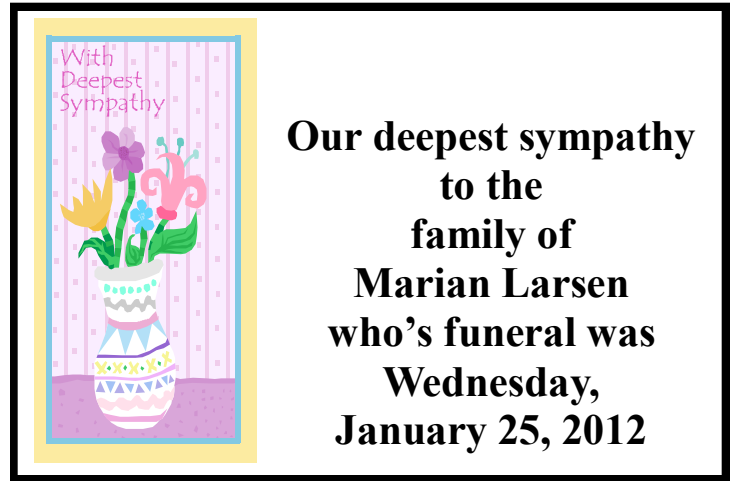
Matt Kreutz - Chair Youth and Family Committee
Conni Ziegenbein - Chair Youth Committee
Deb Kopetsky - Chair Evangelism Committee
Bud Rank - Chair Property & Building Committee
Charlotte Wilson –Chair Worship & Music Committee

The survey taken on Sunday, January 15, 2012
had the following results:
76% for staying with ELCA
24% for leaving the ELCA



PRAYER CONCERNS

The family of Marian Larsen, Fran Erickson, Bob Bender, Sharon Rank, Janice Simons (Jim Aldren's daughter), Christine Harter, Cindy Gehringer, Rebecca Israelson, Margie Hershey, Elizabeth Budahl, Peggy Sigman, John Clark, Esther Carstensen, Chris Koupal, JoAnn Williams, Helen Kinkade, Evelyn Morrison home-bound members and those serving in the military, both at home and overseas.



A Friendly Reminder From Grace Lutheran and Pastor Will

I wish to encourage all members of Grace to inform the church office (347-2713) or call me directly at home (716-5284) or on my cell phone (484-1425) if you are in need of a pastoral call and please notify the church office when you are discharged from the hospital. I would like to share your joys as well as your sorrows. Remember, I am only a phone call away. I also encourage all members to make use of our congregational Prayer Chain. We are all here to serve in the name of our Lord Jesus!

GLCW FOR FEBRUARY 2012

**2/14/12...GLCW Meeting at 7:00p.m.
Hostess Mary and Rachel
Program**

2/28/12...Circle Meetings

**9:00 a.m. Martha Circle
1:30 p.m. Rachel Circle**



Christmas Eve Offering was divided as follows:

**1/3 to Local Food Pantry
1/3 to School Back Pack Program
1/3 stayed in General Fund**

JUST A REMINDER FOR VOLUNTEERS

Serving "Men of Grace" Breakfast
Sunday, February 12. If you cannot be present for serving, provide your own replacement. Thank you for helping:

Lesson Readers for February



February 5-Garland Dobler
February 12- Dee Storjohann
February 19-Garland Dobler
February 26-Sandy Molitor

Ushers

1st Sunday-Marlowe Kinkade, Keith Smit, Ernie Miller, Jess Nelson & Bob Kaufman
2nd Sunday-Dean Rasmuson, Darlyne Kopren, Arvid & Paulette Meland
3rd Sunday-Rod Heikes, Bonnie Lange,
4th Sunday-Don & Doris Workentine, Dale & Mary Ellen Kreutz
5th Sunday-

Sunday Teller Schedule for February

February 5-DeWayne Hayes & Bryan Hencke
February 12-Alan Johnson & Bud Rank
February 19-DeWayne Hayes & Conni Ziegenbein
February 26-Dadra Avery

The answers to your questions or events can most likely be found in these resources:
Bulletin, Projector, Newsletter
Web-site (www.sturgisglc.org)
Bulletin board in entryway
Council members Or call the office
We work hard to provide these resources for you so please use them!

ACOLYTES FOR FEBRUARY

February 5-Brad Anderson & Braden Morris
February 12-Jaxson Mathers & Brynn Dobler
February 19-Amber Lorus & Emily Meisner
February 26-Austin Hall & Christian Avery



RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS FOR FEBRUARY

February 5-Pastor Michael Fox memorial
February 12-Bill Schwartz memorial
February 19-In memory of Linda Babb
February 26-In memory of Leonard Herbst

The radio Broadcast calendar for 2012 is posted on the bulletin board in the entryway of the church. You are invited to place your name on the date you wish to sponsor a broadcast in honor of or in memory of your loved one or special event. You may also call the office (347-2713) to reserve a date. The cost per broadcast is \$65. Partial sponsorships are invited and encouraged.

2012 COUNCIL MEMBERS INCLUDE:

Vice President—Bryan Hencke
Secretary—Dadra Avery
Treasurer—Donna Trigg

Alan Johnson	Matt Kreutz
Conni Ziegenbein	Bud Rank
Arvid Meland	Charlotte Wilson
Deb Kopetsky	Cindy Gehringer

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who volunteer their talent and time to Grace Lutheran. Grace could not function without all of you!

There are no words to express our deep appreciation for all you have done for our family during this heart-breaking ordeal... Your love and generosity has been overwhelming and a heartfelt reminder of the precious family of God that Tom and all of us, are so blessed to be a part of... Thank you for being there when we needed you...

Vicki Monahan

San, Jen, Traeton, Taesha and Torin Monahan

Shanna, Ethan, Dalyn and Danica Dschaak

I wish to thank all of you who prayed for me, sent cards, visited me in the hospital and at home. Bless those who took pity on Ted and brought in food. Thank you Pastor Will for the prayers and phone calls. God Bless, Eva & Ted Sigman

Thanks to all of you who helped decorate the church with poinsettias. We all appreciated their beauty.

Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 in memory of Pastor Michael J. Fox. What a wonderful gift!
Rev. Layne Nelson Lutherans Outdoors

Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 received on January 18, 2012, in memory of Michal J.Fox. This is an enduring way of remembering someone important to you, while at the same time helping others in need.
Linda Jensen, Lutheran Social Services

Thank you for your support of the ministry at Woyatan. Our records indicate that you contributed \$750 in 2011 to our ministry. We thank God for you and your commitment to the work of Jesus Christ through this ministry. May God Bless and keep you today and always. Pastor David Piper



**Cooking
with the
Lutherans**

Shepherd's Pie

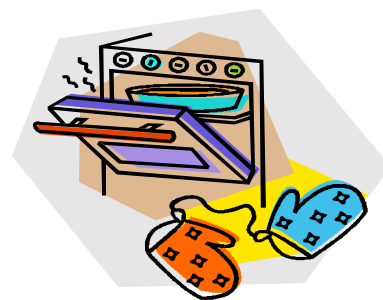
- 2 lbs of ground beef
- 1 medium onion chopped
- 1 can Cream of Mushroom soup
- 1 can Cream of Chicken soup
- 1 package of frozen mixed vegetables
- 12 slices of yellow cheese
- 4 cups of mashed potatoes

Brown ground beef and chopped onion.

Season to taste. In a separate bowl mix together soups and packaged vegetables.

In a 9x13 greased pan, layer: beef mixture, soup/vegetable mixture, then place slice cheese 3 across and 4 down. On top of this spread the mashed potatoes.

Bake in a 350 degree oven for 45 minutes or until hot throughout.





Four Chaplains Service And Salute to Hospitalized Veterans

**Honoring the four Heroic World War II Chaplains
who lost their lives when the S.S. Dorchester
was sunk off Greenland on February 2, 1943.**

Date: February 12, 2012

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Grace Lutheran Church

1061 Sherman Street

Sturgis, SD 57785

**Everyone is cordially invited to a Chili Feed immediately
following the program.**

It will be held at the Sturgis Veteran's Club, 868 Main St.



The 'Saving Grace' Relay for Life Team will be selling heart-shaped containers filled with delicious homemade treats in the basement of the church after the service on Sunday, February 12.

What a perfect gift for your "sweetheart" this Valentine's Day!

The proceeds go toward the fight against cancer, so you are also supporting a great cause!

Some hand crafted bracelets will also be available for sale.



Grace Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting

The January portion of the Annual Meeting was held on January 22, 2012.

President DeWayne Hayes called the meeting to order. Pastor Olsen led us in prayer.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Shirley Halverson with a second by Candy McKay.

The Secretary's Minutes were approved on a motion by Marlene Kotab with a second by Elmer Preszler with a name correction from Albert Preszler to Elmer Preszler.

Financial statement was presented by Donna Trigg.

Bryan Hencke presented the call process. The committee is currently on step three. The committee hopes to make a recommendation to the board and vote on a new pastor by July 2012.

There was no old business presented.

There was no new Business presented.

February 12, 2012 will be chili with the bishop in Rapid City and all are welcome.

Angi Bergman, Clint Hall and Heather Kreutz volunteered to be on the nominating committee.

Three voting members will need to attend the SD Synod Assembly in Sioux Falls on June 8th and 9th. Tim and Debbie Patmore volunteered to attend and Bryan Hencke might be able to attend.

The 2012 Budget was presented by Donna Trigg with some discussion. A motion to accept the 2012 budget was made by Pam Weidenbach with a second by Dan Boy and carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dadra Avery, Secretary

Sunday School News

The children, by leadership of Grades 1 – 6, have expressed ideas and the desire to help children.

Through their ideas, Glory to the Love Gang has been established.

The mission of our Gang is to help children of the world.

This year we have the pleasure of working with Sally Thompson (coach Orion Thompson's mother).

She is a wonderful lady who gives her time and talents in a volunteer mission program in Tanzania, Africa.

The Sunday School children are committed to helping the children of that area.

Through our offerings thus far we have collected \$126.00 to be used for playground equipment for preschool age children and school supplies for the older children. We will be purchasing notebooks and pencils.

We will also include board books as they are used in teaching English to the children. The sturdiness of the board pages keeps them nice longer.

The children will tie-dye backpacks for the above items to be placed in. We will then invite Sally to a dedication service of the backpacks. She will leave the end of May to return to Tanzania, taking our gifts with her.

Should you wish to donate items, please feel free to contact us.

The 4th grade class will continue making bread to be used in communion. Please remember to thank them.

Thanks Eileen Rafort for providing the wheat flour that we use.

We will study the 23rd Psalm. We are excited to learn the words of comfort.

It is a pleasure working with your children.

Please feel free to contact us with any comments or questions.

Tammy Jones and Tricia Nelson

