

GRACE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
(Wisconsin Synod)
5600 West Palmar Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301

www.graceglendale.org



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“Change Service Requested”

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

2009 - Newsletter



Worship Times

Saturday @ 6:00 pm

Sunday @ 8:00 & 10:30 am

May Events:

- May 1-3** - Pioneer Fishing Trip
- May 3** - Teens Fellowship, noon
- May 5** - Ladies Aid 7 pm; Board of Ed 7 pm
- May 5 & 6** - AZ Pastoral Conference
- May 7** - Moms & Tots 9 - 11 am; Pioneers Awards Night
- May 8** - Grace LES Concert 7 pm; Young Adults BBQ @ Kruegels
- May 15** - Grace LES Family Night 7 pm; Dinner 4:30 - 6 pm
- May 17** - SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING; Teens Pool party, noon
- May 20** - **Bethany Choirs Concert @ Grace 7 pm**
- May 21** - **Grace LES Graduation 7 pm**; School dismisses at 11:30 am
- May 22** - Young Adults, 6 pm
- May 23** - **ALA Graduation 10 am**;
Fellowship Hall reserved for Graduation Party
- May 26** - Newsletter Assembly 9 am

Sunday School &
Bible Classes @ 9:30 am

Week day Bible Classes:
Tuesdays - 2 pm
Wednesdays - 7 pm
Fridays - 10 am

(no Bible Classes on
May 5, 6, 20, 26, 27, 29)

Choir/Handbells practice
Monday evenings

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

Grace News

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church

5600 W. Paltaire Ave.

Glendale, AZ 85301 (623) 937-2010

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Volume 22 Issue 4

April 2009

Luther's Principles of Christian Worship – Part 3: The Historic Voice of the Church

When Luther nailed the 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenberg, he did not intend to start his own church. In fact, to his dying day he pointed out that he never wanted reformed Christians to refer to themselves as *Lutherans*, because he felt it implied that they were some sort of sectarian off-shoot of the church. In 1524 he wrote: “*We teach nothing new. We teach what is old and what the apostles and all godly teachers have taught.*”

If ever there were a time for Christians to make a clean break from the church, some would argue that the time and circumstances of the Reformation most definitely begged for that separation from the past. But even then, by Luther's urging and example, churches retained many of the Roman church's forms and rites. This included psalms and other liturgical songs (the Ordinary), the cycle of scripture readings (the Proper), and Christian creeds that existed for centuries. Was Luther trying to compromise with Rome? Was he not creative enough to develop his own unique style of Lutheran worship? Were church members stuck in the past or indifferent about new worship formats?

For one thing, Luther did not believe in throwing out the good with the bad. The basic elements of the Roman rite originated in the early church, and they were faithful to the Scriptures. It was the medieval additions that (ahem) messed up the *Messe* (that's German for 'mass' or 'church service.'). Remove the abuses and false teachings, and much of the *Messe* clearly proclaimed the gospel. Luther worked to honor the traditions of the Christian church which faithfully witnessed the voice of the gospel.

In addition, Luther stated that retaining these true and faithful elements of Christian worship connected contemporary Christians with believers of the past. His goal was that future generations of

Christians would maintain this outward connection with the Holy Christian Church, with all believers in Christ. “*A common faith invisibly united them, and Luther intended that they should be united visibly by a common form of public worship.*” For this reason, also, Christian worship can recognize the historic voice of the church.

Still today believers confess our unity with the Holy Christian Church that spans time and space. By outward forms and traditions of worship, as Luther emphasized,

Lutheran Christians have outwardly connected themselves with and shown high respect for believers of the past and present, believers who have used the same words and forms of worship since the second century. Because we believe our Lutheran teachings to be in sync with the historic faith of the church, it also makes sense to preserve certain traditions of the historic Christian church in our worship. After all, the members of the holy Christian and apostolic Church have confessed the truth of God's Word in various ways and in various places for twenty centuries.

To be clear, “*A respect for the past does not obligate today's church to use every historic form exactly as it first was used. The tradition of the church always continues to move forward, and new forms of worship come to stand next to the old.*” In other words, we want to work to incorporate meaningful forms of worship. Beware of mindless traditionalism or the thought that, “*We can't do it that way, because we've never done it that way here.*” For those who appreciate the worship legacy of the church, the question to consider will be: “*Which are legitimate traditions, and which are local customs?*” One may be a fast-fizzling fad, while the other is a time-tested treasure.

Historical, time-tested worship customs echo the historic voice of the church and link believers to our common confession of faith. No matter where you go, throughout the U.S. and beyond, Lutherans

“For God is not a God of disorder but of peace... Did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached?”

(1 Co 14:33, 36)

can hear that echo and identify with others who share an appreciation for that historic voice of the church. That's because worship is "a conversation between God and his people that has been going on for centuries throughout the cosmos, and that they have joined the conversation only recently and, then, with only limited experience."

The Apostle Paul wrote, "Did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached?" The context of this verse deals with orderly worship, something which certain members of the church at Corinth apparently did not appreciate. To apply Paul's words to our concern for orderly worship, the believer will ask, "Is it wise or beneficial to dismiss centuries of Christendom's traditions that are faithful to Jesus' institution and God's Word? Am I not free to accept these critically tried and tested traditions? Should I not also approach these traditions with respect and reverence?"

As we seek to beautify and improve the way we worship, we do well to listen to the historic voice of the church. We will continue to develop and incorporate music that glorifies our risen Lord Jesus, remaining faithful to his Word and appreciative of the gospel-rich elements of worship employed by believers of all ages. What a timeless, amazing fellowship we share in Christ!
- Pastor Daylo

Attendance...

March CHURCH Attendance

Mar 1	360	Mar 18 Lent	231
Mar 4 Lent	282	Mar 21	50
Mar 7	42	Mar 22	335
Mar 8	384	Mar 25 Lent	261
Mar 11 Lent	234	Mar 28	46
Mar 14	57	Mar 29	389
Mar 15	370		

Communion Attendance for March was 570.

March SUNDAY School Attendance

Date	Adult	Youth	SS
Mar 1	107	12	42
Mar 8	103	12	29
Mar 15	90	11	30
Mar 22	98	8	36
Mar 29	92	7	30

April CHURCH Attendance

Apr 1 Lent	225	Sunrise	231
Apr 4 Exam	165	Apr 12	444
Apr 5 PS	435	Apr 18	29
Apr 9 MT	291	Apr 19	403
Apr 10 GF	239	Apr 25	
Tenebrae	170	Apr 26	

Communion Attendance for April was 496.

April SUNDAY School Attendance

Date	Adult	Youth	SS
Apr 5	-	-	23
Apr 12	-	-	-
Apr 19	107	-	33
Apr 26			

Membership Changes...

- (T) Transfer to another WELS Congregation
- (R) Release
- (RM) Removed
- (BIC) Bible Information Class
- (P) Profession of Faith
- (YC) Youth Confirmation

Membership Changes (in)

- Carter Wayne Bebee (YC)
- Brad Thomas Biedenbender (YC)
- Amanda Sue Brugman (YC)
- Brianna Jane Buchholz (YC)
- Cheyenne Nathanael Lewis (YC)
- Emily Ann Miller (YC)
- Connor Jeffrey Phillips (YC)
- Austin Joel Press (YC)
- Tatiana Ortiz Zeamer (YC)
- Chris Christiansen (BIC)
- Dianne Bailey (BIC)
- Nick Cureton (BIC)
- Christine Friszell (BIC)
- Steve & Teresa Moore (BIC)
- Chelsea Whittington (BIC)
- Glenda Chagolla (BIC)



Membership Changes (out)

- Julie Weigelt (RM)
- Tom Weigelt (RM)
- Catie Reiter (RM)
- Christy Weeks (RM)
- Sandy Cochrell (R)
- Gary Froemming(R)

Sacred Acts...



Derek William Darling and Veronica Ashley Bedenbender were united in Holy Matrimony on April 18, 2009.



Jonathan Robert MacDonald was brought into the Kingdom of God's Grace through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on March 8, 2009.

Madilynn Marie Stokes was brought into the Kingdom of God's Grace through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on April 12, 2009.

Jade Olivia Sonntag was brought into the Kingdom of God's Grace through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on April 19, 2009.

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A message from our church Elders

Why Go To Church?

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this.. They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing... God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

Submitted by, Bob Gruetzmacher, Head Elder

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LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Matt Herbst, Principal

14For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

The above passage is a motivational passage that I share with our students frequently. In order to do all to the glory of God, we have to first realize Christ's love for us. Once we do, we will want to glorify God wherever we are in whatever place God chooses us to be.

This month, I'd like to highlight how our students and faculty are able to demonstrate their fruits of faith and glorify our Lord for his love to us!

Student Achievement – The past month, a number of students have achieved some very wonderful accomplishments. Our math bowl team took first place out of 14 teams. Also, Connor P. was the individual top scorer. Eight students from Grace took a top three finish in their respective grade level spelling bees against 8 other schools. And two 7th grade students were semi-finalists in the Young Naturalist Essay Contest which is a nationwide science essay that was submitted for their class. These were all done through competition. However, every child at Grace is doing this as they diligently do their daily work and reach their potential.

Continued Education – Title II funds are helping our teachers go to some amazing conferences this coming summer. Teachers at Grace realize that their profession is ever changing and that the skills needed to reach every child need to be developed. With this in mind, six of our teachers will be attending the National Conference on Differentiated Instruction in late July in Las Vegas. And one will be attending the Conference for Kindergarten Instruction in Mesa. We have spent our total \$3000 for registrations and also \$2000 for travel granted to us by the government.

Music Concert – On May 8, our talented young musicians will be performing a concert in our Fellowship Hall. It will begin at 7 pm. Our band, Jr. Handbells, Jr. Choir, and Handchimes will have an opportunity to showcase their God-given abilities.

Family Night – Family Night will be held once again in the Fellowship Hall on May 15. We will have a dinner beginning at 4:30 and the show will begin at 7 pm. All are invited to hear our classes put on fun skits and songs and celebrate all of our students great accomplishments throughout the school year.

Grace is not a perfect school with perfect teachers and perfect students. However, we do have a perfect message to share each and every day. It is rooted in our Lord's love for us and helps our students see the opportunities they have, even as young children, to reflect his love in their lives!

Registration

Our registration process is in full swing for next school year. All those entering PK-8th grades can now preregister for the 2009-2010 school year. Some classes are actually close to being full, so register now! You can contact the school for more information or check out our website at www.graceglendale.org/school.

Preschool

Our preschool will be submitting its paperwork to the state to become fully licensed by next school year. This is an exciting time for our preschool which has had a record enrollment of 34 students this year. We look forward to continue to reach out to many more families through our preschool program!

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education met in regular session April 7, 2009. The Board continues to work with the Stewardship Committee in an effort to control our cost of education, for the 2009-2010 school year tuition rates will remain the same as currently set. It is important to realize that due to rising costs of education the tuition rate for school year 2010-2011 most likely will rise. Also approved were changes in school room assignments in order to provide a dedicated space for our Grace Youth Group.

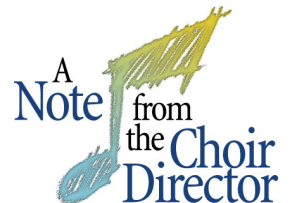
Faculty and a representative from the Board have been working together to improve the measurability of our school objectives, particularly those objectives that are academic in nature, to ensure improvement and that we continue to meet WELSSA requirements for continued accreditation.

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MUSIC NOTES

Choir/Handbells/ Men's Octet - Lyle Koch 🎵 🎵 🎵

It is a special pleasure to hear young musicians from Grace praise our Savior with their musical gifts. On Palm Sunday Jenna Wagner, Nick and Zach Hailey ably accompanied the choir and Praise Ringers. On Easter Zach Hailey played timpani while accompanying the choir. Thank you to them for taking the time and interest to add to these worship services.



The future musicians for our services will hold their annual spring concert on Friday, May 8 at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Your attendance would be an encouragement to the youth to continue their effort on instruments, handbells, handchimes or voice. Also planned for that evening is the popular "Friends of Music" group. This is a group of mature musicians who have willingly joined the grade school band for several selections. The entire evening will be one you will not want to miss.

Recently we saw a poster that read, "God gives me the gift of music. My gift to Him is to share it with all my heart."

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Stewardship / Deficit Update

March Regular Offerings:	\$60,419
March budgeted need	\$68,827
March Shortage	(\$8,408)
YTD Regular Offerings:	\$478,340
YTD budgeted need	\$536,854
YTD Offerings Shortage	(\$58,514)
Current Deficit	(\$88,515)
Special Deficit reduction	\$35,890 from leaders
funds received to date	+ \$37,050 from congregation
Extra Synod Support - Walking Together Funds collected in March	\$477

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**Alpha Pregnancy Center
Bottles for Life**



As in past years, you will have the opportunity to support our local Branch of Christian Life Resources by filling a baby bottle with cash, coins, or a check. Alpha Pregnancy Counseling Center (APCC) assists the women of our community by providing alternatives to abortion while sharing the Word of God. In addition to the spiritual needs of these ladies, APCC fills their physical needs by providing diapers, formula, and baby clothes. Monies collected will be used to support this ministry. Our local chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has agreed to match \$.50 for every dollar up to \$3200. If Grace is able to reach the \$3200 goal, Thrivent will give APCC an additional \$1600.

Baby bottles will be available in the Fellowship Hall starting on Mother's Day (May 10) and will be available until Father's Day (June 21). Please pick up a bottle at your convenience and bring it back on or before Father's Day. If you choose to put a check in your bottle, please make your check payable to Grace Ev. Lutheran Church and note Alpha in the memo line.

APCC is located at 1822 W. Indian School Road. If you are not familiar with APCC and would like more information about the Center, please contact APCC Board Member Keith Feldt (602) 568-4795 or call APCC at 602-285-0050. Volunteer opportunities include Counselor, Hotliner, Helper, and Board Member.

Counselors are trained to interact with clients who visit APCC. Hotliners are trained to answer questions that are forwarded from the APCC hotline to your home and also make appointments for APCC. Helpers assist Counselors by assisting with office work, etc. so that the Counselor is available to focus on the clients. WELS and ELS ladies who are 18 years of age and over can volunteer in these capacities. WELS and ELS men can help by volunteering to be a Board Member. The Board oversees the operation of APCC and meets approximately 6 times during the year.

Thank you members of Grace for keeping APCC in your thoughts and prayers!