

A Monthly Publication of Grace Lutheran Church

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As we begin a New Year
of ministry at Grace . . .



From

Pastor Chris

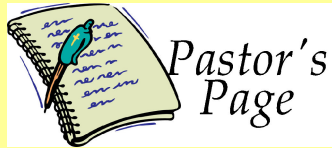
David, Pat & Ellen

Many, many thanks to all
who remembered us during the
holiday season with cards, goodies, gifts
and thoughtful words. We are also
grateful for the congregation's generous
cash gifts. Thanks for all the ways you
support and encourage us every day.

HAPPY

NEW

YEAR



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year! New Year's is always a time to think about new starts, about trying something new, or rededicating yourself to something that has fallen away. Of course we call these New Year's resolutions. We normally resolve ourselves to better eating and exercise.

So it is that vane I invite you to consider making some resolutions about your faith life. You may have heard people say that "faith is a journey, not a destination." With any journey, we need to take time to attend to the journey.

So you don't know where to begin? Here are some thoughts....

1. Make a commitment to coming to church every week, if you don't already! Come to feed at God's table and hear God's promises, **worship** the new born king!
2. Join a Bible study, or better yet, start a Bible **study!** We have three on Sunday Morning and one on Tuesday Evenings.
3. Begin a ritual of morning devotion and **prayer**. There are devotionals right outside the church office if you need a place to start.
4. Explore your talents. Take the on line spiritual gift inventory. <http://www2.elca.org/evangelizingchurch/assessments/spiritgifts.html> and use your gifts here at Grace and beyond. Then, think about **servng** one of the new ministry teams or an existing ministry team. We will have a Ministry Fair all morning on February
5. Stretch your evangelism skills and **invite** a friend or co worker to church!

The more time and energy we spend on strengthening any relationship, the stronger that relationship is. This is also true with our relationship with God. We cannot ignore it and expect it to grow stronger. We need to spend time tending to the relationship.

Take some time this year: Worshipping, Studying, Praying, Serving, Inviting. By tending to your faith, your faith will grow as your relationship with Christ grows stronger.

I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ. Philemon 1:6

**God's Peace,
Pastor Chris**

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

Cancellation of worship services, Sunday School and other parish activities due to winter weather will be handled as follows:

A decision to cancel will be made by the Pastor and the congregation President. The decision will be communicated as soon as it is made, and no later than 6:00 AM on Sunday morning.

Cancellation will be communicated via the church's website www.gracerockhill.com, on radio station WRHI (1340 AM or FM 94.3), and on CN2 (TV Cable News, Channel 2)

FINANCIAL REPORT

Giving for Budget 2011

December	\$45,928
2011	\$500,546

Advancing Christ's Ministry

December	\$4,273
Campaign Total	\$612, 027

THE 2012 FLOWER CHART



In order to give more of our members an opportunity to present flowers each Sunday, each altar vase may be provided individually at a cost of \$25.00.

Members may sign-up to furnish one or both vases each Sunday. The flower chart is now posted at the Information Center. This chart provides two lines for flowers each Sunday throughout the year and a place to sign-up for the monthly sanctuary candle. A separate sign-up chart for weekly bulletins is also posted.

Altar Flowers \$25.00/ week (per vase)
Bulletins \$25/ week
Sanctuary Candle \$20 / month

M EMORIALS & HONOR GIFTS (Received through January 1)

ADVANCING CHRIST'S MINISTRY FUND

In Memory of Gaye Johnson
 by Kathy Bridges

MUSIC FUND

**In Honor of Grace Alone
 and the Handbell Choirs**
 by Bob & Ruth Wasserman

In Honor of Martha, Betty Sue & Wally Seigler
 by Naomi, Kathy & Linda Bridges

In Honor of David Platts & the Music Program
 by Harry & Madeline Hazen

In Honor of David Platts
 by Pastor Chris

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

In Honor of Dan, David & Donald Schmidt
 by Eric & Louise Schmidt

CURRENT FUND

In Honor of Gerry & Kay Lynes
 by Michael & Angela Lynes



Isaiah 58:10, NIV

HUNGER OUTREACH FEBRUARY 2 & 3

From September through May, Grace Church, along with 10 other Rock Hill churches, prepares and delivers meals to the hungry in the Rock Hill community. Grace's responsibility falls on the first Thursday and Friday of each month, serving approximately 200 meals each day. Needs for this

ministry include: cooks, packers, drivers & delivery volunteers. Food items are requested each month and cash donations help to purchase the meat course and paper products.

We need 7 lb. cans of:

Green Beans - Whole Kernel Corn
Baked Beans - Pinto Beans
Turnip/Collard Greens
Sliced Peaches - Apple Sauce
and Individual packets of fruit juice.

Food contributions may be placed on the HOP Shelf Display In the Fellowship Hall. **HOP VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL** are posted on an easel near the Information Center in the Fellowship Hall.



ART FOR ADVENT

AND BEYOND...

"ART FOR ADVENT AND BEYOND" PROJECT

Inspired by the Gospel lessons during the Advent season, (and beyond) we are in search of artistic and creative people who might be interested in contributing to a "Art for

Advent and Beyond" Project. Art ideas can include, but are not limited to, 2-D pencil, paint, or pen. 3-D sculpture, fiber arts, graphic art, photography, folk art, wood carving, culinary, etc.

This project will culminate in an Art Show at the 2012 Christmas Music Festival. If you are interested in participating in this art experience, please use today's Tear & Share. If you have questions, call or email David - 803-324-5295 (Office) 803-320-0796 (Cell) - dplatts@lcsd.k12.sc.us.



Winthrop Episcopal Lutheran Campus Ministry

WELCM

Winthrop Students - We're glad you're here!

Pick up a WELCM brochure from an usher on Sundays, or at the Information Center and make Grace your home away from home! Weekly meetings every Wednesday from 6:00-8:00 PM. At 6:00 PM, a home-cooked meal is served, free of charge, in the Fellowship Hall. After dinner the WELCM group meets at the "White House" - our Campus Ministry Center. Invite your friends and make WELCM a part of your college life!

Grace Lutheran Church Campus Ministry Re-invents the Word Busy!

By Peter Hildebrandt

The Winthrop University Campus Ministry has managed to offer any students willing to participate plenty of activities and events to keep them occupied after classes end for the day. Students and any other young people interested in participating have assembled for the weekly WAG (Wednesdays at Grace) suppers and then met at the church's "White House" afterward for discussions and planning. Prior to Pastor Chris Stoxen's installment, Interim Pastor Linda Anderson also met with students in the sanctuary for bible study when enough students were present.

Students and other participants have taken in part in varied activities, such as:

- ▶ the Hunger Outreach Food Collection Drive, just before Halloween,
- ▶ a Halloween party with candy distributed to trick or treaters,
- ▶ the College Ministry Fall Retreat/Service Projects Weekend in Aiken, SC,

- ▶ participation in a Family Promise overnight event,
- ▶ Christmas Party/Christmas Decorations event at the White House
- ▶ and planning sessions for next semester's activities and for CM tee shirt design; lots of thought went into the latter project.

The Grace Campus Ministry group has stuck with it on a weekly basis in spite of very full school schedules and assignments. For any students looking to get involved, there is still plenty of room in the group and looks to be lots of upcoming activities during in the Spring, 2012 semester at Winthrop.

A blessed Happy New Year to all and may the spirit of Christmas be with you no matter what the season. We're looking forward to many more productive and uplifting events in 2012.

Please "Friend" us on Facebook! - WELCM



NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We are planning to produce a new pictorial directory! The photography dates will be February 15, 16, 17, 18, and a make-up date on February 28. Each family photographed will receive a free directory and a 25 dollar gift certificate that can be used for photos. However, no purchase is required. For those interested in purchasing portraits, you may do so at the time of photography. Sign-up for pictures will begin Sunday, January 8 and continue thru January 29. Sign-up after service on any of these Sundays for your best appointment. There will be two sign-up tables - one near the narthex in the Fellowship Hall, and one in the foyer at the parking lot entrance. We need everyone to be a part of this important project. Thanks for your cooperation!



Wednesdays @ Grace
will resume on January 11

Looking for a mid-week opportunity for food and fellowship? "Wednesdays at Grace" may be just the thing for you!

Each Wednesday evening from 6 to 8 PM, folks gather in the Fellowship Hall to share life and a simple pot luck meal. The great thing is that this does not require any "commitment." You can just come as you are able, week to week.

An extra bonus this year: We are sharing supper with our Campus Ministry students! Our Winthrop Students need a home away from home - on Sunday mornings of course - but now we have another opportunity to embrace and welcome them as members of the Grace family! They will enjoy supper with us and then go over to the "White House" for their meeting.

So how do you participate??? Well, just bring your favorite dish to share with the group. Anything is fine: Main Dishes, Casseroles, Salads, Desserts, etc. We also need Bread or Rolls, Milk, Tea (Sweet & Unsweet).

Sometimes we will have a theme and sometimes we will do a service project ~ like hosting our Family Promise guests, but usually it is just "pot luck" in the true sense of the word!

Following supper, there's no program or agenda, just a chance to chat and get better acquainted! Everyone is invited to join the group for fun, fellowship and food . . . of course!



**JANUARY
BIRTHDAYS**

- 01 Kristy Austin, Zander White
- 02 Nicholas Schuhmacher
- 03 Sarah Lowrance, Alana Bowman,
Cade Farris
- 04 Barbara Davis
- 05 Jack Westover
- 06 Shannon Mosley
- 07 Lisa Brown
- 10 Jim Elliott
- 12 Erica Mohaugen, Michelle Sember
- 13 Joshua Corbett, Jordan Sember
- 14 Ronald Cartner
- 17 Jean Faut, Erin Knight
- 19 Jason Knapp, Victoria Sember,
Graham Nichols
- 20 Karlo Waataja, Charley Brame
- 22 Kory Lewis, John Richter, Ted Smelser,
Diane Gwinn
- 23 Daniel Schavey
- 27 Susan Nichols
- 30 Frank Surratt, Matthew Barber
- 31 Margaret Robinson



FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK

JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 5

Sign-up at the Information Center Today!



AVAILABLE THROUGH JANUARY

Offering envelopes for 2012 are in alphabetical order at the Information Center in the Fellowship Hall. All member numbers have been reassigned again this year – consequently, your number has probably changed.

If you were not assigned a set and would like to have 2012 envelopes, please use the sign-up sheet on the table. Your envelopes will be prepared and available the following Sunday.

Please save Grace the cost of mailing each set of envelopes by **remembering to pick up your envelopes!**

Even if you do not routinely use envelopes for your offering gifts, it is important that you take your envelopes and **note your number** because:

1. Envelopes not picked up by the final week in January are sent out (at a rate of \$1.98 per set.) **Please save Grace this cost by taking your envelopes!**

And, just as important ~

2. **The number** on your envelope **is used to record your offerings each week,** You don't have to use your envelopes, but writing your number on the memo line of your check insures that your contribution is recorded accurately and saves our tabulators a great deal of time.

Thank you!



New Member Class

NEW MEMBER CLASS

A new member class will begin on January 22 at 9:30 and will meet for four Sundays. New Members will be received on February 19. If you would like to learn more about Grace Lutheran Church, Lutheranism and how you can be an active part of this committee, please join us in room, 105.



SENIORS @ GRACE

JANUARY 26 - 11:30 AM

EVERYONE IN THE CONGREGATION IS INVITED!!

Mark your calendars for January 26, 2012 when the "Kopy Kats" will return for a performance with two of our members performing! Both Eric Schmidt and Hugh Barnett are in the group this year. Do NOT miss this wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship. Please sign-up on Sunday's Tear & Share.

While you are putting down dates for 2012 . . . Add a trip to the Newberry Opera House on February 14 to see the classic musical Brigadoon. Tickets will be \$30.00 and we will have the Grace bus for transportation.

SUPPER CLUB

The Supper Club sign-up for regular and substitute members is officially over. Those who signed-up will be receiving a schedule from Rick and Pam Kirby soon. If you have any questions, just give them a call at 366-0203.



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

TO PLEDGE OUR TIME AND TALENTS!!

OUR many committees and ministries are gearing up for a great year in 2012 and their success is only as good as the people who give of their time and talents to make it happen.

Grace Lutheran Church is certainly blessed with an abundance of talented and faithful servants willing to share their gifts. But sometimes we rely on the same folks doing the same things year after year. All of our committees and ministries need new people to supplement the important work that they do.

ON FEBRUARY 5, AT OUR SOUPER BOWL / MINISTRY FAIR / SOUP LUNCHEON, the **TIME & TALENT** surveys will be distributed. The survey has been restructured to align with the new Commission Structure adopted by our Church Council. This will help in learning the new Commission structure. If you attended either of the Budget Forums or annual meeting in November, you were provided a Narrative version of the proposed 2012 budget. The Narrative budget grouped our ministries according to the Commission structure and the Time & Talent surveys are grouped in much the same way.

When you receive the Time & Talent survey you will notice that for each ministry opportunity, there are two check-box columns. One check-box is to Continue in a ministry that you already serve and the other is to volunteer for a New ministry. The Stewardship Committee would like to challenge each of you to consider serving in something new in 2012. If you have not taken an active role in Grace's ministries other than attending worship service, please prayerfully consider getting involved in any of the numerous ministry opportunities available. Grace needs you and once you get more involved you feel a greater part of the Grace family. All are welcome and all are needed.

Craig Ketner, Stewardship Committee Co-Chair



NEW SMALL GROUP

"The - ALE - ogy"

(Formerly know as Theology on Tap)

Looking for a weeknight Bible Study? Here is an opportunity for you. Come join Pastor Chris at McHale's (122 East Main Street) on Tuesday Nights at 7:00 PM! We will learn more about Lutheran Theology, have some Bible study, and enjoy some good fellowship in the spirit of Martin Luther! A great way to start out the new year! Please sign up so we know how many to expect! Use Sunday's Tear & Share. And . . . Join the "The-Ale-ogy" Facebook page!!!



**Visitation
Teams**

New Approach For Welcoming First-Time Visitors to Grace

The New Member Committee wants to help Grace Lutheran Church experience some dramatic growth in the coming future. To do this, we will be implementing procedures to help our first-time visitors feel more welcome to our church. We have decided to have a team of two Grace members visit each first-time visitor to one of our worship services within 24 hours of their visit and present them with a small gift (such as a coffee mug with a picture of Grace on it), and one or more brochures about our church and its programs. Research shows that when this is done, 50% of those persons receiving a personal visit will end up joining the church. The visit will be very short, and the Grace members will not, under any circumstances, go inside the person's home, but just thank the person(s) for attending Grace and welcome them to come again and possibly participate in one or more of our activities. We would like to get at least 8 volunteers who attend the 8:30 service and 8 volunteers that attend the 11:00 service, to be able to cover one month of Sundays without rotating again. Training by Pastor Chris for this "adventure" will be on Sunday, January 15 at 9:45 during the Sunday School hour. We will begin making visits on Sunday, January 22, 2012. Please join us in this endeavor by signing up Sunday's Tear and Share. You will be blessed!

IF PEWS COULD TALK

Monthly Tips to Welcome Visitors ~ by Susan Hollich

It's Sunday again, and I am so glad that my regular pew people are here, but who is that new body seated on my pew? Do you recognize that person? Why not smile, reach out and shake a hand. Please ask gently, "I don't think that I know you? **You certainly don't want to miss the opportunity to welcome a stranger . . . perhaps we are entertaining angels unaware!**



Pi Kappa Phi-Epsilon Eta Chapter here at Winthrop University thanks you for all that you have done for us in the past years. Have a Very Merry Christmas!

Thank you to the members of Grace who serve in our music ministries for the commissioning of the worship artist who performed at our Christmas Music Festival. **This gift was given in celebration of the 10th Annual Christmas Music Festival!**

Thanks to all who helped with the reception for the Music Festival: Robin, Craig and Abby Ketner, Kerri Howley, Carla Harrison, Vicky Goodbar, Kay Lynes, Doug Gay, John & Donna Hauenstein, Eric & Louise Schmidt, Kevin & Jean Wunsch, Jack & Bea Lockwood, Megan Marshall. The Carolers were provided this year by Bob & Terri Schavey. And thanks to all who contributed our wonderful snacks and desserts. **The Parish Life Committee**

Thank you, Grace Lutheran Church, for your support of the poor and hungry in our community and in communities all over the world, through your CROPWALK donations and participation. The 2011 York County CROPWALK was a very successful effort by more than 50 churches and organizations. Over \$24,000 was raised and 1,293 cans of food was collected and distributed!!

Thank You Notes were received from York County Disabilities Foundation, Catawba Care Coalition, Keystone Substance Abuse Services and Kairos Prison Ministry for Grace's 4th Quarter donations.

Thank you, Hunger Outreach volunteers for December and January: Sig Huitt, Gus and Nancy Koegler, Kay Lynes, John Barone, Curt, Caitlin, Sarah and Megan Marshall, Earl Gatlin, Eric & Louise Schmidt, Wally Seigler, Julie Mumford, Hugh Barnett, Jeff Gover, Jean and Kevin Wunsch, Jeff and Mary Chamberlain, Lisa Rumford, Jack Lockwood, Carla Harrison, Connie Setzler and Ellen Gwyn.

Thank you Hospitality Hosts for December: Harry and Madeline Hazen, Dotty Schoenfelder, and Jean Wunsch.

The Hunger Outreach Program at Grace would like to thank everyone who filled a Christmas Gift Bag for the disabled on our Christmas route this year. We would also like to thank the Allman Family, Lynne Copple and Larry Wunsch for delivering these gift bags along with hot meals from Flint Hill Baptist Church on Christmas Eve. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need!

Dear Grace Lutheran, This note comes with so much heartfelt thanks for the beautiful blanket I received from you for Christmas. I didn't even own a blanket. It touched me so much; and then the card with \$20.00 in it made me cry. No one has been so kind to me like that. The money was needed so much. You can't know what your kindness made in my life. People homebound, or in a wheelchair, are so often forgotten. I will never forget your kindness. Thank you so much. **Elaine Thomas (Meals on Wheels Giving Tree recipient.)**

Dear Pastor Chris and Friends at Grace Lutheran, Thank you very much for your generous donation of prayer shawls. They have been very meaningful to the patients and families that have received them! **Andrea Holtzer, Bon Secours, St. Francis Health System, Greenville, SC**

Dear Dee (Westbrook) and Prayer Chain at Grace Lutheran, The O'Toole and Stayer Family would like to thank all of you for your prayers for Wesley Stayer, nephew of Tammy O'Toole. God has healed Wesley of his illness. Wesley has been released from the doctor's care and is steadily gaining weight. He has the most beautiful smile and he laughs and coos all the time. Our family believes in the power of prayer, and we know that God has heard all of the prayers that have been said. Thank you for being a part of this and thank you for being a praying church! Your prayers and support have been an inspiration and testimony of God's love. May God bless each and every one of you! **In God's love, The O'Toole and Stayer Families**

Thank you to Patti Saunders and Irene Pointon for their ministry of knitting baby hats! **And thank you to Wilma Best** for her many years of supplying lace edged, embroidered baptismal cloths for our babies at their baptisms!



**Lutheridge/Lutherock
Presentation
January 15 - 9:30 AM
Fellowship Hall**

We are blessed to have 2 great Lutheran Summer Camps not too far from us, Lutheridge and Lutherock. They both offer a very different experience, and yet both provide a wonderful outdoor experience in a strong Christian environment. Knowing that Lutheridge and Lutherock are both wonderful camps, we also are aware that you may be a little nervous sending your child to camp for the first time. For this reason, David Platts and Pastor Chris want to let you know that they will both be spending a week at camp this summer.

David will be at Lutheridge the week of July 8-14 leading music week. Music week offers children an opportunity to have all the normal camp experiences including: camp fire, swimming, crafts, etc., but also offers them an opportunity to play instruments or to sing in a choir. At the end of the week they have a wonderful performance.

Pastor Chris will be at Lutherock with our confirmands the week of June 24-30.

To find out more about Lutheridge and Lutherock, you are invited to the Fellowship Hall on January 15 at 9:30 AM where you will be able to hear more about Lutheridge/Lutherock, as well as ask any questions you may have, not only from David and Pastor Chris, but from camp counselors and campers! To explore more about Lutheridge/Lutherock, you can look online at <http://www.limi.net/youth/summer-gateway.aspx>. There are some scholarships available through Lutheridge/Lutherock as well as through Grace.



FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

Saturday, March 31, from 9 - 2 PM

First communion instruction will be held the Saturday, March 31, from 9 – 2 PM. Children will receive their first communion on Maundy Thursday, April 5. The question I am frequently asked is “how do I know if I my child is ready to receive communion.” When a child begins to put their hands out for communion, and begins to ask question about communion, indicates that they are probably ready. This usually happens around first grade, but sometimes sooner. This decision is made by the parents, in consultation with the pastor. Some parents like their children to be a little older, and this is fine too.

In first communion instruction we are going to do something new. I am asking that at least one adult come with their child to instruction. The first communion class will be very hands on! We are going to bake bread, make chalices, taste the foods from the Seder meal, try the communion elements, to name a few ways we will be learning about this sacrament. It will be very helpful to have a parent/guardian involved in this process.

Even if your child has been through first communion, but would like to be part of this day, I encourage you to sign them up by using your tear and share. I look forward to a great day where we can grow in God’s love together. Please use Sunday’s Tear & Share to sign-up your child for this instruction.

410 OAKLAND – We Need an Investor

On December 11th at our Council Retreat, John Hauenstein presented figures on the operating costs that would be associated with the property adjacent the church at 410 Oakland Avenue. The operating costs included a mortgage payment, insurance, property management and maintenance to use the building as a Non-Profit Center. The costs were sufficiently high that we could not cash flow the operation with revenue generated from the leases.

With these figures in mind, Council decided to withdraw our consideration to purchase the property at this time until we can fully evaluate the benefits from the incurred cost of purchasing the property. We did not feel it was in the best interests of Grace to obligate the congregation with another financial burden based on the current plan.

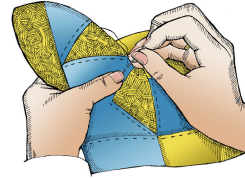
Council still has concerns regarding who might purchase the property and what type business may operate in the building. With that in mind, Council would like to make an appeal to the congregation for an investor or group of investors to purchase the property. We make no demands on how the property may be used, just that the property is in friendly hands who have the interests of Grace Lutheran Church in mind.

This property may be purchased below \$300K though a very recent appraisal on the building is \$330K. Some minimal fix-up costs could significantly increase the value of the building. The last tax assessment on the building had a tax value of \$395,600 and Market Value of \$458,500. So the potential is there to be a very good investment.

If you have the financial means, please consider this investment. Also let any friends know of this investment opportunity providing you believe they would have Grace's interests in mind regarding this property. For a tour of the property you can contact Mark Mayfield with Sperry Van Ness Southern Commercial Real Estate at 803-525-1

Newsletter Deadline

**The 15th of the month
is always the deadline
for Grace Note articles.**



QUILLOWS FOR OUR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

You are invited to be part of a ministry new to Grace Lutheran Church. Please mark your calendars with this date:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2012

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

The large classrooms downstairs have been reserved for the day. Plan to come and begin the process of making "quillows" for graduating high school youth. **All are invited as no experience is necessary!** Please bring any of the following items you may have: Snacks Positive Attitude ~ Rotary Cutter and extra blades ~ Mat ~ Scissors ~ Rulers for cutting ~ Sewing Machine ~ Thread ~ Iron ~ and Ironing Board.

Dimensions of a quillow vary depending on the designer. To keep this as simple as possible parents should bring:

2 pieces of fabric one yard each (total of 2 yards.) One can be a pattern/print and the other fabric plain. Bible verses or messages will be put on the plain fabric, so keep that in mind when selecting color.

When the top is completed, we'll have a better idea of the fabric needed for the backing and the batting.

Any questions contact salfors@comporium.net or 803-548.1751



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 5

A DAY FULL OF FUN & INFORMATION!

- ▶ Not only will our youth be collecting donations for hungry people in their soup pots for the **SOUPER BOWL APPEAL . . .**
- ▶ there will also be a **FABULOUS SOUP LUNCH** to which all are invited!

We are asking for volunteers to make a crockpot of soup, bring bread or make a dessert. Let us know if you are planning to come & sign-up to bring one of the menu items on Sunday's Tear & Share.

- ▶ Also, throughout the morning and during the lunch, our standing committees are planning to hold a **MINISTRY FAIR** to acquaint everyone with Grace's many ministries.
- ▶ Your **TIME AND TALENT SURVEYS** will be distributed and collected that day as well.
- ▶ So plan now to **attend, donate** toward the Souper Bowl appeal, **eat** a hearty soup lunch, **wear** your favorite team jersey, **look over** the many ministries at Grace and **fill out your Time and Talent Surveys!** And last, but certainly not least, **Enjoy** a day of **Fun** with your Church Family!
- ▶ And be sure to wear **YOUR FAVORITE TEAM'S JERSEY** that day as well!



FIRST ANNUAL HOMECOMING!

MAY 20, 2012

Mark your calendars now for this special event
as we celebrate the history of Grace
and reconnect with old friends!

Grace is having it's First Annual Homecoming on May 20th!

We Need your help!

We would like to send invitations to former members and friends of Grace.

If you have someone you would like us to send an invitation to,
please get that information to the church office via e-mail or use Sunday's Tear & Share.

Please include their address.

Invitations will be sent by May 1st, so please have all address to us by April 25th.

If you would like to serve on the Homecoming Committee,
please let us know that as well on the Tear & Share.



Do you know someone in the congregation that you would like to see recognized for their hard work and/or dedication – here at Grace?

If anyone has photos that they would like to share on our Facebook page, please burn them on a CD and bring them to the church office. There is a basket at the reception desk labeled "CD's for Facebook." Vivian Robinson will pick them up and place them on the page as quickly as possible. Please, also write what event the pictures were from. Thanks!

This month's Shout Out goes to:

PATRICK RHEAD for being Grace's Technical Guru! He has come to the staff's rescue several times since he became a member here at Grace!! Thank you, Patrick!

Youth Group



OUR WONDERFUL YOUTH ARE VERY BUSY!!

Here's what Grace Youth Ministry is up to in January:

January 8 **All GYM Parent/Youth Meeting & Potluck - 5-7:00 PM**
Meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Please make plans to bring a favorite dish or two. After supper, **the High School** youth will hold their Spring Kickoff Planning Meeting; and **the Middle School** will have a Bible Study in the Youth Room.

January 15 **Middle School Laser Tag - 3-5:00 PM**
Parents vs. Youth. Bring a friend!

January 18 **High School Leadership Team Meeting**
The Leadership Team will meet in the Commons Area to finish planning the Spring Calendar.

January 21 **Middle School - Confirmation 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

January 22 **High School Bible Study and Dinner - 5-7:00 PM**
Come for dinner and the first session of our new Bible Study. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

January 27-28 **All GYM Ski Trip**
We will travel to Hendersonville, NC, where we will stay at Grace Lutheran for the night and then travel to Cataloochee on Saturday to ski for the day. (8:30 AM - 4:30 PM.) We will leave the church at 4:30 PM on Friday, January 27th and return Saturday, January 28th around 9:00 PM.

Ski Trip Details

Ski + Rentals + FREE lessons	\$77.00
Snowboard + Rentals (with helmet)	\$95.00
If you have your own equipment	\$58.00
To just go and hang out	\$12.00

(This will include lodging (free!), breakfast on Saturday, and a meal ticket for lunch Saturday.)



YOUTH Ski Trip

- You will need to bring:**
- Money for dinner Friday and Saturday (fast food)**
 - Sleeping bag & pillow**
 - Toiletries**
 - Ski Clothes**

Permission Forms are due to Ginny by January 8th

JANUARY 2012
ONLINE CALENDAR

Please click on the link below to see the January 2012 Online Calendar:

www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar.aspx?ci=L6M7H2F0G1M7J4