



Grace Notes



May 2009 Newsletter of Grace and Glory Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship at 10:15 A.M.

Fluvanna County Middle School
on Route 15 by Carysbrook
Pastor Kenneth Albright
Cell Phone: (434) 531-3551
Office Phone: (434) 589-2217
Office: 96 Garden Lane
Palmyra, VA 22963

Dear Grace and Glory congregation:

On May 31, Grace and Glory will celebrate Pentecost Sunday. Not only will many be decked out in red attire for the day, as a reminder of the flame and fire of the Spirit in our lives. We will be celebrating what God is doing in the lives of five young women, Amanda, Katey, Sarah, Stephanie, and Tamara, who will be affirming their baptism in Christ through the rite of "Confirmation."

Maybe some of you with Lutheran roots have vivid memories of your own Confirmation. Memorized Scripture verses. Sitting in a room full of slumping, squirming students as the Pastor lectured. Grand inquisitions by clergy and councils. Stuffing the small catechism details into one's brain so they could be called forth at a moment's notice. Those days are gone, and truth be told, most of us don't miss them.

Nowadays, we've learned far more about how the adolescent's mind learns. We've come to understand that people learn best when all their senses are engaged. We've come to realize that if youth memorize things that aren't connected to their lives, they won't be integrated. Youth want a real faith. A living encounter with the Scriptures. A real comfort level with the Bible and their beliefs. As I met with these youth and their parents recently, I was delighted by their expressed hunger to know the Scriptures more fully. Faith is never satisfied. It does not rest comfortably on the confirmation plateau. The Holy Spirit at work in

us causes us to continue to search, to ask, to hunger for knowing God's ways among us.

I thank God that what I see in these five youth is a desire to know and love God, and to grow in their compassion for all people. A desire, no doubt, reflected in the parents who raise them. On Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the Spirit of God, alive in these young women, as they affirm their identity as baptized followers of Jesus. We pray that the fire that is in them spread boldly among us also, and that together we may be bold to share the good news of God's great deeds throughout our county, our country, and the whole creation. Come, Holy Spirit, come!

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor Ken Albright

President's Message

One of my favorite passages in Scripture is Micah 6:8, which reads: "He has told you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? But to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

When I read that passage, the phrase "to love kindness" really jumps out at me. It doesn't say that we should "try to be kind," or "be in favor of kindness," or "support kindness when we can," or "practice random acts of kindness" (as the bumper

stickers say). Instead it says that we are to “love kindness.”

That’s a strange turn of phrase when you think about it. And a seemingly strange thing to require of us as part of our daily walk with God, particularly as the list is only three items long.

And what are the implications of this seemingly strange requirement?

Just this. If we truly love kindness, then we will surround ourselves with it, we will constantly look for opportunities to practice it, we will want it for ourselves and others, we will teach it to our children, we will make it part and parcel of every interaction that we have, we will make it the centerpiece of our lives at home and at work and at church and out in the world, and we will expect it of ourselves.

In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul wrote: “Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God ...”

God wants each of us to be in right relationship with Him and with each other. To truly love kindness is to be deeply and intimately involved in the lives of others. In doing so, we as disciples will experience the fullness of God’s grace and love.

I’ve been very pleased to hear that one of the main reasons people keep coming back to Grace & Glory is because they sense God’s loving kindness working through each of us. I encourage each of you to continue to be imitators of God in your every interaction, to look for opportunities to let your loving kindness be felt. It’s what the Lord wants us all to be about.

With you in His service,

Frits Geurtsen, Congregation President

Leadership Team Summary

The Leadership Team met on April 13 and discussed the following issues:

Treasurer Jared Feury reported that we are meeting all expenses, although our income is still behind budget year to date by \$6,580.

The loan application process with the Mission Investment Fund is nearing completion. The last information requested has been prepared and is ready for submission. However, the Request for Proposal written last year may no longer be appropriate since our loan application amount will be smaller than originally planned when the RFP was devised. However, we now have more funds in the capital campaign. In light of these facts, the Building Task Force Steering Committee has decided to meet individually with several of the design firms on the list of possibilities and talk informally about how much we can reasonably accomplish with the funds we expect to have once the loan application is approved.

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of candidates for the five upcoming vacancies on the Leadership team. All were approved and will be presented to the congregation at the congregational meeting on May 3.

President of Fluvanna Habitat for Humanity Gladys Albright will speak at our May 3 church service, which we have designated as Habitat Sunday. At that time, we will present her with our covenant, devised after the recent meeting of Grace & Glory members interested in supporting Habitat for Humanity. Funding is currently the greatest need for our local Habitat chapter, which hopes to build two houses this year. Our covenant offers several ways that we will help with this.

Sufficient funds have been contributed for the purchase of a new computer for the church office. Thanks to all who contributed.

A telephone chain to be used in case of an emergency has been devised for our members who do not have email.

Submitted by Janet Rockafellow, Secretary

Attendance

Our attendance for March 2009 at Grace and Glory averaged 82 for five services. The running average for the year through the end of March 2009 was 81. Attendance at Sunday School averaged 15 for March 2009.

The average attendance for the five services thus far in April = 81. The running average to date remains at 81.

Submitted by Dick Haas

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

At its April 13 meeting, the Leadership Team unanimously passed a Continuing Resolution that reads:

We shall use environmentally friendly products whenever possible and encourage that donated products be environmentally friendly as well.

This resolution takes effect immediately. All members are encouraged to make every effort to use environmentally friendly, biodegradable products whenever possible, both at church functions and at home.

Submitted by Janet Rockafellow, Secretary

Old Farm Day Planning Meeting

One of the most important, and fun, days of the year in Fluvanna County is Old Farm Day. Part of Herb Meyer's legacy is Grace & Glory's annual participation in this community outreach event. All interested in bringing an Old Farm Day booth to fruition this October are encouraged to attend a planning meeting at the church office at 4pm on Wednesday, May 6. Questions should be directed to Bob Candea at 434-286-2352.

Submitted by Pastor Albright

Summer is Growing Season

Look for two upcoming courses to stimulate your growth and thinking this summer:

A Place of Encounter: As we plan for a new worship center, we want everyone who has a vested interest in what happens in that worship space to explore the dynamics and full meaning of gathering to hear the word, baptize, and celebrate the meal. More information to come soon.

Life after Death: Join us for an exploration of what the Scriptures tell us about heaven, hell, and resurrection from the dead. Explore the liturgy of a Lutheran funeral, and see what's involved in planning your own. Cremation vs. casket and the stages of grief will all be explored. Watch for more details.

Submitted by Pastor Albright

May 3 is Habitat Sunday

As we endeavor to build our relationship with Fluvanna County Habitat for Humanity, we have set aside Sunday, May 3 as "Habitat Sunday."

On that day, we will have Fluvanna Habitat President Gladys Albright among us as we offer to her our completed covenant. We will receive designated offerings for Habitat that day. Funds are the most critical need right now for Habitat, as they seek to accomplish a first—two houses built in one year! Also, please join us at 4pm that afternoon for a brief prayer service at High Mountain Acres—the small subdivision which will host the next five Habitat homes. See the home being built with and for the Douglas family. It should already be under roof by then!

Directions to house site: From Palmyra, go south on Route 15 to Fork Union. Take a right onto Route 6 West towards Scottsville. Take a left onto Route 650 (just before the Fluvanna County landfill). Go about one mile, the house site is on the left, and there is a Habitat sign out front.

Submitted by Pastor Albright

Not for kids only...

Do you think choir chimes are meant only for kids? That's not true! I'm inviting you to join a summer chime choir for adults. We'll meet on Thursday nights from 7:30 to 8:30 pm at the church office. We have four octaves of choir chimes loaned to us by Peace Lutheran Church and now it's your turn to play them.

Music reading would be helpful, but it is not a "must". Eleven or more participants would be desirable, although we could manage with eight faithful chimers.

Rehearsals will begin on June 18th and we will meet on most Thursday nights through the month of August. We will conclude our summer sessions with a performance of the choir during worship at the end of August or early September.

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please call me (591-0503) or e-mail me (ejmartell1968@yahoo.com).

*Submitted by Julie Martell
Director of Music*

Dear Grace & Glory Friends,

I'd like to thank everyone for all the prayers and cards sent to me during my recent back surgery. I found great comfort in the power of prayer.

Thank you all! Flo Walsh

Grace Notes Newsletter

If you have any information that should be placed in the newsletter, please submit the material to LeRoy Moyer at Lee_Helen@embarqmail.com. The next newsletter deadline is **May 24, 2009**.

W.A.G.G.

Please mark your calendar for a W.A.G.G. meeting on Tuesday, June 9 at 2:00 p.m. in the Glory Room at the church office. This will be our last meeting until September. Pastor Albright will lead us in a Bible Study (any suggestions?), and we will also conduct VSWO business. There will be an offering taken for the VSWO. Please bring your Blessing Box offerings for the Love Offering for the VSWO Convention, July 17-19 at Roanoke College in Salem. If anyone is interested in being a delegate to the Convention, please let me know. W.A.G.G. will help financially. Please collect the Campbell soup backs (UPS code and Kid), labels from Prego and Swanson, and Box Tops for Education from Pillsbury products. Cancelled stamps, preferably with a 1/4" margin, are also being collected. Also, donations of new or gently used children's books are being collected for the Convention. These will go to the Roanoke Rescue Mission to give to needy children. Please bring these to the June 9th meeting, or contact me at 589-6358.

Submitted by Janice L. Brown

5G's – Golden Gals & Guys of Grace & Glory

Save Wednesday, May 27, for 5G's! We will be visiting two unique homes in the Windsor Farms section of Richmond near Carytown. Agecroft Hall is a Tudor manor house built in England in the 15th century. It was dismantled beam by beam, brick by brick, and brought to the shores of the James River in 1925. Upon arrival, it was reassembled! Its neighbor, the Virginia House, was constructed from the materials of a 16th century English manor house. There will be a one-hour tour at each house. Combination ticket is \$12.00. At the top of our list for lunch is the Can-Can restaurant in Carytown. Other suggestions?

Agecroft Hall: www.agecrofthall.com.

VA House:

www.vahistorical.org/vh/vh_house_main.htm.

*Submitted by Marj and Roy Schurmann and
June Wiehe*

Power in the Spirit

The theme for this year's "Power in the Spirit" gathering at Roanoke College in Salem will be "Power Through Scripture: Fueling Our Faith." The emphasis will be on the Book of Faith Initiative and the dates are July 9-11.

Registration forms can be found online at the VA Synod WEB page. Completed forms should be sent to the Virginia Synod: Power in the Spirit, P.O. Drawer 70, Salem, VA 24153 by June 15.

It's back to the Bible for ELCA Lutherans! The Book of Faith Initiative was established by the ELCA to invite the whole church to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered, and sent by the Word. This session of Power in the Spirit will be devoted to the Bible – the written Word of God – its content, meaning, interpretation, and role in the Church and the lives of individual Christians.

Mark Allan Powell will be the keynote speaker and Bible study leader. Dr. Powell is one of the leading Lutheran Bible scholars and has been deeply involved in the Book of Faith Initiative.

Submitted by Helen Ida Moyer

Synod Assembly

The Synod Assembly of the Virginia Synod, ELCA, will be held June 5-7 on the campus of Roanoke College in Salem, starting with registration at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 5th.

We are gathered at this Assembly to experience and express what it means to be called to be church together as the Body of Christ – as we care for necessary items of business, participate in and experience corporate worship, be inspired by the theme program and speakers and engage in fellowship.

The theme for the 2009 Assembly will be **AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST: GOD'S HANDS, OUR WORK.** The theme will continue our discernment of and response to God's call to us, as baptized Ambassadors for Christ, to be about that call in service to our neighbor (at home, school, work, neighborhood local and global). Institutions and Agencies will serve as witnesses to and models for our call to be servants of Christ, as we are reminded of God's working among us, and working through us as the hands of Christ serving family, friend, and stranger.



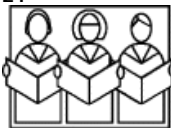

From the ELCA

May Birthdays



NAME	BIRTH DATE
<i>William Saum</i>	<i>5/02</i>
<i>Ed Erickson</i>	<i>5/04</i>
<i>Justin Wade</i>	<i>5/05</i>
<i>Paul Duffau</i>	<i>5/05</i>
<i>Helen Post</i>	<i>5/06</i>
<i>Ruth Haverstrom</i>	<i>5/08</i>
<i>Donald Bossong</i>	<i>5/09</i>
<i>Paul St. Clair</i>	<i>5/10</i>
<i>Ann Pfister</i>	<i>5/10</i>
<i>Lucas Eide</i>	<i>5/11</i>
<i>Flo Walsh</i>	<i>5/14</i>
<i>Rhonda Tuck</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Jean DeMarco</i>	<i>5/17</i>
<i>Ethan Parker</i>	<i>5/17</i>
<i>Joyce Schmidt</i>	<i>5/23</i>
<i>Marj Schurmann</i>	<i>5/23</i>
<i>Larry Teal</i>	<i>5/25</i>
<i>Deena Cuda</i>	<i>5/28</i>
<i>Aidan Carter</i>	<i>5/28</i>
<i>Ruth Campopiano</i>	<i>5/30</i>

MAY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Bread for the World Sunday Offering of Letters 9:15 AM Adult Education Hour 9:15 AM Children's Education Hour 10:15 AM WORSHIP	27 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office	28 10:00 AM 5G's outing to Lexington/VMI/meet at office 7:00 PM Mutual Ministry Committee/Library 7:30 PM Youth Choir/Grace	29 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 10:00 AM Travelin' Singers/meet at church office 12:00 PM Ken Albright in Office	30 3:00 PM Office Cleaning/Marj Schurmann 7:30 PM Adult Choir/Grace	1 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office	2
3 Habitat Sunday 9:15 AM Adult Education Hour 9:15 AM Children's Education Hour 10:15 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM Spring Congregational Meeting/Middle School 4:00 PM Habitat Prayer Service	 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting/Glory	5 Leadership Seminar for Pastor 7:30 PM Youth Choir/Grace	6 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 12:00 PM Ken Albright in Office 4:00 PM Old Farm Day Planning Meeting/Glory	 3:00 PM Office Cleaning/Grace Bomberger 7:30 PM Adult Choir/Grace	8 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office	9
10 MOTHER'S DAY 9:15 AM Adult Education Hour 9:15 AM Children's Education Hour 10:15 AM WORSHIP	11 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office 7:00 PM Leadership Team/Glory	 7:30 PM Youth Choir/Grace	13 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 12:00 PM Ken Albright in Office	14 3:00 PM Office Cleaning/Marj Schurmann 7:30 PM Adult Choir/Grace	15 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office	16
17 FOOD BANK SUNDAY 9:15 AM Adult Education Hour 9:15 AM Children's Education Hour 10:15 AM WORSHIP	18 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office	19 7:30 PM Youth Choir/Grace	20 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 12:00 PM Ken Albright in Office 3:00 PM Administration Committee/Glory	 3:00 PM Office Cleaning/Jan Crowther 7:30 PM Adult Choir/Grace	22 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office	23
24 9:15 AM Adult Education Hour 9:15 AM Children's Education Hour 10:15 AM WORSHIP	25 MEMORIAL DAY - OFFICE CLOSED	 7:30 PM Youth Choir/Grace	27 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 10:00 AM 5G's Outing to Richmond and Agecroft Hall/meet at office 12:00 PM Ken Albright in Office	28 3:00 PM Office Cleaning/Marilyn Carney 7:30 PM Adult Choir/Grace	29 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office	30 Relay for Life/Time to be Announced
31 9:15 AM Adult Education Hour 9:15 AM Children's Education Hour 10:15 AM DAY OF PENTECOST/Confirmation Sunday (wear red)	1 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting/Glory	2 Leadership Seminar for Pastor 7:30 PM Youth Choir/Grace	3 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 12:00 PM Ken Albright in Office	4 3:00 PM Office Cleaning 7:30 PM Adult Choir/Grace	5 VA Synod Assembly and VA Synod YOUTH Assembly 9:00 AM Gabi Dech in office 9:00 AM Ken Albright in Office	6 VA Synod Assembly and VA Synod YOUTH Assembly

Remember: The most up-to-date information and details about events listed is available on our website calendar at www.GraceandGlory.org.

If you have a need for the office or additional information that should be included on the calendar, please send the information to Gabi Dech at gglcelca@embargmail.com, or call her at 589-2217.

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31	June 7
Minister	Kenneth Albright	Kenneth Albright	Paul St. Clair	Kenneth Albright	Kenneth Albright	Kenneth Albright
Lay Assistant	Dick Haas	Sue Pickett	Helen Ida Moyer	Joe Shaver	Youth	Justin Wade
Reader	Ed Martell	Ruth Campopiano	Walt Lindenmann	Charlotte Albright	Youth	Gretchen Feury
Ushers/Greeters	Marge & Al Miesemer	Carol & Justin Wade	Ruth Haverstrom Gertrud Barton	Marilyn & Wayne Carney	Jane & Frits Geurtsen	Mary Stowe Carol Benske
Acolyte(s)	Kyle J.	Katie S.	Katey S.	Bridget B.	Paul D. Kyle J. Conor B.	Julia A.
Sound System	Dennis Wolf	Larry Teal	Bob Pickett	Paul Crowther	Bob Pickett	Steve Jenkins
Altar Care	Clara Cooper Marilyn Carney	Ellen Lindenmann Jo Martin	Doris Meyer Patty Shaver	Jan Crowther Janet Rockafellow	Barbara Smith Mary Stowe	Doris Parsons Ruth Haverstrom
Refreshments	Helen Ida Moyer Carol Benske	Ester Teal Jane Geurtsen	Gretchen Feury Janice Brown	Clara Cooper Doris Meyer	Youth	Jan Crowther Marilyn Crowther
Tellers	Helen Post Carol Parsons	Barbara Smith Justin Wade	Jan Crowther Joe Shaver	Irma Forger Jane Geurtsen	Roy Schurmann Kingsley Brown	Lou Cooper Paul Crowther
Visitor Contactor	Marj Schurmann	Jean DeMarco	Sue Pickett	Sue Pickett	Wayne Carney	Marj Schurmann

Sunday Helpers

We all give thanks to our faithful Sunday helpers who provide our music, set up and take down the equipment, chairs, altar and other worship aids, and to those who organize and secure our readers and worship assistants, greeters and ushers, and hospitality providers.

Greeters/Ushers

Patty Shaver -- 589-6050

Readers and Assisting Ministers

Sue Pickett – 589-5994

Sunday School

Terry Shifflett – 589-8270

Hospitality

Carol Wade -- 589-3232

Jean DeMarco – 589-5165

Altar Care

Mary Stowe – 589-8621

Janet Rockafellow – 589-9608

Altar Flowers

Rachael Huddle – 589-3360

Music

Julie Martell – 591-0503

Acolytes

Lynette Kacmarcik – 589-8413

Tellers

Marj Schurmann – 589-1206

Sound System

Marj Schurmann - 589-1206

If you have signed up for a duty and find that you cannot make it for some reason, please arrange to find a replacement.

Prayer List Request

E-mail Carol Parsons at ggprayerlist@embarqmail.com or call her at 589-6068 if you wish to add or delete a Prayer List concern.

Bulletin, Office and Calendar Requests

E-mail Gabi Dech at gglcelca@embarqmail.com or call her at 589-2217 to:

1. Have an announcement included in the Sunday bulletin
2. Schedule the office meeting spaces
3. Have an activity or meeting included on the church calendar. The calendar is posted on our Website (www.graceandglory.org).