

GRACE GAZETTE

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



Gratitude, Grace, Giving

The Ripple Effect

Did you ever hear the scientist's theory that if even one butterfly on the other side of the world changes one part of it's behavior, significant things can change in other places – even right here in our own lives?! It sounds bizarre, but we do recognize the basic idea behind it - - - **what we do affects others.**

This is the Ripple Affect. Just like a stone tossed in a pond causes ripples to flow outward, so our faith, put into action, goes beyond the walls of Grace to affect people in our community and in our world.

This fall, we'll focus on how the kindness, forgiveness, love and mercy we show has an impact which goes beyond ourselves as God uses us.

WORSHIP THEMES –

- September 13 – *“The Ultimate Ripple Affect”*
- September 20 – *“God's Forgiveness and Mine”*
- September 27 – *“There's Meaning In What I Do”*
- October 4 – *“Stepping Out In Faith”*
- October 11 – *“Hope – not Fear”*
- October 18 – *“God Is Faithful”*

The Ripple Affect

When a stone into the water is thrown,
Its circle soon grows beyond its own,
For a ripple can never stand alone.

Every ripple creates another,
Just like when you touch your brother,
You move him to reach out to others.

And you'll never, ever really know
How far your ripples of love go
All because, to God, you did not say, “No.”

~ (author unknown)

Following the call to serve makes a difference which goes far beyond what we can imagine!

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On The Insert. . .

- Mission Trip to Guatemala
- Vacation Bible School
- Don't have a Grace Cookbook?
- What will I do when the Packers have a bye?

Special points of interest:

- Newcomer's Orientation Sunday, September 20th at 9:00 a.m.
- Discover Your Place In Ministry Sunday, September 27th at 9:00 a.m.



The Worship Schedule Changes! Starting September 13, worship is at 8:00 and 10:30. The early service is a traditional, liturgical time of worship. The late service is contemporary. (If you forget and show up at 9:00, just stick around for Adult Forum and other education opportunities!)



It's Time To Re-Fuel on FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY

Sunday, September 13th

Invite a friend to join you at worship on Sunday, September 13. Meet them for worship – introduce them to others – invite their children to check out Sunday School. It's a great way to help them re-fuel their spirits. A special invitation (a water bottle) has been prepared for your friends. Share it with them and invite them to Grace.

Rally Day - Rally Day - Let The Fun Begin!

Sunday, September 13th is the day - 9:15 is the time for Sunday School's **Rally Day Event**. Come on a Treasure Hunt as we discover that *"God's treasures can be found right here at Grace!"* Invite your friends and neighbors to be part of this special day as well.



Grace's regular Sunday School program – focused on the parable of the Lost Coin and the Lost Sheep - begins September 20th. Sunday School is for children from age 3 through high school. Everyone is welcome – no registration is needed – just come, learn and enjoy.

The Adult Forum also begins on the 13th - come to the entryway just outside the Youth Center for coffee and conversation.

Geocaching Bible Study– Things to know. . .

- Be on time or we may leave with out you.
- Be prepared to drive.
- Bring your GPS (if you have one)
- Bring a lawnchair



You don't have to know what geocaching is – or have a GPS to be part of this study. Just come to the Visitor Parking signs in Grace's parking lot at 9:00 am sharp on September 13th to be part of the fun. Sign up on the poster in the narthex, if you can – if you have questions call Christie Witt (213-0608) or Tammy Koch (423-2330).

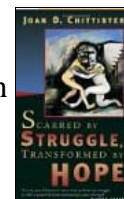


"Scarred by Struggle - Transformed by Hope"
Monday, September 14th at noon.

How can a major disappointment be transformed into something of value? In this book, we'll discover how struggles become the jumping off point for something more.

This book is our reading for COFFEEHOUSE MONDAY – which begins on Monday, September 14th at noon. Coffeehouse Monday is a chance for us to gather over lunch to discuss a book we are reading together.

To be part of Coffeehouse, do these three things – buy the book (they'll be available soon in the Church office for \$10) – read the first chapter – then bring yourself, your lunch and the book to the kitchen at noon on Mondays. That's all!





**Are you looking for a way to liven up your Wednesday evenings?
Do you have a love of music?
Do you enjoy making new friends and catching up with the old?**

Then join the Grace Choir!

Rehearsals begin September 2nd at 6:30 pm.

If you have any questions please contact Jonathan Smith at 887-3063.



Confirmation News

Grace's Confirmation program begins Wednesday, September 9th at 6:30. 5th – 8th graders meet in the Youth Center. (Parents need to be at this first class.) 9th grade students meet in the gathering space, just outside the sanctuary. (Parents of 9th graders will meet with Pastor Kent at 7:30 p.m.)



If you are new to Grace and want to become part of Confirmation, just show up! Classes are from 6:30 to 7:45 – and we always welcome new students. Any questions? Call Pastor Kent or Kevin at

How do I Join?

Step One – come to **Newcomer's Orientation on Sunday, September 20th** at 9:00 am. (In the Youth Center) There you'll get information and have a chance to ask questions.

Step Two – attend **"Discover Your Place In Ministry" on Sunday, September 27th** where you will hear from real, live members of Grace about their own experience of getting involved and putting their faith to work.

Step Three – Come to the **"Discover Grace" luncheon** – at noon in the Fellowship Hall **on Sunday, October 4th**. We'll feed you lunch – gather information from you – and choose a time to welcome you into Grace.

What about an Associate Pastor?

The goal at Grace is to call someone, some time during 2010, to serve as Associate Pastor. There is much information to share about this subject – as well as many questions to answer about how we will meet this goal. A special time has been set aside to share all this information. **Come to the Youth Center at 9:00 am on Sunday, October 4th** – where we'll tell you everything there is to know, at this point, and answer as many questions about the process as we can! Don't miss this important discussion!



Want to make a difference for the environment? Join others in picking up litter along Hwy 13, about

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY



13 miles south of Wisconsin Rapids at 9 am Saturday, September 19th: Meet at the Hwy 13 exit to the Lake Arrowhead Golf Course. We are responsible for the two miles south of that intersection along with Woodland Lutheran Church (the section is broken down into about half-mile sections – we work in teams of 2). Traffic vests will be handed out before we start; it will take about one hour. You may want to bring a pair of work gloves.

If you cannot come, please pick up litter near your home.



GRACE'S MISSION TRIP -

The members of Grace will be working together to send a Mission Team on a Mission Trip in 2010! Are you interested in being one of those people on that Mission Team? Or do you want to be part of Grace's "Ground Crew" of people who make the Mission Trip happen with all their work and support right here?

Grace's Mission Team will be heading to Guatemala in the first part of February.* We will be serving the people of the dump, who are the poorest of the poor in their country. We will provide medical services, something special for the children (VBS style – which is one of our specialties) and some basic "home repair" – which may include things like painting or cleaning up.

This means there is a need for a variety of people with a variety of talents – from medical skills to translation, music and worship, basic home upkeep skills as well as the ability to relate to and teach children. Are you one of those people?

On the "Ground Crew", there is a need for people who can use their many talents to support the ministry which will be done in Guatemala. The Ground Crew will watch over finances, gather supplies, teach basic Spanish, put together programming for the Children's ministry, put together a worship booklet for the Mission Team, organize a prayer support ministry and more.

Everyone at Grace will have a chance to be involved in this Mission in some way!

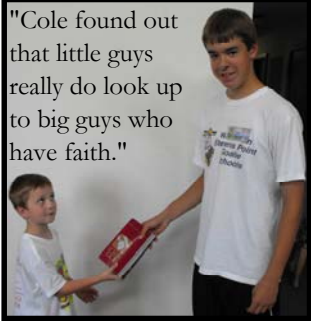
Whether you want to be part of the Mission Team, which travels, or the Ground Crew, which is involved in the mission by giving support to those who travel - - you will want to be at the **Information Meeting on Sunday, September 27th**. Following each worship service, you will be invited to stay in the sanctuary to find out why we are sending a Mission Team, what work will be done and how you can be involved.

Application Forms will be available for the first time that day – and due by October 11th.** You will also get some information about costs, deadlines, opportunities and more. Exciting stuff! So, be at this information meeting on the 27th to hear about all the possibilities!

*When the exact dates of the trip are known, we will send out an e-mail to everyone. Also, you can check out the Grace website (www.glcwr.org) for the latest updates.

**Forms will also be on the Grace website.





"Cole found out that little guys really do look up to big guys who have faith."

Coordinating another Vacation Bible School was the highlight of my summer, it definitely ranked over having my tonsils out. One of the most amazing parts for me, is watching how our youth grow in faith over the three days. I can't wait to see all the surprising ways the youth will continue to use their faith until we do it all again next summer! ~ Christie Witt



"Rachel wants to be a teacher some day because she loves kids - helping at VBS for many years has helped her figure that out."



"Mallory let her enthusiasm shine helping Joey Bohman to Stuff the Bus."



"One of these youth wasn't exactly excited about coming to VBS - then discovered being a leader is fun."



Don't have your Grace cookbook yet?

Thinking about what to give for Christmas presents this year? The Fellowship Board has your problems solved! We will be offering a **"Get Ready for the Holidays" cookbook special** this fall – buy the first cookbook for \$14.00, and any number of additional copies for only \$10.00 each! We have a limited number of copies available, so shop early and relax this Christmas! Cookbooks will be sold after services on September 13th, September 27th, and at the fellowship activity on October 11th. Call Sandy at 423-0963 with any questions...

WHAT WILL I DO WHEN THE PACKERS HAVE A BYE?

Come join the fun at the **"No Packer Game Tailgate Party"**. We'll be grilling brats, burgers and hotdogs. Wear your Packer shirt – although, we will allow you to party even if you a fan of some OTHER team. Bring a dish to share (one which comes from the Grace Cookbook) and get ready to "Rumble". We'll have football trivia and other fun activities – plus a satellite radio which will help us keep track of the other scores. It all happens on Sunday, October 11th in the Grace parking lot – right after the 10:30 service. Come join the fun!



We're interested in your ideas for fellowship activities!

There will be a **Fellowship Idea Box** on the table in the hallway across from the Prayer Partner table. Please drop us a line if you have any fun activities you would like to suggest. We will be happy to get those ideas rolling!

Grace Lutheran Church

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715.423.2330

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We're on the Web!
www.glcwr.org

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5:30 AAUW	2 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:30 Choir	3 6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 4:45 T.O.P.S.	4	5
6 9:00 Worship	7 6:30 Support Group	8 6:00 Quilting 6:30 Church Council	9 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:30 Adventures In Confirmation 6:30 Choir	10 6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 4:45 T.O.P.S.	11	12
13 Friendship Sunday 8:00 Worship 9:00 Adult Education 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Contemporary Worship	14 12:00 Coffee House 6:30 Support Group	15	16 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:30 Adventures In Confirmation 6:30 Choir	17 6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 4:45 T.O.P.S.	18	19 9:00 Adopt-A-Highway
20 8:00 Worship 9:00 Adult Education 9:00 Newcomer's Orientation 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Contemporary Worship	21 12:00 Coffee House 6:00 Board of Church In Society 6:30 Support Group	22 6:00 Quilting	23 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:30 Adventures In Confirmation 6:30 Choir	24 6:30 Men's Breakfast at Four Star 4:45 T.O.P.S.	25	26 Wedding
27 8:00 Worship 9:00 Adult Education 9:00 Discover Your Place 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Contemporary Worship	28 12:00 Coffee House 6:30 Support Group	29	30 9:00 T.O.P.S. 6:30 Adventures In Confirmation 6:30 Choir			