



THE FRIENDLY VISITOR

Grace Lutheran Church



Volume 3, Issue 6

Companion Congregation: Msindo Parish in Tanzania

August 17, 2010

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Summer Worship Times

Saturdays – 5:00 p.m.

Sundays – 9:00 a.m.

Spanish Translation services
each Sunday, beginning Aug. 29

La Voz de la Esperanza service

10:45 on Aug. 22

in Esperanza Chapel

Stewardship Thought

Time Management

We hear a lot about time management these days. Usually this is in reference to the latest strategies for getting the greatest number of tasks accomplished during a day at work. We Americans seem driven by productivity! This obsession with productivity even carries over into our time management at home – typically showing itself in our efforts to get as many household tasks completed as possible, while finding time to transport the kids (or grandchildren!) to sports activities, music lessons, or other extracurricular activities.

But “time management” is really a stewardship issue. Here’s why.

Remember, the Bible teaches us that everything we have, including our time, is a gift from God given to us in trust, to be used for God’s purposes. Remember also that we are to be good stewards – or managers – of all that God has entrusted to us. This means that we are accountable to God for the use of our time.

So...how does God want us to use our time, the precious moments of life that God grants to us? The key word is “balance”. To be sure, God intends for us to be diligent in our work – giving an honest day’s labor for a day’s wages. But God does not intend for our work to become all-consuming. God also wants us to care for our families and for ourselves. We should budget ample time for both of these important responsibilities.

But to be good stewards of our time also involves devoting some of it to the health and well being of the Church – that community of faith charged with the spreading of the Gospel – and to caring for our neighbors. We should take time for prayer, Bible study, and volunteer service. It is this component of good stewardship of our time that is often neglected.

This may sound like a lot to get done within the limits of twenty-four hour days and seven-day weeks, but the truth is that if we carefully plan our time with all of these responsibilities in mind we can lead faithful lives and not neglect any of them. If we find ourselves saying that we “don’t have time” for one area of responsibility it is because we are devoting too much time to another. Our God is a God of abundance who does not ask more of us than we are given the resources to accomplish.

And here’s the good news! If we carefully plan our time to accomplish all that God desires we will find that we are living more balanced lives that are not only pleasing to God, but happier and healthier for us. ***The Stewardship Committee***

Sympathy is extended to Louie and Sue Anderson and family on the death of Louie's father, Louis H. Anderson, on July 20. His funeral was held on July 24 with burial at Resthaven Cemetery. Pastor Tim Johnson officiated.

Sympathy is extended to Gumaro, Marta, Jacqueline and Yaritza, on the recent death of Gumaro's mother in Mexico.

Sympathy is extended to the Turner family in the death of Hal's mother, Isla Rose Turner from Lindsborg, KS.

Note of sympathy – Ron Friest of Phoenix, AZ, brother of the late Mazelle Carlsen, passed away Sunday, August 1 at a family reunion in Iowa City.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

Worship Escorts Needed - Grace Lutheran Church has been asked to be worship escorts for Trinity Center at Luther Park on Sept 19 and 26, at 9:30 a.m. It will only take about an hour of your time. This is a good opportunity to spend time with the residents. If you are interested, please call Barb Tussing at 278-2039. Thank you.

Lutheran World Relief Needs Your Help - The LWR Fall Drive is coming up in September and October. Anyone interested in helping the committee is asked to call Pat Bordt for more information.

Scrapbookers, photographers, and writers---
Are you interested in creating a booklet about our church and history? - As a part of our Call Process, we would like to create a relatively short (SHORT!) booklet which contains a brief (very brief) history of the church, pictures of the neighborhood and area, pictures of our groups and members, and text about who we are. We need photos, new and old, and interesting facts to share. This could be a very important book to share with the new pastor and prospective members. Our goals are to provide information about us and encourage people to join us. We need to complete it by end of September, to be able to show to prospective pastors.



To all my Dear Friends at Grace,
Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, and other expressions of concern while I was hospitalized recently. It means more than I can tell you. God bless you all.

Pat Rehder



Congratulations

Char Nielsen won blue ribbons at the Iowa State Fair for her delicious carrot cake and for her tasty lasagna.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' MEETING

Calling all Sunday School teachers! Mark your calendars for a teachers meeting on Sunday, August 29 at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room. This will be a short meeting for the purpose of distributing materials for the coming season. If you cannot make it, please contact Tammy Denton or Stephanie Johnson. Thank you ahead of time for the blessings you will be to your students!

Men in Mission

Men in Mission will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, September 2. The speaker will be Vivian Der Huel of the Iowa Department for the Blind.

Southeastern Iowa Synod Publications

The SE Iowa Synod puts out several publications; some are monthly, some are quarterly. If you go to the website, www.seiasynod.org/publications.html, you can read Our Synod in Action, CrossRoads Newsletter, The Lutheran, The Country Pulpit, and Directions, among others.

Good New Series in The Lutheran

Starting with the July issue, "The Lutheran" magazine has published two insightful articles as part of a yearlong series on "A Lutheran Christian Life For Today." It is written by Peter Marty, senior pastor of a large Lutheran church in Davenport and host of a recent Lutheran radio program. Appearing on the first page of the magazine, the first article dealt with the difference between using the word "Christian" as a noun and as an adjective. The second article pointed to the value of doubt. Our church library has a copy of "The Lutheran," if you don't receive it regularly in the mail.

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Team Grace
Coasts with Fantastic Hosts
RAGBRAI 2010



We began our journey in Sioux City on Saturday evening. Our gracious hosts, Rick and Karen, were not at home that night but left us the key to their beautiful home. Beautiful, not only because of the swimming pool in the back yard, but also because of the great view from the top of the big hill on the edge of town. While the rest of RAGBRAI was struggling up that hill, we coasted down the back side of hill #1.

Sunday we rode 68.5 miles on a perfect morning with manageable hills. We arrived in Storm Lake to find our hosts, Scott and Cindy, with iced down refreshments and plenty of shade trees for our tents. Scott and Cindy are avid bikers and wonderful people. We had fun sharing biker stories and enjoyed their company very much. In the morning Cindy had fantastic homemade pumpkin bread, banana bread, and fresh fruit to send us on our way.

Monday was another great day and 79 miles later (100 for Paul) we arrived at the home of Bill and Lori in Algona. 70 acres along the Des Moines River of woods, wildlife, and a beautiful brick ranch with a shower even high enough for Mike. Bill and Lori were so gracious; they were also hosting a few other riders, one of them happened to be from Charles City. His name was Jeff and he invited us to stay at his home on Wednesday night. Jeff was clearly placed in our presence by the hand of God because team Grace had no place to stay on Wednesday until we met him in Algona.

Tuesday was hot but the route was flat and only 60 miles. We had two hosts in Clear Lake, Paul's brother Duane, and a family friend of the Rissmans, so the team split up. Both hosts offered inside refuge from the rain storms that night as well as private bathrooms, showers, and home-cooked meals.

Wednesday was cool, the roads were flat, and the route was short. Only 51 miles to Charles City where we looked up our newest friend, Jeff. Just when we thought it would be impossible for a host to be more gracious than the last one, the impossible would happen. Jeff had a party and a feast for about 50 people which included the city administrator. Team Grace was treated like royalty and had an enjoyable evening listening to biker stories told by the "energizer bunny" from Minneapolis. After repeated attempts by Team Grace to pay Jeff back, Jeff said, "Don't pay me back - pay it forward."

Thursday was a long 82-mile ride, but we were rewarded with more fantastic hosts in Waterloo. Paul's parents, Romaine and Carol provided ice-cold beverages, private showers, and real indoor beds with clean sheets. They also provided a delicious supper and breakfast the following morning. Romaine was such a good sport he volunteered to drive our support vehicle Thursday and Friday so the rest of us could ride.

Friday morning was rainy, cold, and miserable, but the sun finally came out just before the end of our 61-mile ride. Once again, friends came through for us, or more accurately, God's grace shined on us again, and we were welcomed in Manchester by our hosts Dave and Rita: generous people who opened their house to us.

The last day of the ride was Saturday. Only 47 miles, but to say the road into Dubuque is hilly would be putting it mildly. One hill in particular had most of us pushing our bikes instead of peddling.

RAGBRAI is a great way to make friends, build relationships, and of course eat huge amounts of pie and ice cream. Team Grace is looking to grow and add more members. Please join us for some short/fun rides this fall. We will be meeting in the church parking lot Saturday mornings at 8:00 am for a ride to the downtown farmers market, or maybe Sunday afternoons on the Raccoon River trail.

Team Grace – Paul Kallenbach, Carla Peterman, Mike Peterman, Jon Rissman, and Rich Snyder

Three Scholarships Awarded

Three of our Grace students have been awarded \$500 scholarships for the 2010-2011 school year. Eilly Peterman will be a senior at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, MN, Jessye Flannery will be a sophomore at Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, MN and Tyler Peeler will be a freshman at Grand View University.

Tyler had planned to attend Dana College in Blair, NE but unfortunately they closed their doors so his second choice is Grand View. Please keep our students and all of our young adults in your prayers.

The Scholarship Committee would like to thank all of you who have made donations throughout the years to this fund. We have provided 50 students with scholarships since this committee was established in 1928. Donations should be taken or mailed to the church office and designated for the Scholarship Fund and any amount, large or small, is greatly appreciated.

Companion Congregation Committee Update

On the fifth Sunday in August, we will have a Tanzanian Service and put a special note in our prayers: we joyfully celebrate Msindo and Mararo being our companion churches for 10 years. Our dear friend Azza Mmbaga is working as an evangelist in the parish and they have acquired a new pastor. Our companion churches are going through similar transitions. We have put projects on hold during this chaotic time. There are still many reasons to continue our relationship and plans together.

The Companion Congregation Committee is not exclusive; if you are interested in learning about Tanzanian Lutherans, want to visit them, want to serve the needs of both congregations, or are just curious, please join us. We are always glad to have new members on the committee. It is not a permanent commitment (although you may become as passionate as some of the long-time committee members and be drawn to committing to a long-term of service.) All you need to do is to come to the next meeting.

The Companion Congregation Committee would like to announce that a new bishop has been selected in the Pare Diocese. Our dear friend Bishop Stefano Msangi retired and a new bishop has been selected. The Reverend Charles Mjema became the Bishop-elect of Pare Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) during the Diocesan Assembly held May 2-4 this year at Same in Kilimanjaro Region. He takes over from Bishop Stefano Msangi who retired over a year ago. The Pare Diocese assembly also voted in The Reverend Timothy Msangi to become the Assistant to the Bishop replacing Rev. Eliraha Mmwiri.

Lakefront Property for Sale

Lutheran Lakeside Camp, which is owned by many churches, including Grace, plans to sell some acres near the current front entrance. Selling this area will not affect the camp in general, the buildings, or use of the camp facilities. It is a lovely wooded and grassy area with lakefront, houses, fields, and the camp on the sides, located on East Lake Okoboji. If someone is interested or knows someone who might want to purchase lakefront property, please contact the camp for more information. Developers say the whole parcel is worth over \$3 million. They would love to have someone who is a friend of the camp or a camp association member to purchase it.

The primary reason for the sale is to pay off debts and create an endowment fund to put the camp on a strong financial base. Originally, many camps had their own funds, but Lakeside was owned by the synod, and therefore, did not have the funding source of many others. When the ELCA and LCA joined, Lakeside became independent of the synod and owned by the churches that chose to use it. As a result, Lakeside began with less financial support than most camps. Grace, with over 100 other churches in the state, has long been a supporter and user of Lakeside. We own a large area of lakeside property next to Parks Marina, which continues to appreciate in value financially. Lakeside is sacred ground to many people who have an attachment to it and who have found a source of spiritual growth and Christian community.





Looking Toward Fall

Fall Worship Schedule Begins on September 12

8:15 a.m. – Worship Service
9:15 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship
9:30 a.m. – Education Hour
10:45 a.m. – Holy Communion service with Spanish Translation

Our last Saturday evening service for the season will be held on August 28 at 5:00 p.m.

Attention Parents of Confirmation Students:

The date for the annual Confirmation Retreat is Saturday, September 11, 2010. We will meet at Grace at 9:30 a.m. and then move to the Honsey family farm for afternoon activities.
Howard Kulzer and Julie Honsey

“Unwrap the Gifts” on Rally Day – September 12

Christmas isn't here yet, but we still have many things to unwrap. God has given us a variety of gifts to be used for the good of others. Wondering what they are? Beginning with Rally Day, the Lay Ministry Team will be finding various ways throughout the year to help us get in touch with what those gifts are and how we might use them both within and outside the walls of Grace.

On **September 12 from 9:30-10:30am**, come to Grace Hall to find out what our baptisms and the call of Moses have to do with our daily lives. Come for a time of intergenerational fun! It will also be an opportunity for Sunday School students to meet their teachers and get to know them before the start of classes the following week.

Don't miss out! We hope to see you there!



Super Wednesday Kids' Hour

and Pray and Play

Yes, it's that time again! With the start of Super Wednesday on September 15 come all of the accompanying activities. That includes Kids' Hour and Pray and Play!

Kids' Hour goes from 6:30-7:30 p.m. each Wednesday and is designed for children in grades 1-5. Pray and Play takes place at the same time but is geared toward 4-5 year old children. Both groups meet at the bottom of the stairs by the pop machine (near the office) and then play some games in the gym from 6:30-6:45 p.m. After that, Kids' Hour children have activities in Sunday School room 102, and Pray and Play children go to room 101. Activities will be led by Kelley Bowermaster (ages 4-5), Beth Flannery and Stephanie Johnson (grades 1-5).

Parents, we ask that you pick up your children from their classrooms at 7:30pm and remember to sign them out.

So that we can plan accordingly for these fun filled activity times, a sign-up sheet will be available on Rally Day, September 12 and will be on the Children, Youth, and Families bulletin board across from the library after that date.

Interested in helping with these weekly events? Please contact Stephanie Johnson at 276-6873 or stephaniejohnson@q.com. We'd love to have you on board, and you'll see what a gift our children are.

POST-VBS PIZZA PARTY!

Attention all teen VBS volunteers! We are planning a pizza party for you in thanksgiving for your invaluable service during VBS this year. We would also like to hear your feedback on what you thought went well, what we can do better, any ideas you have for the future, etc. Plan to come to a pizza party on **September 26 at 12:00pm in Grace Hall.** **Please RSVP to Stephanie Johnson by phone, email, or in person.** See you then!

An Evening with our Bishop

On Tuesday, September 21, you will have the opportunity to spend some time with Bishop Michael L. Burk in conversation and fellowship. You will hear his thoughts on what it means to be the people of God in mission together through the ELCA and the Southeastern Iowa Synod, and you will have the opportunity to share topics and questions of your own as well. Mark your calendars and take advantage of this opportunity:

Tuesday, September 21, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

2600 E. Euclid Ave.

Des Moines, IA 50317

Grace Hunger Hike Team

- World-wide, one out of every six persons is hungry.
- 421,000 lowans are “at risk” for food security.
- In 2009 requests from DMARC’s food pantries increased by 66%.
- 96% of Hunger Hike receipts are used to provide food for needy persons.

Jesus calls us to feed the poor. Follow him in love by joining the Grace Hunger Hike Team as we walk in the way of Jesus to help feed hungry people.

Sunday, October 10, 2010

Gathering time: 1:30 p.m.

Hike launched: 2:00 p.m.

State Capitol (west steps)



Contact Julie Honsey for more information

BIBLE STUDY NEWS

We have a variety of new Book of Faith Bible studies available for use. This is a series offered through Augsburg Fortress, and the studies are designed to be very user friendly and to help us become more engaged with God’s Word. If you are interested in any of them for your own small group or for a group that currently meets at Grace, please feel free to use them at any time. We encourage you to do so. We currently own 1 leader’s guide and 1 learner’s guide per unit, but ordering information for additional copies is available.

These studies are currently housed in Stephanie Johnson’s office, but we will soon find a better place for them so that they are more accessible and widely used. Please read through the list of topics and see if anything sparks your imagination. If you are interested in leading one, or sharing it with others, please contact Stephanie.

- *Making Sense of Scripture: Big Questions About the Book of Faith*
- *Genesis*
- *Exodus*
- *A Gardener, Two Travelers, and a Cheat: Adam, Abraham, Sarah, Jacob*
- *God’s Standard or Gold Standard? Studies in Proverbs*
- *Being the Body of Christ: Studies in 1 Corinthians*
- *1 John (will be offered as an adult forum option Oct 24-Nov. 14)*

Congregational Leadership Series

If you have an interest in transforming your ordinary activity and passions into spirit-filled ministry, then this workshop might be for you. Whether you are a teacher, in business, a homemaker, a factory worker, a social worker, a teacher - you are doing ministry. Come learn more about what it means to follow Christ in your daily life and to bring your faith to life in new ways.

The two part seminar is called "Incarnational Ministry: Following Christ Right Where You Are" and will be offered in Des Moines through the Center for Renewal on **October 25-26**. The Monday evening session will explore our daily ministries, and the Tuesday morning session will explore the incarnational nature of the church as the body of Christ. They will take place at Grand View University. You do not have to attend both sessions.

Stay tuned for more details to come. Contact Stephanie Johnson if you are interested.



Grace Lutheran Church Congregational Council Meeting Tuesday, June 22, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mary Helt, Joyce Lewis, MeLissa Lawson, Dan Warren, Kathy Bowermaster, Carla Peterman, Gary Nehmer, Rich Snyder. Absent: Deanna Weber, Kristin Medhurst, Jon Rissman, Julie Honsey, Pastor Tim Johnson.

- 1) Devotions were offered by MeLissa Lawson.
- 2) The agenda was adopted. Minutes of the May council meeting were approved.
- 3) Staff reports were reviewed and accepted. The finance report was reviewed and accepted.
- 4) The Council voted to call a meeting with Pastor Tim Johnson on or around July 13 for the specific purpose of discussing a timeline for the surveys, interviews, and other steps of the call process. The Council also passed a motion to cancel the regular July Council meeting.
- 5) The Council discussed the June 13 Congregational Meeting and the presentation of bylaws changes. Another congregational meeting will need to be scheduled for the purpose of officially voting on these changes. The meeting was tentatively scheduled for July 18 immediately following the worship service.
- 6) Council discussed plans for Latino worship in the summer. A subcommittee of Julie and Kathy developed a draft position description. More research will be done on the hours needed for various tasks, and the position description will be given to the Personnel Committee for their input. The Worship Committee will be asked to provide recommendations on future use of the Spanish language liturgy and hymns. The Council also agreed that Mary and Joyce will conduct an exit interview with Ellen.
- 7) The agenda item on Green issues and recycling was tabled.
- 8) The Council discussed the benefits of activating the Pastoral Support Committee.
- 9) The Council also discussed the attendance policy for Council members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Bowermaster

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Council

**Grace Lutheran Church Council Meeting
July 13, 2010**

Present: Deanna Weber, Kathy Bowermaster, Julie Honsey, Rich Snyder, Gary Nehmer, Mary Helt, Jon Rissman, Pastor Johnson, Joyce Lewis, Carla Peterman. Absent: McLissa Lawson, Kristin Medhurst, Dan Warren.

- 1) The agenda was approved.
- 2) Old Business
 - a. Rich responded to previously asked questions regarding bylaws and presented a proposed change of the number of members to serve on the Scholarship Committee. The proposal will be presented to the congregation at the next Special Meeting on July 18, and voted on at the Congregational Meeting in January. The Council approved the proposal.
 - b. The council reviewed the list of inactive members and the contact letter to be sent to inactive members. The Council approved the final list and letter.
 - c. Pastor presented the timeline for the call process. It was honed and approved by the Council.
 - d. Pastor presented the Congregational Questionnaire/Survey and a Ministry Site Profile. The Council approved both.
 - e. Gary, Carla, and Mary will begin filling out the Ministry Site Profile. The profile will be completed by the Call Committee.
 - f. Call Committee Nominations and the congregational Questionnaire/Survey are to be completed by August 1.
 - g. The end of September was established as the tentative completion date of the Ministry Site Profile.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Honsey, Council Secretary

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Council

Finance Committee

Report to the Congregation - July 2010 results

Below is a summary of the income and expense of Grace Lutheran Church for the past month and Year to Date.

Pledged offerings are in line with budget, would expect to be above budget due to pledges received after budget prepared

Other Income YTD includes \$2,770 VBS designated gifts & \$5,402 of Esperanza designated gifts

The expense activity for these areas was overbudget by a similar amount

We had a favorable variance to budget year to date, however this was primarily due to expenses that were budgeted for which the actual expense has yet to occur.

Any favorable variance has been committed to restore the \$23,149 benevolence reduction that was made to balance the 2010 budget.

Operating Activity Summary (Grace)

	<u>One Month Ended July 31, 2010</u>			<u>Year to Date July 31, 2010</u>		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
Offerings	36,007.35	31,317.00	4,690.35	262,959.95	260,512.00	2,447.95
Other Income	1,068.43	1,245.33	(176.90)	21,829.50	14,215.90	7,613.60
Total Income	37,075.78	32,562.33	4,513.45	284,789.45	274,727.90	10,061.55
Expenses	42,455.34	39,750.87	(2,704.47)	265,590.51	272,593.44	7,002.93
Net Income (Loss)	(5,379.56)	(7,188.54)	1,808.98	19,198.94	2,134.46	17,064.48

Music Notes.....

On your mark, get set, go!!! Ready or not, here we go!!! It just doesn't seem possible that it is time to begin our Wednesday evening activities. I know that I had a lot of things on my "to do" list, but I don't think I have half of it accomplished or maybe even started. Even though that list is still there, we did have a wonderful summer. It was great to have our family with us as we celebrated Sarah and Tyler's wedding. And it was super to have so many of this church family be a part of that celebration. Now it is time to turn to the church activities that will be restarting. The meeting times of the music group will be remaining the same, so this will be a friendly reminder.

The first order of business will be the annual potluck for Grace Bells, Grace Brass and Chancel Choir. It will be held at the Dewein residence at 1025 59th Street, West Des Moines beginning at 6:00 p.m. Drinks, plates, utensils, cups, will be provided. We ask that you bring one or possibly two food dishes to share with everyone. Hopefully the weather will cooperate (no rain or high heat) and we will have the deck and backyard to use. If that doesn't work, we do have plenty of space for people. If you have not been a participant in any of these groups and are thinking that this IS the year to be a part of these groups, then this is a good time to start. We hope that lots of you will take the time to come for this evening of fun and fellowship.

The Grace Bells, Chancel Choir, and Youth Bells will all begin rehearsals on September 1. Youth Bells will be from 6:00-6:30 p.m. with Grace Bells to immediately follow from 6:30-7:30 p.m. These two will be in the bell room in Msindo Hall. The Chancel Choir will meet in the choir room beginning at 7:45 p.m. and rehearse until 8:45 p.m. Each group is always ready to welcome anyone that would like to be a part of these ensembles. Don't be afraid, just come and join. The Youth Choir and Chapel Chimers will delay their start until September 15: the first Super Wednesday Activity Night. The Chapel Chimers will rehearse from 5:30-5:55 p.m. and the Youth Choir from 6:00 to 6:25 p.m. Both these groups will rehearse in Msindo Hall. Grace Brass will begin on September 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Choir Room in Msindo Hall. They will be glad to have additional members join this group. Carol Woodruff is the contact person for Chapel Chimers and Youth Bells. I will be directing the Grace Bells, Chancel Choir and Youth Choir.

I have been advertising the upcoming Hand Bell Ringers Workshop that will be held at Grace on October 9. John Behnke from Concordia University in Milwaukee will be our guest clinician. John is a composer and arranger of Hand Bell Music. This is sponsored by the AGEHR of Iowa. We are pleased to possibly have 100 hand bell ringers from all over the state and the surrounding states. This is a daylong event that will have interest sessions on ringing techniques and styles. Mr. Behnke is a highly sought-after clinician and we are pleased to have him with us. Mr. Behnke is also an organ recitalist and he will present an organ recital at Grace Lutheran on Friday, October 8. We are pleased to host this concert. The program will last approximately 90 minutes. We are hoping to have Mr. Behnke at the organ combining with Grace Bells on the concert.

Our worship services will return to 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, September 12. The last Saturday evening service will be on August 28. The Saturday service experienced a change in venue this year, as it was moved to the Esperanza Chapel. While I have heard there are some that might prefer this service in the sanctuary, there is an intimacy of being in that room that seems to work. I have played for it this summer and the feeling of being close and worshipping in that space is comforting. I am aware there are members that might wish it would be a "year-round" service. The Worship Committee has had many discussions on this aspect and will discuss it again at our future meeting. If you have comments, please give those to a member of this committee so they can be shared. Our regular worship has taken on a new characteristic that began the end of July as we have added a Spanish translator in the service. The bulletin does have both Spanish and English printed side by side. When we begin two services on September 12: the 10:45 service will also be translated.

The year's activities are quickly being placed on the calendar. I look at the calendar for the upcoming months and I see how active this church is and then often wonder how we will get everything done. Isn't it great?

See you in church. RICH



2010 Grace Lutheran Church Best Shot Golf Outing

What: 9 holes, 4 person best shot, 1 mulligan per team available for purchase

When: Sunday, September 26 – arrive no later than 3:15 p.m. for 3:30 p.m. tee off.
Golf cost will be refunded if it is rained out.
We will enjoy dinner together at approximately 6:00 p.m. rain or shine.

Cost:	Golf and Cart*	\$27	Includes: 9-holes, use of cart and \$2 for prizes / tip
	Burger Meal**	<u>\$10</u>	If you are not a golfer, come for dinner only!
	Total	\$37	Total for golf and dinner.

*Carts required for best-shot tournaments.

**If anyone would like the meal without the burger, it will be \$6.

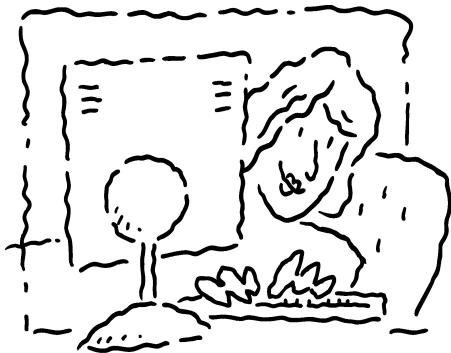
Checks payable to Connie Heuton

Mulligan (optional) – one per team at a cost of \$4. Money is collected at the course and is used to purchase prizes next year.

Location: Woodland Hills Golf Course
620 NE 66th Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50313
(515) 289-1326
www.golfwoodlandhills.com

Directions: Take Hwy 69 / NE 14th exit off of I-80/235 and travel north a few miles to NE 66th.
Travel west .5 miles on NE 66th.

**Good food and Prizes!
Fun Grace Fellowship!**



Friendly Visitor Update

This issue of the Friendly Visitor is Lori Fry's last one as Jackie will resume this duty, so please give future articles to Jackie in the church office. The deadline for the September newsletter will be the 16th. Lori will continue making the Sunday bulletins so please send those announcements to her.

Thank you!

Lutheran Services of Iowa

Being Prepared

This spring, Iowans remembered the two year anniversary of historic flooding that devastated homes and communities. These disasters immediately left its victims wondering what actions to take and how to respond. Lutheran Services in Iowa, the Iowa affiliate of Lutheran Disaster Response, was honored to work with the resilient families and individuals affected by these disasters. Over a two year period, LSI provided case management on over 3,000 cases and helped people achieve their long term goals and reach recovery.

September is National Preparedness Month, and during this time the events of 2008 are a good reminder that being prepared for any situation protects your family and congregation and allows you to act in these critical situations. To find emergency preparedness tips for your family, go to www.ldr.org/prepare and read how your congregation can prepare for emergencies.

Relying on the Lord

Harold Klossowsky reached out and touched his wife's hand as the emotions began to dampen Patty's eyes and make her voice shake. "The last two years, now going into the third, it's just been one difficult thing after another," said Patty. This Waverly couple has been consumed by the recovery process since the floods of 2008, when water inundated the first floor of their home. "The Lord works on you," said Harold, remembering his first thought. "I don't have much money. Are we going to be homeless?" It was an emotional time." Then, in the midst of putting their home and lives back together, a different kind of disaster struck. In May of 2009, Patty discovered she had cancer, beginning a battle that took immediate precedence over material things. "We still haven't been able to deal with everything because I got sick," said Patty. "We didn't make much progress on the house after that." Thankfully LSI has been able to ease some of the burdens of disaster recovery. Brent, their LSI case advocate, found volunteers to move items back into the house, assisted with the filing of recovery paperwork and secured financial assistance through LSI's elderly grant program. Ultimately, Harold and Patty agree it is faith that has carried them through it all. "We both had the Lord to rely on," said Patty. "I know that's the only thing that kept us from giving up."

September Birthdays

September 1	Cindy Peeler Kurtis Behn		John Schall	22	Wayne Bruns
2	Michelle Voelker Heather Nelson Andrea Brunk	10 12 13	Harold Wallace Duleep Singh John Trickle		Nancy Hefner Jeanine Rutter Aaron Thompson
3	Verona Fenimore Grant Sindergard Andy Anderson		Anne Farrell Rhonda Jensen Abigail Darge	23	Susanne Carney Angela Ringgenberg Cory Johansen
4	John Donnenwerth Bill Henderson John Sipma Melissa Pope Ryan Lillard	14 15	Katelyn Jessen Sandy Cunningham Jayme Rothweiler Laural Brown Richard Voelker	24	Michael Meadows Jessie Sims Thomas Rutter Ella Oberhart
5	Richard Snyder Nicholas Vance Kiley Brandsfield	17 18	Lorna Johns Karen Mann Rhonda Downard Kristin Murra	25	Karla Tillotson Ellen Rothweiler Barb Powers Judy Olson Bruce Mumm
6	Kelly Anderson Nely Ruiz	19	Sonny Hutton Kristen Jahn Sarah Helt	26	Joshua Podlich Jeanette Best Jeryl Janson Gregory Honnold Helen Schroeder Bill Kallestad Joshua Curry
7	Dennis Rehder Craig Winget Patrick Dolan Jack Miller	20	Frank McKinney Cindy Wheeler Michael Vernon Helen Richards Chris Lehfeld	27	Marvin Malmin Ross Peeler LaRue Buihner Aaron Page
8	Ethan Meadows		Anthony Royster Brandon Gonzalez	28	
9	Art Berven Lois Slye JoAnn Gronert Carrie Schall Tavian Briseno Robert Ford Alex Mulvihill	21		29	Robert Rissman

**Hope Ministries' Second Annual
Walk a Mile in Their Shoes**
~ a walk-a-thon to help the homeless in central Iowa ~

**Hope begins with you! Come *experience* this walk.
Saturday, September 4, 2010
Copper Creek Lake in Pleasant Hill, IA
Registration begins at 9 a.m., Walk begins at 10 a.m.**

Our church is invited to participate and partner with Hope Ministries as they raise awareness about homelessness in central Iowa at their second annual walk-a-thon! All proceeds will benefit Hope Ministries programs and services to homeless men, women and children.

In 2009, at their first annual walk-a-thon, more than 500 people participated! Their goal this year is 1,700. Unlike any other walk-a-thon, Hope Ministries is offering an interactive experience! Along the 1.2-mile path, you will see card board testimonies from once-homeless individuals and families who are current shelter residents or recovery program graduates. Statistics about homelessness will be posted along the path, and there will be prizes for participants who complete a fill-in-the-blank stat sheet.

New this year: "Loop the Lake!"

With enough participants, we will be able to surround Copper Creek Lake to form a "Circle of Hope" of compassionate men, women and children who will stand together in solidarity for people who are homeless in our community.

To learn more and about the Walk and to register for the event, go to www.hopeiowa.org, or call 515-265-7272 to find out where you can pick up a Participation Form.

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