

GRACE GAZETTE



Grace is a Christian family—Welcoming people to live God's Word and strengthen their faith.

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

“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.”

Fun, fellowship activities, Pine Lake Camp, Synod and National Youth Gatherings, Band Nights, Youth Services, serving people in need, Senior Send-offs – these are just some of the ministries of the Board of Youth. But the Ministry of the Month is one that is new – **A Youth Mission Trip.**

In the summer of 2010, Grace's youth will have an opportunity to serve others in a life changing way, for themselves and those they serve. A Mission Trip will give the youth real-world experiences by uniting hard work, new friendships and fun. On this trip, the Youth of Grace will be able to share their faith through action. And your support of Youth Ministry makes all this happen!

Renewal – During the midweek Lenten services, we come together to have our faith renewed. We ask for a fresh start and figure out how prayer, grace and purpose fit into our everyday lives. During the Soup suppers, there's also a chance to have an informal discussion about the topic for the night – to prepare for worship. Listed below are the themes for each week:

March 3 ~ “A Life That Matters”

Gain a new perspective on being used by God.

March 10 ~ “My Faith and My Relationships”

How can your faith have a positive impact on the people nearest you?

March 17 ~ “Developing The Gift of Compassion”

See the difference this gift of the Spirit makes.

March 24 ~ “It Really Is All About Grace”

Re-discover God's grace as a powerful resource.

(Remember - Confirmation Students are expected to attend Midweek Lenten services and have 3 sermon notes from them.)

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Special points of interest:

- Simply Giving Signup is Sunday, March 7th.
- First Communion Classes begin on Wednesday, March 10th.
- Mt. Morris Women's Weekend is happening March 12th-14th.
- Friendship Sunday and Covenant Sunday is March 21st.

Pastor Kent

Finding all the Facts about an Associate Pastor

A fact finding group has come together to pave the way for calling a second Pastor. This group is not a call committee. Instead, they are a task force which will work to find out more about who we are as a Church, what our ministry goals for the future are, and what role an Associate Pastor would play.



So, over the next couple of months, don't be surprised if someone from this group shows up at a meeting to ask you questions about Grace and our vision for the future. Gathering all this information is an exciting first step towards actually calling an Associate Pastor. So, keep listening as more comes your way!

Simply Giving Signup – Sunday, March 7th

Have you thought about using Simply Giving to make your offering to Grace? Did you have questions about how it might work – or just need help to fill out the paperwork? On Sunday, March 7th, after each worship Service – Tammy will be available in the Conference Room to answer your questions about Simply Giving and to help you sign up, if you want to use this program.



Simply Giving is an easy way to have your offering automatically transferred from your savings or checking account on a regular basis – and the choices about how that happens are always yours! So, after worship, grab some coffee and head to the Conference Room to make Simply Giving your way of giving.

First Communion – First Communion classes are available for those in 4th grade or above. We'll meet on Wednesday – March 10th and March 17th right after the Lenten service. During these times, we'll talk about the meaning of Communion, prepare the children to take communion and even make a personal communion mug which will be used the first time the child takes communion.

Study books will be passed out in Sunday School and available in the Church office. The students will take their first Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 1st at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions, talk to Pastor Kent.



Covenant Sunday – March 21st! A Covenant is a promise. God has already made a covenant with us in Jesus, promising to forgive our sins and to be our God. In response, we make our promise to follow faithfully wherever God leads us and to use our lives to serve others in Jesus' name.

Covenant Sunday gives us a chance to consider the promise God has made and the promises we have made. How are we doing with our faithfulness to God. What should we change, as individuals?

Now, this covenant process is both a private and a public spiritual activity.

- Privately, we are invited to consider how our faith is growing. Ask yourself about the commitments you've made. How are you putting your faith to work? Talk to God about this.
- Publicly, we are invited to renew our commitment to be faithful. This year, we'll do this at worship on March 21st. As part of worship that day, we'll come to the altar to sign a larger Covenant board. (You won't receive individual Covenants.) This will be our way to re-commit our lives to growing in faith and following our God.

Fun and Fellowship...

If you think your family is a little "out there" then come check out the **Crenshaw Family Reunion** and see some real special folks! Dinner Theatre Tickets are \$15.00 per person and can be purchased Sunday mornings in the Welcome Area or in the Church Office during the week.

Showtimes are: 7:00pm Friday, March 19th and Saturday, March 20th, and 4:30pm Sunday, March 21st

Along with attending the show, there are lots of opportunities for adults and youth to help. Youth in fifth grade and up are invited to be servers, and adults can help in the kitchen or by baking a yummy dessert. Sign-ups can be found at the Welcome Center or talk to Joanne Wayne.



will be taking place at Lincoln High School on Saturday, March 20th and here is how you can help!

Grace will be handing out personal hygiene kits containing shampoo, soap, deodorant and toothpaste. To make every kit the same, we are asking for donations of money rather than products. Each bag will cost \$5 and the goal is to have 175 bags ready to give away. If you want to help, please leave your donations in the Church Office before March 7th.

Invite a Friend – March 21st

People need to hear about God's grace for their own lives, since God's grace in Jesus Christ is what saves us. In order to share that Good News, we invite friends, neighbors and others from our community to worship with us. March 21st is the next Friendship Sunday. So, make the effort to invite someone to worship with you. With this simple act, you will be a witness to the Good News.

What to do: pick up an invitation at worship on March 7th / invite one or more people to join you at worship on March 21st / meet them at the door and sit with them during worship / after worship, share some coffee, introduce them to others and even give them a tour of the building!

All this works together to build God's kingdom by sharing the Good News. Thanks for being a witness to the Gospel in this way.



Mt. Morris Women's Hobby Weekend

Date: March 12th–14th

Where: Black Oak Lodge at the Mt. Morris Retreat Center in Wautoma

Time: Check-in as early as noon on Friday

Cost: \$40/night

Come join your friends at Grace for a weekend of food, fun and girl stuff! Bring along your favorite hobby and spend the weekend relaxing, eating, talking, laughing and all the other things us girls like to do. Meals are divided among the attendees and are not covered in the cost. If you would like to attend, please contact Mary Manley at 424-2948.

Grace Lutheran Church

Non-Profit
Organization
Postage Paid
Wisc. Rapids, WI
54494

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Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-4208

Return Service Requested

We're on the Web!

March 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 12:00 Coffeehouse 6:30 Support Group	2	3 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Lenten Worship 7:45 Choir Practice	4 6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 8:30 T.O.P.S. 4:45 T.O.P.S.	5	6
7 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:00 Adult Education 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Contemporary Worship	8 12:00 Coffeehouse 6:30 Support Group	9 6:00 Quilting 6:30 Church Council	10 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Lenten Worship 7:45 Choir Practice 8:00 Grace Out Loud Practice	11 6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 8:30 T.O.P.S. 4:45 T.O.P.S.	12	13
14 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:00 Adult Education 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Contemporary Worship	15 12:00 Coffeehouse 6:00 Board of Church in Society 6:30 Support Group	16	17 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Lenten Worship 7:45 Choir Practice	18 6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 8:30 T.O.P.S. 4:45 T.O.P.S.	19 7:00 Dinner Theatre	20 7:00 Dinner Theatre
21 Friendship Sunday 8:00 Traditional Worship 9:00 Adult Education 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Contemporary Worship 4:30 Dinner Theatre	22 12:00 Coffeehouse 5:30 Board of Evangelism 6:30 Board of Stewardship 6:30 Support Group	23 6:00 Quilting	24 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Lenten Worship 7:45 Choir Practice	25 6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 8:30 T.O.P.S. 4:45 T.O.P.S.	26	27
28 8:00 Cantata 9:00 Adult Education 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Cantata	29 12:00 Coffeehouse 6:30 Support Group	30	31 9:00 T.O.P.S.			