



June 2011

Grace Lutheran Church

Volume 10 Issue 6



Grace Lutheran Congregational Mission Statement:

Called together by the Holy Spirit, Grace Lutheran Church is a loving family of believers, growing in Christ through God's Word and Sacraments, and reflecting God's love by ministering to others and sharing His Word with the community and the nations.



Membership Changes:

Received as communicant members on May 1 by Rite of Confirmation:

Luke Bakke

Morgan Christ

Caleb Laude

Rebecca Sande

Samantha Smalarz

Colton Smith

Received by Confirmation on May 8:

Kerri Eisenlohr

Karen Krauth (daughter, Samantha Olson)

Transfer In: Eric Eisenlohr, Maddisen from Trinity, Sauk Rapids, MN

Release: Bradley Meyer, Prescott Valley, AZ



If you move or change your phone number, please call the office at 232-1516 with your new information - help us keep up-to-date! Thanks!



How to reach Pastor Dave Suelzle:

Pastor's study: 297-6885

Email: david.suelzle@gracefargo.org

Home: 205-1853



Office hours are 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday - Friday.

Deadlines: Sunday bulletin - Wednesday at noon

Newsletter - 20th of the month at noon

Treasurer's Report

Year-To-Date as of:	3/31/11	4/30/10
Receipts (inc.\$22,056 special funds)	\$86,859	\$117,281
Expenditures	\$76,079	\$121,778
Difference	\$10,780	-\$4,497

A CONFIRMAND PROFILE AND CONFESSION OF FAITH

Last month we had 6 junior confirmands. Each of these young men and women were required to write an essay about their understanding of a faith relationship with Jesus. These essays were read the Wednesday evening before Confirmation Sunday. This month's newsletter highlights confirmand Luke Bakke and his essay.

This past year Luke attend Discovery Middle School. He is the son of Ray & Karen Bakke. Next year Luke will be attending Davies High School.

Luke's interests and hobbies include: Cooking, swimming, rock climbing, camping and he is a movie buff. At this point in his life Luke has aspirations to be a marine biologist.

Luke's Essay:

In the following essay I will talk about these questions: "Why is it important for me to believe in Jesus," "Why is it important for me to be confirmed," "Explain what the Bible teaches us about The Lord's Supper," "Why is it important for me to take The Lord's Supper often" and "Why is it important for me to be a member of a congregation." In each of these questions I will tell you why I believe I am prepared to be a foot soldier for Christ.

The first question is, "Why is it important for me to believe in Jesus?" It is important for me to believe in Jesus so that God will grant me eternal life and by believing it makes me more Christ-like. Also, God has blessed me richly with the things I have and the people I love. Another reason is that Jesus is my friend and even though I sin He still loves me and is always there. I may remember my sins but God has forgotten them.

The second question is, "Why is it important for me to be confirmed?" It is important for me to be confirmed because it allows me to receive Communion. Additionally, going through the Confirmation process gave me a learning of the Scripture. With Confirmation we are welcomed into the church and our spiritually life is strengthened. In Confirmation instruction, I learned what I am receiving when I partake of The Lord's Supper with the body and blood. I recognize that my sin has separated me from Christ.

The third question is, "Explain what the Bible teaches about The Lord's Supper." The Bible teaches me that Christ's body and blood

are truly present in, with, and under bread and wine in The Lord's Supper both physically and spiritually. Furthermore, we are supposed to examine ourselves before taking The Lord's Supper. Using the three A's can help do this: Admit, Accept, and Amend. I Admit that I'm a sinner and confess my sins to God. I Accept the forgiveness of my sins by Jesus and offered to me in the Sacrament. I seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to Amend my sinful life. We should examine ourselves because the Scripture says in 1 Corinthians 11:29 -- "for anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."

The fourth question is, "Why is it important for me to take The Lord's Supper often?" It is important for me to take The Lord's Supper often because by partaking in The Lord's Supper it is a way of renewing the forgiveness of my sins. Also, by taking The Lord's Supper I believe that it brings me closer to God.

The fifth and final question is, "Why is it important for me to be a member of a congregation." It is important for me to be a member of a congregation because it is a way for me to stay committed to Christ Jesus. Therefore church membership can be one of the best things after Confirmation because God works His will through us.

As I close, these questions and supporting information are ideal for me or anyone who wants to be a foot soldier for Christ.



A
Special
Thank
You

On Sunday, June 12, the Board of Education is sponsoring a potluck and short program after worship to thank Jane Moltzan for her many years of faithful service to our church and especially to our youth. Families are asked to bring a dish to share. Jane will be retiring following Vacation Bible School this June.

Jane has faithfully served this congregation for 11 years and we give thanks for her good work among us!

Grace Lutheran has four High School graduates this spring:

Graduating from Fargo South:

Haley Boisjolie will be attending Presentation College in Aberdeen, SD. She is in the nursing program (RN-4 years). She is also the starting setter for the Saints in D-3 volleyball. Haley intends to pursue a Nurse practitioner license in pediatrics after she attains the RN degree.

Rachael Winter will be getting a jump on her college education at MSUM in the Nursing program this summer. She will continue her education at NDSU this fall.

Graduating from Woodrow Wilson:

Tanisha Holeton will be attending NDSU pursuing Forensic Science.

Graduating from Fargo North:

Rebecca Smelser plans to move to Sidney, Montana where she will be working full-time with Richland Opportunities, Inc., in a group home for the developmentally disabled. She plans to earn some money and then go into Veterinary Medicine and Ranch Management, working with large animals at Montana State University, Bozeman.

God's blessings and best wishes to all of our graduates!

Other school related news...

Andrea Jones (07) graduated from Concordia University as a Lutheran School Teacher and awaits her first call. She plans to move to Virginia where she will start substitute teaching.

Carolyn Walsh (07) is entering an internship with Lutheran Bible Translators that will take her to Botswana later this year. This summer she will be at UND attending the Summer Institute of Linguistics.



Perfect Sunday School Attendance for April:

Preschool: Morgan Mielke

3-4: Madison Bakke

5-6: Austin Smith

7-8: Luke Bakke

Perfect Sunday School Attendance for May:

Preschool: William Hankel

K-2: Libby Gullings

5-6: Hope Gullings

7-8: Morgan Christ

Dear Grace and LYF members,

It's about me . . . I want this . . . I need this . . . I own this - isn't it great? . . . I made it happen . . . without me you wouldn't be where you are!

I have used and heard these words in the past. We like to think that the world is about "me". We think that things should be fair for us. We think that if we pray hard enough every thing should work out the way we want it. God wants to hear from you, He gave His only Son to die on the cross for a relationship with you. God does answer prayer in His perfect way - it is not about us, but about Him.

We need to remember that life is about Christ. It's about the Creator - the one who died for us on the cross - the one that carries our load. It's all about HIM (Jesus)! HE loves us and cares for us. We have a ministry to serve HIM and tell others about HIM.

He wants all of us to be in heaven with HIM - our ministry is about HIM - we are called to be disciples for Jesus. This ministry brings Jesus to others we come in contact with. God enables us to be a blessing when we keep our focus on Jesus. To God be the Glory!!!

Love in Christ,

Jane

Vacation Bible School - Christmas in June

VBS will be June 5 through 9 from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. Supper will be available at church for a free will donation.

Wednesday, June 1 - 6 pm VBS meeting

Sunday, June 5 - decorating following worship

I appreciate the help I get from all the youth as we put on Vacation Bible School!

If you are willing to provide a meal or donate \$\$ contact Jane!

Upcoming Youth Events

June 15: RedHawks Game: Sr & Jr LYF are invited to an afternoon

game. Tickets are \$9. More info will be sent by email.

Game starts at 12:30pm

June 28-29: Feed My Starving Children: This is event is for Sr. LYFers. It is an overnight trip to the Twin Cities. This is a servant event; we will also be going to ValleyFair. Kristin Sharbono and Larissa Brelje will be chaperoning this event. Information & forms will be available soon.

Anyone with questions about either of these youth events can email Larissa at larissa.brelje@gracefargo.org



What's on God's Refrigerator Door? *Grace Stewardship Board*

If you are a parent or grandparent or even just an admirer of a young child, your refrigerator door may be the showcase of one or more paintings or drawings. To a visitor, that work of art may be just a mass of scribbles, but to the one who loves the child it is a masterpiece. We love the gift because of the person who made it and gave it to us. It is precious to us because it was a gift from the heart. The motive of the child was pure and loving.

Perhaps our gifts to God are similar. We're such amateurs, such babies. God could accomplish His work so much more efficiently by Himself. Our works, even if monumental by human standards, are just scribbles if God would judge them in relation to His ability. Because He loves us, though – and loves us far more than a parent or grandparent loves a child – He looks at our works with eyes of love. He sees our hearts and knows we are motivated by love and faith, and He is pleased. He is so pleased that, if He had a refrigerator, He'd use it to display our works done for His glory.

God has given us gifts to use for this purpose – to glorify Him by serving others. In 1 Peter 4:10 we read, "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." God has seen to it that each of us has something to offer. He gives us the privilege of serving and then provides all that we need to do so.

Just as the budding art student improves with the help of a teacher and with appropriate tools to create his work, so does God teach us through His Word how to fulfill our purpose and how to improve our service. So also He gives gifts of time and money and talents and then His Word and Sacrament to strengthen us for service.



June 2011

Serve the Lord with gladness!

Psalm 100:2

As I write this newsletter article, I am mindful of today's newspaper headline: "Is Doomsday prediction doomed?" Apparently, a man from California, Harold Camping, has predicted that Judgment Day (or "the Rapture") will occur May 21, at midnight (Central Standard time, even!) Well, since I am still writing this article, you may presume that I don't put too much faith in such predictions. The first thing I think of is what Jesus had to say about Judgment Day: "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." (Matthew 24:36) I guess Harold Camping must think he knows more than the angels or Jesus...sounds a little arrogant to me! But one thing I have to say, this group has been fervently dedicated to getting the word out about judgment day. They have (as they report) spent all their money and their time to let people know that Jesus is coming, because, as they say, nothing else matters now. They have a point. Maybe we should all be so passionate about spreading the gospel to those who don't know about Jesus, and the salvation he gives us, no matter if Judgment Day is tomorrow or next year...or today. Nothing else really matters, now, does it?

Jan Brelje, President

Upcoming events...

Tues., 6/7: 7:30 pm Circle @ P. Herschlip's home

Thurs., 6/9: 1:30 pm Circle @ Church (E. Zitzow/A. Thomaier)

Sat., 6/11: 9:00 am Circle @ Church

6/23 - 6/26 LWML 34th Biennial Convention in Peoria, IL

Sun., 6/26 Gert Anderson's 90th Birthday Party after Worship

Tues., 6/28 7:00 pm General meeting (6:30 pm E. Committee)

Program: Convention report

Mission of the Month:

Orphan Grain Train, ND

Missionaries:

Paul & Ali Federwitz

Rev. Carl Kaye

Grace School Notes:

GLS News: The faculty and staff of GLS want to thank all of our association congregations for the many ways you support YOUR school - Grace Lutheran School! This year has been a blessing to us, and we pray it has been a blessing to our students, families, and extended church families. Please keep our students in your prayers over the summer, and ask God to be ever-present with them while they are a way from school.

PRINCIPAL KRUPSKI UPDATE: Principal Krupski had a setback on May 9th, and needed surgery to address an infection. God has continued to bless Principal Krupski with healing, as he was released from the hospital and is recuperating at home. He continues with his outpatient rehabilitation. He welcomes visitors, and would love to have you call or stop by, but you may want to call ahead to make sure he is available (701-893-6829). Thank you for your continued prayer support!

CAMP GRACE: Did you know your church's school runs a full-day summer childcare program called Camp Grace? This year we are broadening the ages of enrollees from 4 to 12! We recognize that although 11 & 12 year old children are becoming more mature, some parents are not ready to have them home alone all day during the summer. We've got a GREAT solution for you! We are now accepting students through age 12. This summer promises to be a "refreshed program" with weekly themes, more activities, and different experiences than in the past. We are also planning to separate some activities for the older students that will be age appropriate, and different than the younger students' activities. Maybe you would like your child involved in Camp Grace for half of the day, because being home alone all day can get boring. There are currently 7 full-time spots open, but we can split a full-time spot if you would like half of the day. If you would like the peace of mind of knowing your child is active and safe - not just home alone, contact the school office at 232-7747 for a registration form. Invite your friends' children as well! Camp Grace is open to all.

ENROLLMENTS BEING ACCEPTED GLS operates a dynamic 3 & 4-year old 1/2 day Pre-school program at our Beautiful Savior site. New for 2011-2012, is an afternoon daycare option eliminating the need for parents to pick students up mid day. We welcome students who need more of an academic and social challenge than just a daycare setting.

Pre-kindergarten is a 5-day, full-day experience for 4 & 5 year olds. This is a fantastic way to gear up for kindergarten, and with the price of daycare rising, our Pre-K program eliminates the need for daycare expenses on top of pre-school expenses. After care is also offered until 6:15 p.m. Spots are filling up fast! Enrollment for grades 1-8 is now open. Providing your children with a strong Christian and academic foundation will help direct the course for their lives. Would your child benefit from small class sizes, dedicated/Christian teachers, high academic standards? Come check us out either in person or at www.gracelutheranschool.org. Tours are offered all summer!

SUNDAY SCHOOL SNIPPETS

Happy Summer! Although we will not be offering Sunday School classes for the youth over the summer, there are still opportunities for fun, fellowship, and growth in the Word for all of you during these next three months. In addition to weekly Sunday and Wednesday Worship, we would love to share Christ's message with your youth at the upcoming VBS week, June 5-9, where the children will have a chance to celebrate Christmas in June! (please see Jane Moltzan for info, registration, and volunteer info). We'd also like to invite you to attend Adult Sunday School which will be meeting at 8:45 am each Sunday in the fellowship hall downstairs. We will be learning more and gaining new ideas for our Sunday School program at the upcoming Children's Ministry Conference on August 7th, in Bismarck. This is a free conference open to all, please contact Jolene Richardson if you are interested in attending that workshop. Enjoy the summer ahead that the Lord has blessed us with!

Kristi Pronovost & Larissa Brelje

Special thank you to our teachers & substitutes this past year:

Preschool:	K-2nd Grade:	3-4th Grade:
Larissa Brelje	Jay Schaefer	Connie Calvert
Karen Krauth	Kristin Sharbono	Faith Fretham
5-6th Grade:	7-8th Grade:	Senior High:
Jolene Richardson	Brianna Jones	Jane Moltzan
	Sharnell Hanson	

Adults:	Sunday School Music/Opening:
Pastor Suelzle	Pastor Suelzle
	Jane Moltzan
	Dave Hansen
	Jay Schaefer

Confirmation:	1st Year:	2nd Year:	3rd Year:
	Claudia Engelstad	Kathy Cziok	Pastor Suelzle

Festival of the Booths



A Family Campout

July 15-16
Buffalo River State Park

The Fellowship Committee is organizing a family campout for Friday, July 15 to Saturday, July 16. We plan to stay at Buffalo River State Park in Minnesota. Fun supplied - you bring food, beverage and lodging for you and your family! There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or you can contact any member of the Fellowship Board. The deadline to sign up is July 1 so we can reserve campsites. The approximate cost is \$20/night. Let us know if you need a tent!



We would like to thank all the couples who attended the in-home Bible Study, "God Provides" by Crown Financial Ministries. Also, a BIG thank you to Larissa Brelje for providing child care for all of us. We pray you found the study as meaningful as we did and will continue to look to God, our ultimate provider, throughout your lives. God Bless!

Jay & ReNae Schaefer