

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



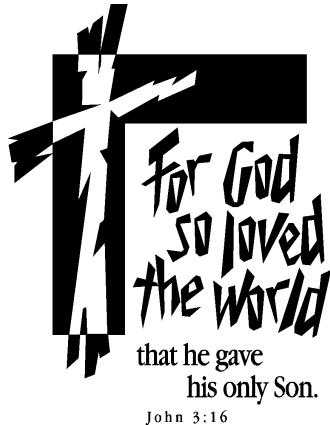
January

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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

“Change Service Requested”

2010 - Newsletter



Worship Times

Saturday @ 6:00 PM
Sunday @ 8:00 & 10:30 AM



February Events:

- Feb 2** - Ladies Aid 7 pm; Bd of Education 6:30 pm
- Feb 4** - Moms & Tots 9-11:00 am; Black Canyon Conference
- Feb 5** - NO School; Black Canyon Conference; Young Adults Game Night 5:45 pm
- Feb 9** - All Meeting Night; Boy Pioneers 6:30 - 8:00
- Feb 11** - OWLS Meeting @ Grace 11 am; Elders 6 pm;
 Council Reports & Newsletter Articles due
- Feb 15** - NO SCHOOL
- Feb 16** - Church Council 7 pm
- Feb 17** - **ASH WEDNESDAY Worship** @ 4:00 & 7:00 Faculty Supper @ 5:00
- Feb 18** - Moms & Tots 9:00 - 11:00 am
- Feb 20** - **SUPER SATURDAY #2 - 9 am - 2 pm**
- Feb 23** - Newsletter Assembly 9 am; Boy & Girl Pioneers 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Feb 24** - **LENT Worship** @ 4:00 & 7:00 Choir Supper @ 5:00
- Feb 27** - Foulks/Steffenhagen Wedding 3:00 pm
- Feb 28** - **GRACE LES OPEN HOUSE 12:00 – 2:30 pm**

Sunday School &
 Bible Classes @ 9:30 AM

Weekday Bible Classes

- ~Tuesday 2:00 PM
- ~Wednesday 7:00 PM until
 Lent services begin
- ~Wednesday - Public School
 Confirm. Class 6:30 PM
- ~Friday 10:00 AM

Every Monday:

- Grace Ringers & Octet 6:15 pm
- Choir 7:00 pm
- Handbells 8:00 pm



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

Grace News

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church

5600 W. Palmyra Avenue

Glendale, AZ 85301 (623) 937-2010

www.graceglendale.org

Volume 23 Issue 1

January 2010

Gospel Optimism #4

I AM OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE AUTHORITIES OVER ME

"I fight authority, authority always wins..." It was an anthem from the 1950's but every generation has repeated it in one way or another. "The establishment; the man; the powers that be" – they are all labels used by the world to describe authority in a less than flattering manner.

The world comes by this rebellion honestly. Our first parents first learned it from Satan and they have very effectively passed it down to every single generation ever since. Our litmus for what is a good authority and what is a bad authority? It's usually, "Do they do what I want them to do." The world has learned Satan's lesson well.

Make no mistake, this is sin. It is a soul-destroying, eternal death bringing, harbinger of damnation. No matter how obvious the faults of those authorities, no matter how much they do not show wisdom or do show the same selfishness by which the world judges them, there is no excuse for rebellion – only certain punishment.

How different it is for the soul saved by Christ! For the Christian we do not see someone with the judgment of a fool or idiosyncrasies of a circus clown, but an ambassador of the Lord. For we Christians, as much as it is our responsibility and privilege to participate in the process, authority is centered in our God. Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, wrote about the Roman government, a government marked by values and outcomes with which no Christian could ever agree!

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. (Romans 13:1) Peter did the same: Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. (1 Peter 2:13-14)

Don't misunderstand. That doesn't mean they will be perfect. In fact all of our authorities will have flaws, some flagrant. They will frustrate, aggravate, and irritate – but we still honor them, even when we disagree. Dishonor authorities, dishonor Jesus. Honor authorities and we honor Jesus.

Why? Certainly our Lord was subject to authorities. He was subject to his imperfect parents even though he was perfect. He paid taxes to the heathen Romans. He respected the position of Caiaphas & Annas & Herod & Pontius Pilate, even while they were carrying out the greatest miscarriage of justice in the history of jurisprudence.

But mostly it is because we see God working through them. We know that our Lord is the one pulling the strings. We know that he has and will continue to work through all of these leaders to bless us. That makes me optimistic about my home, my church, and my nation. I may have doubts about them, but I never doubt God and I take him at his Word. We follow and respect our authorities not because of who they are, but because of who God is. Our authority always wins.

-Pastor Clark

Attendance...

December CHURCH Attendance

Dec 5	63	Dec 20	373
Dec 6	304	Children	556
Dec 12	29	Candlelight	376
Dec 13	342	Dec 25	242
Cantata	284	Dec 27	309
Dec 19	31	New Year	185

Communion Attendance for December was 729.

December SUNDAY School Attendance

Date	Adult	Youth	SS
Dec 6	88	10	47
Dec 13	76	10	Prac
Dec 20	86	15	Prac
Dec 27	-	-	-

January CHURCH Attendance

Jan 2	30	Jan 17	346
Jan 3	329	Jan 23	
Jan 9	38	Jan 24	
Jan 10	359	Jan 30	
Jan 16	48	Jan 31	

Communion Attendance for January was 448.

January SUNDAY School Attendance

Date	Adult	Youth	SS
Nov 1	74	10	45
Nov 8	95	11	47
Nov 15	97	10	66
Nov 22			
Nov 29			

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)

Jason Hartzell (T)

Membership Changes (out)

Cindy Gipson Nesselrode (T)



Sacred Acts...



Aaron Greening and **Brittney Savage** were united in Holy Matrimony on January 2, 2010.



In His infinite wisdom, our Lord called from this life unto himself in heaven the soul of **Arthur Kratz** on December 20, 2009. Services were held on December 30, 2009 at Grace Lutheran Church.

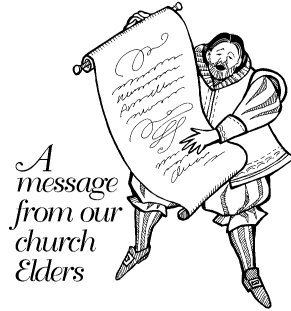
In His infinite wisdom, our Lord called from this life unto himself in heaven the soul of **Delores Brugman**. Graveside services were held on January 15, 2010 at National Memorial Cemetery.

In His infinite wisdom, our Lord called from this life unto himself in heaven the soul of **Clesta Leonard** on January 8, 2010. Services were held on January 16, 2010 at Grace Lutheran Church.

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The Charlie Schulz Philosophy



You don't have to actually answer the questions. Just keep reading, and you'll get the point.

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.
2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.
3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America pageant.
4. Name ten people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
5. Name the last half dozen Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
6. Name the last decade's worth of World Series winners.

The point is none of us remember the headliners of yesterday. These are no second-rate achievers. They are the best in their fields. But the applause dies... Awards tarnish... Achievements are forgotten. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Here's another:

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
2. Name three friends who have helped you through a difficult time.
3. Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
5. Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.

The lesson: The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials... the most money...or the most awards. They simply are the ones who care the most!



Rules from God for 2010

1. Wake Up!! Decide to have a good day. *"Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it"* Psalms 118:24

2. Dress Up!! The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. *"The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance; but the Lord looks at the heart."* 1 Samuel 16:7

3. Shut Up!! Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking. *"He who guards his lips guards his soul."* Proverbs 13:3

4. Stand Up!! For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything.. *"Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good..."* Galatians 6:9-10

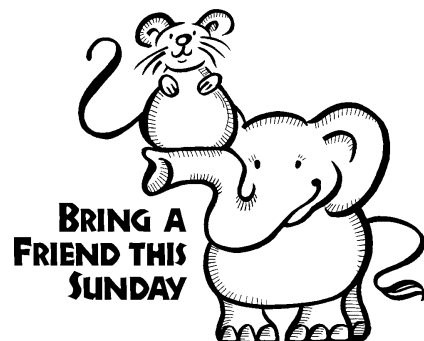
5. Look Up!! To the Lord. *"I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me."* Philippians 4:13

6. Reach Up !! For something higher. *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, And He will direct your path."* Proverbs 3:5-6

7. Lift Up !! Your Prayers. *"Do not worry about anything; Instead **PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING.**"* Philippians 4:6

Submitted by,
Bob Gruetzmacher, Head Elder

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LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Matt Herbst, Principal



An Important Feeding!

How precious is the work we get to do at Grace Lutheran School and Preschool! Currently we have the opportunity to feed 160 lambs of God from Preschool-8th grade. This feeding is something that we take very seriously. It is a privilege to feed these lambs with the Word of Life. Everyday, these children grow in their knowledge of their Lord and his love for them. The psalmist said just how precious this feeding is and how sweet it is learn and understand just how much their Lord loves them! **Psalm 119:103** - *How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*

To hear this message everyday is comforting and powerful. Children are able to go into this world with a different perspective than most. They learn how to fight temptation, where to look for strength, and how to give glory to their God in all they think, say, and do!

Pray for this ministry that it continues to keep this focus of feeding lambs with the sweet message of the Gospel!

Open House - Join us on February 28, 2010 from 12-2:30 pm for our Open House! Classrooms and teachers will be ready for all of our visitors to learn more about a Christian, High-Quality education at Grace Lutheran School and Preschool.

Open Enrollment - Our Open Enrollment will begin on February 28 at our Open House. All new students can begin the enrollment process on this date. If you are unable to make the Open House, plan on visiting the campus soon to pick-up paperwork for next school year!

Kindergarten Round-Up – All kids entering Kindergarten next year are asked to join us for our annual Kindergarten Round-Up on Wednesday February 24 from 8:00-11:30. RSVP by calling Anna Bebee at ext. 325 or email her at anna@graceglendale.org. Come find out what a day in Kindergarten at Grace is all about!

Grandparents' Day – A special thank you to all of the grandparents who came to school with their grandkids. Also, thank you to all of the Grace members who stepped in to be an adopted grandparent for the morning. It was great to see so many of our members helping the students and building these wonderful relationships!

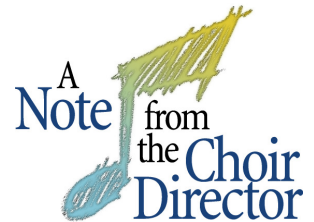
Important Dates

- Feb. 2 – School Board 6:30 pm
- Feb. 5 – No School – Black Canyon Conference
- Feb. 6 – B Team Jamboree
- Feb. 10 -B Home vs. JOY
- Feb. 15 – No School – Presidents' Day
- Feb. 17 – 6-8 Sings 4 pm
- Feb. 18 – A Home games
- Feb. 22-26 – Spirit Week
- Feb. 24 - Kindergarten Round-Up
- Feb. 24 – Jr. Choir Sings 4 pm
- Feb. 25-27 A Team Tournament
- Feb. 28 – Open House/Open Enrollment

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MUSIC NOTES

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



Filing away the Christmas music and preparing music for the upcoming seasons of Lent and Easter gives us special time to reflect. The joyous sounds of the Christmas season still ring in our minds as we recall the beautiful church services.

We smile as we remember the hundreds of people that greeted our two adult handbell groups as they played for Desert Botanical Gardens. It was a long evening of playing but also one of camaraderie with our fellow ringers. The three substitutes that accompanied the groups did an excellent job. (To Alicia Borchardt, Calle Sollie and Quisha Ryan a very special thank you!) Earlier in December we marveled how young and old(er) musicians worked together to present the Celebration of Christmas. Three and a half months of rehearsal were spent preparing the music to ensure that the service pointed to the manger.

The present is also a time to eagerly anticipate the upcoming church seasons and our opportunities to be a part of the services. The choir invites you to come to Monday night rehearsals 7:00 -8:00. It is not too late to become a part of this group. Come sing to the Savior!



Stewardship / Deficit Update

December Regular Offerings:	\$79,835
December budgeted need	\$55,697
December Overage (!)	\$24,138
YTD Regular Offerings:	\$323,958
YTD budgeted need	\$362,005
YTD Offerings Shortage	(\$38,047)
Current Deficit	(\$174,827)
Special Deficit reduction funds received	\$35,890 from leaders + \$39,590 from congregation
Extra Synod Support - Walking Together Funds collected in December	\$485

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FAMILY NURTURE BOARD NEWS



We've got a lot of great things on our plate this year including a new Bible Study geared towards college aged youth at Grace. Before we can accomplish all of our goals, we need to establish the necessary committees to carry out our ministry. As a newly elected officer for Grace, I pray that all those currently serving in various capacities related to youth, young adult, families and Sunday School will continue to serve and continue God's work. In addition, I'm hopeful that we could count on others to serve as well. Whether you've served in the past and miss the joys of carrying out our Lord's work, or have never served before, I welcome the opportunity to use your time and talents. Please call Bret Woodward @ 623-234-8934 if you are interested in supporting the youth and young adult programs at Grace.

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GRACE LADIES AID



The next Grace Ladies Aid meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 2nd at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall! As always, all Grace ladies are welcome to attend. Joining our Ladies Aid is a great way to begin the year in service to our church and the Lord! We hope you will consider attending our meetings and/or joining one of our Service Groups. There are Service Group Signup Forms in the Narthex.

As a matter of fact, the Ladies Aid is still in need of several new group co-leaders. If you are skilled at delegating and would be willing to serve as a co-leader, please call Alice at (623) 937-2010, ext. 301, or email secretary@graceglendale.org. Keep in mind that the veteran leaders will still be members of the group and can give guidance to the new leader. We would really appreciate your help!

We look forward to serving the Lord in 2010 and ask for His blessing on all we do!

Alice Thiesfeldt
President



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Let's Go W.I.L.D.

You Are Invited!

Pilgrim Lutheran Church LWMS group is holding its annual Women's Day Seminar on **February 6, 2010 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm**. This day has been affectionately called **W.I.L.D. day** - for **Women Inspiring, Learning, and Doing**. Speakers are Sarah Bauer of the Truth in Love Ministry on **Witnessing to Mormons**, and Pastor Bill Cornelius on **Everyday Evangelism in Everyday Life**.

Morning coffee and lunch are included. Cost is \$10 per person. Register with Paulette Bartelt (480 986-5845) or Pat King (480 241-2181).

Pilgrim Lutheran is located at 3257 E University Dr in Mesa.

WELS Singles

The January activity for the WELS Singles started out with a devotion by Pastor Ewart of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Tempe.



We had 13 people in attendance, with five churches represented. We played Bunco and with three tables of four, there was a lot of laughing, talking, and competing going on. It ended up being a fun night of fellowship with more Christian friends of our own faith.

The Super Bowl party will be held on February 7, 2010 at Deb Blackwell's house (a friend of Debbie Consoer). Join us for a big screen television football game and what I'm sure will be a fun time. The party starts at 4 p.m. and ends whenever the game does. Her address is 4403 West Villa Linda Drive, Glendale, AZ 85310 (Take Happy Valley Road to 45th Avenue, South on 45th Avenue and turn left onto Villa Linda Drive). Bring a snack to share. Come on out and make some new friends or just spend time with some old friends! RSVP to Debbie Consoer at 602-439-3526 or e-mail at madkam1@cox.net.

Looking ahead to March, plans are in the works for a barbecue and volleyball afternoon. Contact Debbie Consoer if you would like to get involved and help her out!

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"First, I'd like to list the mitigating circumstances."



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