

Receiving Christ Continually as God's People through Word and Sacrament

Grace Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
Heart of the Tri-Cities

EPIPHANY SERVICE THIS WEDNESDAY

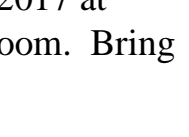
Join us as we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord this Wednesday, January 4, at 7pm! The light from the star drew the wise men to Jesus where they worshiped Him wrapped in swaddling clothes. The Word is the light that draws us this Epiphany to Jesus who is wrapped in the bread and the wine of Holy Communion to fill us with His indestructible-and-unstoppable divine life! Oh come, let us adore Him in bended knee and receive from Him great and abundant mercy.

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS

Luke 2:21 "And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb." There it is: the shortest Gospel lesson of the whole Church Year. It is for the festival of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus. What more do you need to know that the Name of Jesus? The Lord Saves. That's who Jesus is: the Lord who saves us sinners. That simple Gospel message is the foundation of our faith and the strength to live out our faith in action.

THURSDAY A.M. FRIENDS

An interesting presentation is planned for you. January is Ben Franklin's birthday month, so we have arranged for Ben Franklin (Bob Stark) to appear and share his historical character. Come and meet him Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 10:00am in the Common Room. Bring a friend.

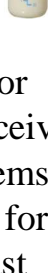


CRAFTING WITH FRIENDS

Some of us love crafts, some of us love snacks, and some of us just love getting together and chatting. We are planning a night to combine these into a Craft Night in the Library. So if you make scrapbooks, crochet, color in those cute little coloring books or any other portable pass time come on over to the Grace Library on January 13. Bring your crafts and a snack to share. We will enjoy the company of friends, share your pass time with others and eat a few snacks. Reserve January 13, 6:00 pm.

LIFE SUNDAY

We will be celebrating Life Sunday on January 15. We will again be providing baby bottles to fill with donations for Beacon of Hope, our local pregnancy resource center. Also for those who enjoy making quilts, receiving blankets, burpers, or other baby items there will be a table in the narthex for the collection. Thanks for your past generous support of this local ministry. The Center truly appreciates our continued support.



YOGA CLASS

Our next session of yoga will be starting on Thursday, January 12th. The class will meet in the Grace gym at 6pm every Thursday for 6 weeks. The fee for the session is \$45 per 6 week session. If you have any questions please ask Karla Weiss.

- * Vinyasa flow yoga, based on exercise science
- * All levels of experience welcome
- * Christian meditation
- * Aromatherapy & gentle head massage

Benefits of Yoga

- Increased flexibility & strength
- Lower stress levels
- More centered bodies
- Better body awareness
- Increased joint lubrication
- Increased bone density
- Fights off depression
- Promotes movement of the lymphatic system purging body of toxins

Any questions contact Jen and Andrea, co-owners of Frog and Chick Yoga, LLC at frogandchickyoga@att.net

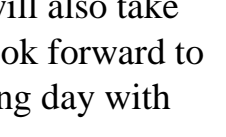
DETROIT TIGER BASEBALL

Keep Friday, June 16, 2017 open for a trip to Detroit to watch the Tigers play Tampa Bay. Game time will be 7 p.m. Yes, you will be able to sleep in on Saturday morning. There is a sign up sheet in the office. Any questions, call me at 662-6229 or see me in church. *Herb Pfundt*



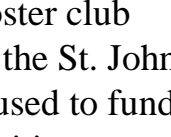
GOLF OUTING

Our Most group is sponsoring a Golf Outing coming up on May 13. We know this is early to plan but it gives us something to look forward to as we are in the throws of winter. Mark your calendars, gather your team, sponsor a hole and look forward to the fun that awaits on the golf course. Entry forms are available from any MOST team member or in the office. Join us for a day of fun, food and prizes. A silent auction will also take place at this event. We look forward to spending a beautiful spring day with you.



CHICKEN DINNER

The annual Booster Club chicken dinner will take place at Valley Lutheran on Sunday, January 8, 2017 from 11am-1:30pm. Cost is \$11 for 1/2 chicken, \$8 for the 1/4 chicken. This is sponsored by the VLHS Booster club and the chicken is grilled by the St. John Athletic Club. Proceeds are used to fund Valley's extra-curricular activities.



SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Lessons for this coming Sunday
Circumcision and Name of Jesus
Numbers 6:22-27
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 2:21

NOTICES

- Monday A.M. Bible Class will study Martin Luther and the 95 theses. All are welcome. Please note there will be **NO** Bible Class on Jan. 2nd.
- Evangelism/Stewardship meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 10th at 6:30 p.m.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Gladys Sobek, Gayle Lindstrom, Emily Parker, Stevie Woods great-niece)

Worship Services
This Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Divine Worship

Midweek Service 7:00 p.m.
Every Wednesday

New Year's Eve Service
Saturday, December 31
5:00 p.m.

New Year's Day Service
Sunday, January 1
9:00 a.m.

Celebration of Epiphany Eve
Wednesday, January 4
7:00 p.m.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

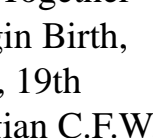
- Birthdays**
- Joel Herbolsheimer, 1st; Casey Kent, 2nd; Merry Lee, 6th; Austin Tomczak, 6th; Julie Lemke, 9th; Don Rauschenberger, 10th; Mirinda Taglauer, 10th; Dustin Wegener, 12th; Kevin Feinauer, 13th; Wanita Smith, 15th; Bridgitte Feinauer, 17th; Gene Bartz, 18th; Scott Bickham, 18th; Molly Mantei, 18th; Phillip Frank, 20th; Jim Mantei, 20th; GeriAnne Schmidt, 21st; Paul Wood, 23rd; Elsie Hughes, 25th; Edie Ousterhout, 25th; Jim Prah, 25th; Sheryl Seaver, 25th; Debi Stieve, 25th; Elaine Prah, 26th; Connor Hughes, 27th; Emma Kubiak, 29th; Debbie Garcia, 30th
- Anniversaries**
- 8 Todd & Denise Gray, 18th

SHUT IN

Our shut-in this week is Irene Taglauer. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. If you wish to send her a card or note, her address is Auburn Fields, 4710 Stephanie Ct., Auburn.

HOME BIBLE STUDY

The next Home Bible Study will take place on Jan. 15th at the home of LeRoy and Nancy Taglauer at 7:00 p.m.

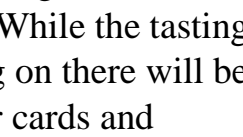


ISSUES, ETC.

Talk Radio for the Christmas Season: You can listen to teachings on: The Christmas Hymn "Let All Together Praise Our God," The Virgin Birth, The 12 Days of Christmas, 19th Century Lutheran Theologian C.F.W. Walther on Jesus' Birth, The Circumcision & Name of Jesus, The Hymn "Now Greet the World's Changing Year" and more. Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. You can listen at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

CHILI COOKOFF

Our MOST group is organizing another great event. It's a Chili Cook Off. If you make great chili this is the event for you. If you love to eat great chili this event is for you. If you want to support a great cause this event is for you. We will have an assortment of chili for you to taste and then you get to vote for your favorite one. While the tasting and voting is going on there will be tables available for cards and games and a few other surprises still in the works. This is a fundraiser for MOST so you will buy tickets for tasting and voting. We are still working out the details but reserve January 29 for a memorable event. If you have a great chili recipe please talk to one of our members about how to enter.



GERMAN WORSHIP SERVICE

St. Lorenz's first 2017 German worship service will be held on Sunday, January 8th at 11:00 am in the Church - 1030 W. Tuscola Rd., Frankenmuth. The emphasis for the January service is "Epiphany/Reformation Revelations" and is part of the German Service year-long "Reformation Celebration" series. The service will use a traditional German Service liturgy including the Second Article and meaning from Luther's Catechism and an English sermon by Pastor Hoesman. Jim Gladstone will perform a solo and the congregation will join in singing favorite German hymns. Prior German worship services can be viewed on the St. Lorenz website at: <http://stlorenz.org/german/> and click on the recent German worship services tab.

LWML's Gifts of Love Ministry

Date: January 10, 2017
Place: Grace Lutheran Church
Time: 7 p.m. (Spouses are invited)
Speaker: Pat Bilow
LWML Sr. Gift Planning Counselor

You will learn how Gifts of Love started and how you can:

- Avoid the top seven estate planning mistakes
 - Increase income the charitable way
 - Decrease tax liabilities
- Provide supplemental retirement for your heirs
 - Leave a legacy for the Lord's work

Attendees will receive a packet of information and a book entitled PROVIDE AND PROTECT: Important Life and Death Decisions.

"Bring the whole tith into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house . . . and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."
Malachi 3:10

LETTER FROM THE ERBERS

Dear People of God at Grace Lutheran Church,

"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God stays with him and he with God! 1 John 4:15

During this Christmas season, our worship services and many of our preparations for the holidays remind us that Jesus came into our world to be with us! The prophet Isaiah even called Him 'Immanuel' which means "God with us!" (Isaiah 7:14). God's desire is to be with us and for us to be with Him (1 John 4:15 above). To this end, Jesus gave His life for our sins and offenses that we might be with Him today and for all eternity. God desires this for us and all people.

Tragically, as you know, many people today do not realize that God desires to be with them or they have no desire to be with Him! These people are lost and will be lost for all eternity

To do what we can to share the message of Immanuel in Ghana, I (David) worked intensely this year with a small group of Ghanaian pastors. These men are among the leaders and mentors of the rest of the pastors in the Evangelical Lutheran church of Ghana. We met daily for prayer, Bible study, a review of Lutheran theology and the study of New Testament Greek. We also spent time just talking about life and ministry.

The goal was to help these pastors develop greater skills for understanding and proclaiming the Bible. These pastors already speak three or four languages (English is a second or third language for each of them). They were excited to have the opportunity to begin reading the very words in which the New Testament was written!

This has been a life changing experience for these men. They have started to realize that huge amounts of details are packed into every passage of Scripture. They have commented how our time together this year has changed the way they read, preach, and teach the Bible and how they mentor other less experienced pastors in the church.

If we can help our African pastors and members share God's Word in the cities, towns and villages of Ghana, all of our efforts and yours for these endeavors are worth everything it takes! While I work with pastors, Joyce provides accounting support to our missionaries and mission projects across Africa.

Thank you for your precious prayers and support! We can't be involved in this work without you!

May God bless your celebration of Christmas and your getting ready for Jesus to come again! Merry Christmas!

In service to Christ and His mission,

David and Joyce

By the way, Joyce and I are on vacation this month in MI, CO, WI and MN. In addition to being here for Christmas, we are excited to be here for Naomi's graduation from Concordia Wisconsin. In January we will have a couple of weeks to make church visits.

THANK YOU for your tremendous financial support! Our support account in St. Louis received \$500 from you on Nov. 1st!

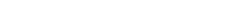
How to send financial support:
Write check to:
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 or to:
Mission Central, 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, Iowa 51034
On the memo line, please write: "Support for Erbers"



The Lutheran Hour
Radio: Sunday morning on WSAM-AM 1400 from 8:30 - 9:00 A.M.
Internet: lutheranhour.org

Grace Lutheran Church
Church Office Hours M-W-F 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(989) 662-6161
<http://www.graceauburn.org>
Pastor Aaron Schian
aaronschian@yahoo.com
(607) 972-5792
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Auburn, MI 48611

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"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."
2 Corinthians 9:8

Grace Lutheran Church, 303 W. Ruth St., Auburn, MI 48611

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