



## Break out the Turkey!

No, I’m not suggesting Kevin and I break dance, if that’s what you’re thinking. (Not that we couldn’t!) It’s just that it’s June and I’m thinking of Thanksgiving. What got me on this train of thought was watching the Motion Choir on Music Sunday. As they danced before the Lord, it was so cool - and all I could think was, “I’m very lucky to be Pastor of a Church like this!”

This kind of thinking, of course, leads to thankfulness. (Which makes me think of turkey. Talk about Pavlov’s dog!)

Anyway, when any of us takes time to think of our Grace family, there is so much to be thankful about. We are all lucky to be part of a Church like this. So, in this article, I’m inviting you to close your eyes and think about what makes you thankful to be part of Grace.

**Ok, you can open your eyes now.** (Of course, if you can read this, you never closed them, but let’s move on.) If we stop to think about all the good things God gives us through the family of Grace, it begins to be overwhelming, doesn’t it?

- There are the many, many people who take ownership of ministries and then just go ahead and do them. They don’t have to be poked or prodded – because they believe God calls them to be active in faith, so they are.
- There are the 50 plus people who work to make worship happen each week. (Check the talent list in the bulletin for names) Because of them, worship is exciting, filled with passion and laughter - - - and worthwhile for all who are there.
- There are all the people who allow me to be part of their

lives – in celebration and difficulty. And I am honored by the invitation. And in those times, as a community, we find ways to reach out to one another.

- There are the children who run among us – fill us with joy – take their own role in worship and leadership – and show us what child like faith looks like, so we can imitate them.
- And there is so much more.... Fill in the blank for yourself!

The bottom line is that this is all a gift from God. This community – the family of Grace – is a gift from God to you and me. What a deal for us!

### Pastor Kent



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#### Special points of interest:

- *Friday, July 23—Grace Block Party—7-11 p.m.*
- *Island Sunday—August 22nd at 9:00 a.m.*
- *High Seas Vacation Bible School—August 10-12*

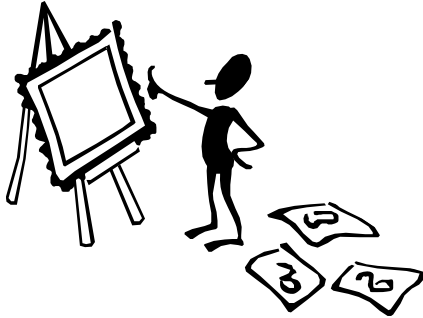
## More Thanks....Thanks to:

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- John and Deb Brown for representing Grace at the East Central Synod Assembly in May!
- All our musicians, singers and dancers who continue to inspire us in faith.
- Our Board of Education and all the Sunday School teachers who share their time and their faith.



Will once again be sponsored by Grace on June 17th from noon until 7:00 pm. Take part in serving others by volunteering throughout the day to make or serve food, set up, or clean. Donations of baked goods or money would also be appreciated. To sign up, contact Stacy at 423-2330.



## The Grace Congregational Life Survey – the Results!

Are you curious about what the people of Grace have to say about their ministries, what our community is like and how we might want to shape our vision for the future? No matter how curious you are, you'll have to wait for the Fact Finding Group to go through the surveys and put the information together in a way which is helpful for us to read and understand. (With that many surveys, it will take some time!)

Right now, all we can say is:

- Over 160 people took the survey – from teens to retirees. There was a good cross section of Grace people involved.
- When this information is ready to be shared, you will be the first to know, so stay tuned!



## MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

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*“A way to help us see how many good things are done by the people of Grace – while making the connection between our faithful giving and all the ministry we do together.”*

Who's having a "High Seas" adventure? Why it's everyone who comes to Vacation Bible School at Grace. This is a ministry where Grace's teenagers take real leadership to impact the

faith of others. This is a ministry where music, energy and fun come together. Have you ever visited VBS at Grace? It's happening this August 10, 11 and 12. Stop by to see what happens

on the Seas. Make sure your children and their friends take advantage of this great adventure.





## Summer Fun – a time to Reach Out

Two special events will bring the Grace family together. The first is the Grace Block Party on July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7-11 pm. We'll dance, laugh and have a good time. The second is "Island Sunday" on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 am. This worship experience will be fun and relaxing. Both events are also opportunities to invite others to Grace. Plan ahead to invite a friend or neighbor! Or, invite them now, rather than waiting. After all, we all need Good News now.



John Meagher has lived in 23 states, but Wisconsin is his favorite. He moved to Rapids in January. John is a retired mechanical design engineer, who has had a variety of other jobs as well. He enjoys reading, singing, photography, spotting wildlife and passing on a smile. He says his day is wasted if he doesn't pass on a smile. So don't be surprised if he shares one with you!

# Welcome!



She teaches second grade at Woodside school and he is a student at UWSP. Larrisa Lueck and Lance Rossing, are engaged to be married in October of this year. Larrisa team teaches with Lilli Storandt, who invited her to visit Grace. She says she is an organizer and a planner, she planned a Going Green recycling project for Woodside school. Lance is back in school studying Geographic Information Systems. Not sure what that is...why not introduce yourself to Lance and find out. Lance has been coaching sports teams for the past twelve years. This year he coached 9th grade girls basketball. Lance and Larrisa enjoy walking their yellow lab, watching movies and biking.



Sports are frequently on the schedule at the Steinke home. Shelby, a ninth grader, plays volleyball, basketball and softball. Tim coaches her summer softball team and Carrie spends lots of time in the bleachers routing for her daughter's teams. Carrie works as a quality improvement specialist for Child Care Resource and Referral. If she's not working or attending a game she likes to scrapbook, decorate or help organize team schedules. Tim likes watching High School sports and fixing things. He's an electrical engineer for ESE, Inc., located in Marshfield. He enjoys coaching the girls softball team, and one of the rewards has been four years as State Champions. Shelby likes writing and reading; she would like to be an English teacher some day. She is involved with the East Ambassadors and their cause to make teens aware of "distracted driving."

**GRACE IS A CHRISTIAN  
FAMILY—WELCOMING  
PEOPLE TO LIVE GOD’S  
WORD AND STRENGTHEN  
THEIR FAITH.**

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# June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>6:30 Board of Stewardship</i>	2 <i>9:00 TOPS</i>	3 <i>6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 8:30 TOPS 4:45 TOPS</i>	4	5
6 <i>9:00 Worship— Senior Recognition</i>	7 <i>6:30 Support Group</i>	8 <i>6:00 Quilting 6:30 Church Council</i>	9 <i>9:00 TOPS</i>	10 <i>6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 8:30 TOPS 4:45 TOPS</i>	11	12
13 <i>9:00 Worship</i>	14 <i>6:30 Support Group</i>	15	16 <i>9:00 TOPS</i>	17 <i>6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 8:30 TOPS 4:45 TOPS</i>	18	19 <i>9:00-10:30 Prayer Partners</i>
20 <i>9:00 Worship</i>	21 <i>5:30 Board of Evangelism 6:30 Support Group</i>	22 <i>6:00 Quilting</i>	23 <i>9:00 TOPS</i>	24 <i>6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 8:30 TOPS 4:45 TOPS</i>	25	26
27 <i>9:00 Worship</i>	28 <i>6:30 Support Group</i>	29	30 <i>9:00 TOPS</i>			