

GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Wisconsin Synod)
5600 West Palmaire Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
www.graceglendale.org



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Rev. David R. Clark 623-842-4704 x303 study
623-412-0470 home
Rev. H. Daylo, Jr. 623-842-4704 x321 study
623-937-0588 home
Princ. Matt Herbst 623-937-2010 x302 office
Church/School – 623-937-2010 x301 office
ALA – 602-268-8686 office

2008 - Newsletter



Worship Times

Saturday @ 6:00 pm
Sunday @ 8:00 & 10:30 am

Sunday School - 9:30 am
Sunday Adult Bible Classes 9:30 am

August Events:

- Aug 2** - Annual Classroom Clean Up - 8:00 am
- Aug 6** - School Registration Day 8:30 -11:00 am & 4:00 -7:00 pm
- Aug 8** - Grace Olympics for Teens & Young Adults
- Aug 10** - LES Opening Service & Sunday School Teacher Installation 10:30 am
- Aug 11** - Back to School Night (New Families at 6:30 - All Families at 7)
- Aug 13** - First Day of School
- Aug 21** - Moms & Tots 9:00 - 11:00 AM

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church ~ 5600 W. Palmaire Ave. ~ Glendale

Grace Ev. Lutheran Newsletter

Volume 21 Issue 7

July 2008

Christians say I love you in funny ways #3: I'm sure you are mistaken...

In our ongoing series about the funny ways Christians say I love you, we have another way of doing things that is uniquely Christian. It is so unique that it is difficult sometimes even for long time Christians to say, "I love you," in this way. The words go something like this, "I'm sure you are mistaken."

OK!, People, Us. What do these have in common? They are some of the top selling gossip magazines in the United States. Wikipedia lists twenty-four such magazines. In addition, there are more websites than you can count. The latest events of celebrities, whether it be their trysts, their tikes, or their trips to rehab all seem to be of interest.

I have heard more than one commentator say that the only thing Americans like more than building up people is tearing them down. Some of the wisdom of our age recognizes this.

- "It takes many good deeds to build a good reputation, and only one bad one to lose it." Benjamin Franklin
- "It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it." Warren Buffet
- "It is easier to cope with a bad conscience than with a bad reputation." Friedrich Nietzsche
- "Never make negative comments or spread rumors about anyone. It depreciates their reputation and yours." Brian Koslow

David was just a young man. His capabilities and his faith were shining examples as he served the true God. His own king, Saul, was jealous of all that attention. Saul was the most powerful man in Israel. Left unchecked Saul could not only have ruined his reputation, but also have taken David's life.

What stopped him? Someone loved David enough to say to Saul, "I'm sure you are mistaken."

- *Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. (1 Sa 19:1)*
- *Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Let not the king do wrong to his servant David; he has not wronged you, and what he has done has benefited you greatly. (1 Sa 19:4)*
- *Saul sent men to David's house to watch it and to kill him in the morning. (1 Sa 19:11)*
- *"Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" Jonathan asked his father. (1 Sa 20:32)*

These is a time when one of those funny ways of saying, "I love you," occurs. As Christians who are entrusted with the truth, we have a responsibility to speak out against evil and to warn those who are falling into sin. The other side of that is also true. Taking someone's words and actions in the kindest possible way is reflecting the love of Christ. Not being willing to listen to someone do what Saul tried to do with David is another. Being willing to say to someone, "I'm sure you are mistaken," shows the love of Christ. Or as the Scriptures say:

- *Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers over all wrongs. (Pr 10:12)*
- *Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. (1 Peter 4:8)*

The sinful nature in each of us will struggle at times to show such love. Regular use of God's Word and regular attendance at the Lord's table will not only assure us of our forgiveness, but also motivate us to show love in this funny way.

-Pastor Clark

ATTENDANCE

June CHURCH Attendance

May 31	57	Jun 15	306
Jun 1	320	Jun 21	52
Jun 7	64	Jun 22	305
Jun 8	297	Jun 28	76
Jun 14	69	Jun 29	274

Communion Attendance for June was 575.

June SUNDAY SCHOOL Attendance

Date	Adult	Youth	SS
Jun 1	75	6	32
Jun 8	-	6	34
Jun 15	84	8	30
Jun 22	72	4	32
Jun 29	82	6	29

July CHURCH Attendance

July 5	52	July 19	77
July 6	285	July 20	309
July 12	45	July 26	
July 13	292	July 27	

Communion Attendance for July was 559.

July SUNDAY SCHOOL Attendance

Date	Adult	Youth	SS
Jul 6	77	-	31
Jul 13	75	7	36
Jul 20	64	9	28
Jul 27			

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

- (T) Transfer
- (R) Release
- (RM) Removed
- (BIC) Bible Information Class (previously listed as *Adult Information Class*)
- (P) Profession of Faith
- (YC) Youth Confirmation

Membership Changes (in)

- M/M Bob Sturm (T)
- M/M Randall Zeamer & family (T)

Zurama Zeamer (T)

Membership Changes (out)

- M/M Mike Biciolis (T)
- Bradene Biciolis (T)
- Laura McDunn & family (R)



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Enclosed with this newsletter is the Church / School operating budget for fiscal year 2008/09 that was adopted at the July voters

meeting. The just completed fiscal year brought many blessings to be thankful for, and next year brings new challenges to bring to your attention:

Blessings from 2007-08:

1. School income was up \$55,000
2. Our operating deficit was cut in half to \$41,037
3. The 80th Anniversary / Special Deficit offering raised over \$55,000

Challenges for 2008-09:

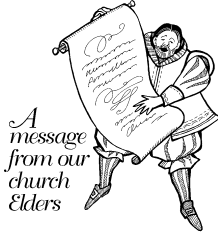
1. Provide a salary increase to our Called Workers
2. Absorb another 20% of total mortgage into the operating budget
3. Increase offerings by \$82,305 to meet budgeted expenses and NOT increase deficit (\$82,305 is an average increase of \$10 per month from each communicant member.)
4. Extend the 80th Anniversary /Special Deficit offering through June 2009 to continue reducing the deficit

We have many blessings to thank our God for, and if we continue to place our trust in Him, He will continue to bless His ministry at Grace! Please take time to evaluate your personal stewardship. If you have any questions regarding our finances or budget, please contact Don Petersen.

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"Mind if I call ya back? I'm in the middle of a sermon."



TWO BOXES (God's Boxes)

I have in my hand two boxes,
Which God gave me to hold.
He said, 'Put all your sorrows in
the black box,
And all your joys in the gold.'

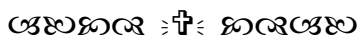
I heeded his words, and in the
two boxes,
Both my joys and sorrows I
stored.
But though the gold became
heavier each day,
The black was as light as
before.

With curiosity, I open the black,
I wanted to find out why,
And I saw, in the base of the
box, a hole,
Which my sorrows had fallen
out by.

I showed the hole to God, and
mused,
'I wonder where my sorrows
could be!'
He smiled a gentle smile and
said,
'My child, they're all here with
me.'

I asked God why he gave me
the boxes,
Why the gold, and the black
with the hole?
'My child, the gold is for you to
count your blessings,
The black is for you to let go.'

Submitted by,
Ed P. Merkle
Head Elder



**LUTHERAN
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL –
Matt Herbst,
Principal**



Praise to the Lord! We thank our Lord for another school year where our students, parents, and teachers have been able to grow in their faith and understanding of our Savior. Now preparations are being made to do it all over again next year. Although the teachers' schedules are a bit more relaxed, we still fervently work in preparing for next year. Please pray with us that the Lord blesses our summer prep time, and that he gives us even more opportunities to share his Word with even more families and students!

Accreditation Update - After fixing two of the standards that the visiting team requested of us, we will now be recommended for **full** accreditation through WELS School Accreditation (WELSSA) and the National Council of Private School Accreditation (NCPSA). Much work was done by many faithful volunteers and much more will still come. We look forward to using this process to continue to improve the Christian, high-quality education that we carry out in Jesus' name!

Enrollment Information – Would you like to learn more about our Christian, high-quality education? If so, please contact the school principal to

schedule a tour and to speak with him about how Grace can serve your child's educational needs!

Sponsor our Students – Sponsor our Students (SOS) is a wonderful opportunity for those who would like to donate to our tuition assistance fund. SOS is set-up so that you can either designate a specific child or just donate to an undesignated fund. With a large number of tuition assistance requests, we would love to help as many families receive a Christ-centered education as possible. SOS forms can be found in this newsletter, on the school's website, or from the office.

Tuition Tax Credit – It is not too early to donate your AZ state taxes to a child here at Grace! Fill out a HELP Foundation donation packet (website, office, narthex) and use this dollar for dollar tax credit to help a family pay their tuition! For more information, please speak with Matt Herbst or Debbie Petersen today!

- Important Upcoming Dates**
- August 2 – Clean-up Day – 8:30-11:00
 - August 4 – Faculty In-service
 - August 5 – Faculty In-service
 - August 6 – Registration Day - 8:30-11 am: 4-7 pm
 - August 10 – Opening Service – 10:30 am
 - August 11 – Back-to-School Night: 6:30 new families; 7:00 all families
 - August 13 – First Day of School

Scrip – We just received a check in the amount of \$873.44 towards tuition for 8 Grace families! We will soon be receiving another check that will go to our Tuition Assistance Program. We are anxious to see the amount for that one also!

If you're a regular Scrip User - THANK YOU! Keep up the good work. If you haven't tried it yet - it's easy! Purchase the gift cards from Debbie on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall before Bible Class or in her office any day of the week.

Aluminum Can Collection

YES, we are still collecting aluminum cans! Please bring your cans in plastic bags the last Sunday of each month, and place them in the southwest corner of the courtyard. Students at school may bring cans on the following Monday or Tuesday. Money collected from this will help pay for supplies for picnics, open house, etc.

Thank you for your help!

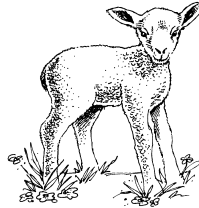


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"Sleeping? Er ... Ah ... I'm meditating."

Lambs of Grace Preschool



We are looking forward to the start of school! It's not too late to register. If you know anyone with a 3 or 4 year old (already potty trained!), that might be interested in preschool, please have them contact Barb Rubin at 623-937-2010 ext 317.

We have spaces available in our 2, 3, or 5, full and half day programs.



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MUSIC NOTES – Choir/Handbells/ Men's Octet - Lyle Koch

The Summer is a perfect time for music students to attend one of the various music camps offered. Several students have traveled to Flagstaff to attend Northern University either Junior or Senior Music Camp. ALA student William Unkefer was selected for Honor Choir and sister Bethany placed 2nd chair in the symphonic Band Senior Camp. William also placed first chair trumpet in a jazz band. Grace student Connor Phillips attended Jr. Camp and was selected to participate in the Symphonic band. Grace

member Connor Carpenter attended both Jr. and Sr. camps.

Piano students Janie Unkefer and Veronica Busby attended NAU as piano students and Flutist Jade Huber went to a week long camp in the valley.

While at camp the students received instruction, auditioned for placement in the various groups and are kept active musically from early each day until 9:00 at night. It is a wonderful enriching experience.

Veronica Busby writes, "My overall experience at NAU Curry Summer Music Camp was very good. My classes were fun and they taught me a lot about piano music and theory. The downside of going to camp is that you had to walk everywhere and you had to be 5 minutes early to be on time. I had a good time and learned a lot of new things and they expanded on what I already learned. At the end of the week all the students performed in a recital and played one song on their instrument in front of the parents.

The experience was so cool. Another advantage of Music Camp was that I got to be away from home and experienced what it's like to have a roommate and not be at home. I am very happy that I went to music camp and am looking forward to doing it again."

We are looking forward to hearing these young Christians praise our Lord with skills that are thus improved.



STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship / Deficit Update

Jun Reg. Offerings:	\$56,701
YTD Offerings:	\$633,499.90
Change from Prior Year:	-2%
Current Deficit / Surplus:	(\$41,036.92)
Special Deficit reduction funds received	\$35,690 from leaders + \$21,057 from congregation

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The 45th Annual (LWMS) Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Convention has come and gone. It was quite an experience. What a wonderful opportunity to spend 3 days in such a lovely place with so many great (and "like-minded") people.



The speakers/presenters were very informative and interesting to listen to. People were friendly, the food was delicious! It was definitely a worthwhile experience for women and men alike. #46 will be held next June in Denver, Colorado. Plans are already being made, so start thinking about it now - Denver's not too far away, and it's lovely there in June when it's HOT here in Arizona!

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Your taxes, their Christian education.



If you owe Arizona state taxes this year, you can **CHOOSE** where some of your tax dollars will be spent! You can contribute up to \$1,000 (married couples filing a joint return) or up to \$500 (single taxpayers) and your donation can help students attend Grace Lutheran School and Arizona Lutheran Academy. When you donate, you will receive a dollar-for-dollar **TAX CREDIT** from the state of Arizona and you will receive a refund of any amount you donate as long as your tax liability equals that amount.

Donation Kits are available at church. Or, simply go to: www.HelpFoundationOnline.org You may donate online or download the donation form and mail it in along with your check. Your donation may be given any time during the year, but must be postmarked by December 31. Check out the H.E.L.P. Foundation's website for additional information.

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Alpha Pregnancy Counseling Center - Bottles for Life

\$2196.83 was collected from Grace! Funds were matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and sent to Alpha! Thanks to everyone who participated.



Council Reports

... are now available by e-mail to any Grace Member. We have started e-mailing these reports in PDF format after the Council and Voters meetings. If you have e-mail and did not receive the reports, please send your e-mail address to: officemanager@graceglendale.org and we will make sure that you are added to the mailing list.

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From Safeway & eScrip!

Look How Easy It Is:

- A.** Look for the yellow school bus and buy participating products at Safeway Stores.
- B.** 10% of the purchase price can support the school of your choice when you use your registered Club Card between **August 6th - September 9th.** **HERE'S HOW:** If you are already registered with eScrip, your 10% will be automatically donated to your school. If you are not registered with eScrip, ask your cashier for your Register Receipt when shopping between Sept 12 and Oct 13, 2008.
- C.** Your Receipt will include a redemption code. Be sure your school fundraising coordinator receives the certificate before Oct 13 - and your school earns!

BoxTops For Education:

Clip the small rectangular BoxTops for Education label off of cereal and other food boxes: General Mills, Pillsbury, Hamburger Helper, Betty Crocker, Old El Paso, Totino's, Chex Mix, Nature Valley, Yoplait, Gold Medal, Bisquick, and Ziplock. Those little cardboard squares are worth \$.10 each! Check boxes for bonus labels also! If you register online with your e-mail at www.boxtops4education.com they will send a monthly e-mail newsletter & coupons.

Campbell's Soup Labels:

Bring in your Campbell's Soup labels as well as labels from: Franco American, Pepperidge Farms, Pace, V8, Prego, Swanson and Healthy Request. **We need the upc codes this year**, so please don't send just the fronts anymore!

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Message from Thrivent Builds Program...

We'd like to ask for your help in getting the word out about the Thrivent Builds Worldwide program, which is an alliance between Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Habitat for Humanity, sending groups around the globe to provide families with simple, decent, affordable housing. Throughout the world, millions of families are living in substandard housing. You can help change their lives through a Thrivent Builds Worldwide trip. This is an opportunity to learn new skills, experience a new culture, meet other

Lutherans who share your passion to make a difference, and do something really amazing—help give a family a chance at economic independence.

*If you're a member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, you'll receive a discount on trip costs. A donation also will be made to the Habitat for Humanity host program on behalf of members who participate in the volunteer work trip. It's a life-changing opportunity to see the world **and** feel the power of your membership in action!*

We are still looking for team members and team leaders for 2008 Thrivent Builds Worldwide trips. Packaged trips include destinations like Biloxi, Mississippi (\$295 plus airfare for Thrivent members), Bolivia, Hungary, and Romania. Trips range from one to three weeks.

If you're interested or would like more information contact me or another member of my Lutheran Community Services team who can help you with the program, Ryan Albert at (619) 448-1542 or ryan.albert@thrivent.com.

Visit www.thriventbuilds.com/worldwide for trip information and eligibility guidelines.

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