

A STEWARD'S VIEW

Galatians 4:4-7:

On that first Christmas God fulfilled his promise to send a Savior. Just as God uses time wisely and carefully, so we also, as God's stewards, want to use our time for Godly living and giving.

News & Announcements

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Jan Barnett in memory of the Sparks family.

A NOTE OF THANKS: To the Grace families that served the congregation by participating in the Christmas Eve Family Service. Thanks also to Lori Moses & John Matthews for their excellent contributions through the music programs here at Grace. The Elders

A NOTE OF THANKS: To everyone who shared Christ's love by donating items for Youth Hope. The response was great, thanks so much. Carrie Davies

NEW SMALL GROUP BEING FORMED A new Bible Study group is being formed and will begin in January. The group will be led by Jim & Barbara Powell. Anyone is welcome to join this group! For more information call the Powell's 376-6754.

BREAKFAST WITH DAD Saturday, January 12, 9AM. We will host our second Breakfast with Dad events. The turn out to the inaugural Breakfast was great, with fathers bringing daughters as young as 2, and sons bringing fathers approaching 60. Join us as we explore and encourage men in their vocation as fathers. We will eat a hearty breakfast, have a short presentation, and good conversation around the table.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, December 30

Adult Education Hour ~ 9:15 a.m.

Monday, December 31

Noon Prayer Service ~ 12:10 p.m.

Office Closed at noon

New Year's Eve Service ~ 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 1

Happy New Year - Office Closed

Wednesday, January 2

Noon Prayer Service ~ 12:10 p.m.

Adult Choir ~ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 3

Staff Meeting ~ 8:30 a.m.

Noon Prayer Service ~ 12:10 p.m.

Friday, January 4

Sr. Hi Youth Leadership Meeting ~ 12:00 p.m.

Noon Prayer Service ~ 12:10 p.m.

Saturday, January 5

Sunday, January 6

Adult Education Hour ~ 9:15 a.m.

Jr. Youth Meeting ~ 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Adult Bells ~ 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Sr. Youth R.I.O.T. ~ 6:30-8:00 p.m.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST All adult men of Grace are invited to a special Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Wednesday, January 16, from 6:30-7:30 am, in the West Wing of the church. Come and enjoy some Michigan and Minnesota breakfast specials and the fellowship of your peers. Learn about the bi-weekly men's morning fellowship of bible study and prayer. The coffee will be hot and the food and friendship will be comforting. So mark your daytimers or set the alarm for a great beginning to another midweek morning. For more information call the church office (372-4859). Bring a friend!

THE FLOWER CHART There is a new flower chart for 2008 posted by the office. If you wish to give flowers for worship sign up for the date you want. The cost is \$40 for a Sunday.

"Our Family Matters" December 30 2007

Grace Lutheran Church, 3201 Central Avenue, Columbus, IN 47203 812-372-4859
<http://www.gracecolumbus.org> ~ office@gracecolumbus.org

NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP

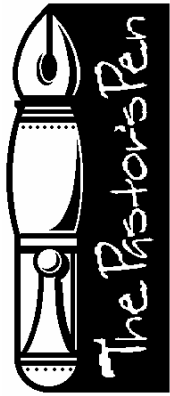
MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 7:00 P.M.

Join us tomorrow evening as we celebrate the blessings of the past year, and God's promise in the next. Grace's New Year's Eve Service will begin at 7:00 pm with Pastor Armstrong preaching the God News of "God's Verdict Upon Us" (based on Romans 8), and will conclude with Holy Communion where Christ will give us His sin-forgiving Body and Blood.

GIVE THE GIFT OF JESUS IN 2008

Follow the call to reach out to our neighbors with the Good News of Christ. We need members to help distribute door-hangers in the local neighborhoods this coming week. Share the saving work of God through Jesus' life, death and resurrection with those who live within a mile of Grace. All you need to do is walk a street or two hanging information on door-knobs. This is a great family service project that anyone, any age can do. Sign up for a role in inviting our neighbors to learn about the fundamentals of the Christian Faith at the next Alpha Class starting Tuesday, January 15 at 5:50 p.m. or Searching Scripture beginning on the 22nd. Their life may well depend on it.

**"Christ-centered worship, proclaiming the Gospel,
and nurturing all into God's family."**



Welcoming the Stranger: A Greeter's Workshop

Jan. 6 and 13

"I was a stranger, and you welcomed me." (Mt. 25: 35)

Carrie Davies, our Director of Outreach and Care, will lead a workshop during Adult Sunday School on the art of making visitors feel welcome. A simple greeting, a smile, a handshake, these simple gestures communicate care and value. Small things matter in relationships, and small things are especially important with visitors, who are forming first and, perhaps final, impressions of our church family. By doing a few, small things and doing them consistently, you can transform a visitor's experience at Grace Lutheran from cold and distant to warm and hospitable. Come to the workshop and sharpen your relational skills.

FIRESIDE CHAT WITH PASTOR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 5:00-6:00P.M.

Join Pastor Armstrong for an informal chat this afternoon in the West Wing. In keeping with his open door policy, Pastor has set aside this time to encourage members of Grace to drop by and discuss whatever ideas or questions you might have. Pastor Armstrong is looking forward to spending some time in good conversation with good company.

News & Announcements

JR HI DUCKPIN BOWLING Saturday, January 12, What is Duckpin bowling? Simply, it's bowling on a smaller scale. However, you describe it, it's fun! And if you're there it will be even better. Cost will be about \$10 plus money for lunch. We will meet at 9:45AM and go to Fountain Square in Indy, having lunch before we return about 2:30. Sign up and bring a friend!

SR HI SPEND THE DAY IN INDY Jan. 19, 1-11:00 pm. What all will we be doing? Some possibilities are Indiana Museum of Art, Shopping, and a dinner theater. However, specifics are yet to be determined. Therefore, total cost is unsure at this point as well. Our goal is \$40 or less. One thing is sure, it will be a great time with some great photo ops, and certainly quotable quotes from many! Sign up beginning Dec. 30.

SR HI YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM has been meeting over the past few months to initiate planning Sr. Hi activities through Summer '08. Sun. Jan. 27 4-5:30PM we meet again to continue developing activities to promote relationships among their peers, as well as encouraging the Jr Hi in their Catechism instruction. Look forward to their creative leadership in the future! Those serving on this team are: Matt Whitlock (Publicity), Rachel Bergsieker, & Alex Harris (Bulletin Boards), Sarah Bergsieker & Bekah harris (Community Life), Sarah Peters (Photography), Ivana Armstrong, and Kaitlin Jines. Please encourage and thank them!

SOUND TEACHING

TITUS 2:1

"WELCOMING THE STRANGER" On January 6 & 13, there will be a single class in the West Wing on Outreach to visitors and non-members. Carrie Davies will be leading this important class which will emphasize the importance of hospitality and greeting to help new-comers feel welcome in God's house. Please plan to attend. Youth are welcome too.

THE SEARCHING SCRIPTURE CLASS will start up again Tuesday, January 22, 5:50p.m. in the West Wing. Pastor will lead the class through the biblical foundation of the Christian faith that has been practiced since the days of the apostles.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL will begin again January 20 through February 24. There will be three classes from which to choose: "Heros of the Faith" led by John Carr; "Gaining a new attitude on life" led by Stephanie Phillips; and "The gift of creativity and how to use it at church" led by Pat Probst". Sign-up will begin next week in the foyer.

ISSUES ETC. SCHEDULE We encourage you to listen to "Issues, Etc." each Sunday at noon, AM 1010, WCSI, sponsored by Grace Lutheran.

December 30

"The Birth of Christ According to the Gospel of John" Dr. Louis Brighton, Professor Emeritus, Concordia Seminary-St. Louis, MO

Vital Need For Tape Ministry

5 people (men or women) are needed immediately to help with the Tape Ministry to shut-ins. Several of our faithful servants have had medical setbacks and are unable to continue the work they have done so well. If you can serve our shut-ins with a short visit and delivery of worship service tapes every few weeks please contact Carrie Davies.