

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
6190 Telephone Road, Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 642- 2267
www.gracelutheranventura.com
Newsletter – July 2010

FROM THE INTENTIONAL INTERIM PASTOR

I write you on the Wednesday of Vacation Bible School week. It's been great! In no congregation that I have served before have I seen so many teachers and helpers—there are just about as many of them as there are children here!—all over the property having so much fun showing and telling the love of Jesus. This is your congregation at its very best. This is what the Church of Christ Jesus is meant to do.

What is a congregation for, anyway? For coming together to worship on Sundays? Of course. For hearing and learning God's word? That goes without saying. For the mutual support of member to member? Certainly that is what you do for one another because you are like one big family. Many if not most of you are friends who have known each other for years, if not decades.~ All this is right and good. But is this all that God means for you to be and to do?

Ultimately, the purpose of every congregation is to have the Gospel of Christ Jesus in order to give away that Gospel to others who do not yet know Jesus. To be the congregation together is never meant to be something that we keep to ourselves on the property. Your holding Vacation Bible School every year serves you as a most important reminder that we are called to reach all others around us with the Gospel and not be tempted to keep that Gospel—and ourselves—to ourselves. That is what every congregation is for.

As you continue to discern the Lord's will for the future of your congregation, both during the congregational meeting on June 27 and then during the voters' meeting on July 6, pray that God will lead you all to have the Gospel in order to give that Gospel away, in every decision that is made, every program that is undertaken, every thought that is expressed. That is what your congregation is for.

Sincerely, in Christ,
Pastor Kibler

telephone 805/290-4597

Church Attendance

Sunday, 05/23 – 60 + 67 = 127 (Communion – 38 + 38 = 76)
Sunday, 05/30 – 53 + 62 = 115
Sunday, 06/06 – 60 + 45 = 105 (Communion – 54 + 27 = 81)
Sunday, 06/13 – 47 + 50 = 97
Sunday, 06/20 – 76 + 32 = 108 (Communion – 49 + 32 = 81)
2010 average attendance @ Sunday = 112.8

Those Who Will Be Serving In God's House In July

<u>Service</u>	<u>8:00a.m.</u>	<u>10:30a.m.</u>
<u>Ushers</u>	Mr. Jay Wolf	Mr. Jim Taylor
<u>Duty Elders</u>	Mr. Jim Bailey	Mr. Hank Knaust
<u>Communion Assist.</u>	Mr. Jim Knapp	

Acolytes

July 04	Caleb Duff	Travis Newman
July 11	Thomas Suarez	TBA
July 18	Caleb Duff	Travis Newman
July 25	Thomas Suarez	TBA

Mother's Room

July 04	Ashley Suarez	Naomi Taylor
July 18	Alicia Wolf	Kala Stratmann

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Big Rocks of Life

One day this expert was speaking to a group of business students and, to drive home a point, used an illustration I'm sure those students will never forget. After I share it with you, you'll never forget it either. As this man stood in front of the group of high-powered overachievers he said, "Okay, time for a quiz." Then he pulled out a one-gallon, wide-mouthed mason jar and set it on a table in front of him. Then he produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar.

When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, "Is this jar full?" Everyone in the class said, "Yes."

Then he said, "Really?" He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. Then he dumped some gravel in and shook the jar causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the spaces between the big rocks.

Then he smiled and asked the group once more, "Is the jar full?" By this time the class was onto him. "Probably not," one of them answered.

"Good!" he replied. And he reached under the table and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand in and it went into all the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel. Once more he asked the question, "Is this jar full?"

"No!" the class shouted. Once again he said, "Good!" Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then he looked up at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?"

One eager beaver raised his hand and said, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard, you can always fit some more things into it!"

"No," the speaker replied, "that's not the point. The truth this illustration teaches us is: If you don't put the big rocks in ~~first~~, you'll never get them in at all."

So, tonight or in the morning when you are reflecting on this short story, ask yourself this question: What are the "big rocks" in my life or business? Then, put those in your jar.

In that light, let's examine the following example of time management. How does it fit into the "Big Rocks" philosophy?

How would you like to spend 2 years making phone calls to people who aren't home? Sound absurd? According to one time management study, that's how much time the average person spends trying to return calls to people who never seem to be in. Not only that, we spend 6 months waiting for the traffic light to turn green, and another 8 months reading junk mail. These unusual statistics should cause us to do time-use evaluation. Once we recognize that simple "life maintenance" can chip away at our time in such huge blocks, we will see how vital it is that we don't busy ourselves "in vain" (Ps 39:6).

Psalms 39 gives us some perspective. In David's complaint to God, he said, "You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is as nothing before You" (V. 5). He meant that to an eternal God our time on earth is brief. And He doesn't want us to waste it. When we do, we throw away one of the most precious commodities He gives us. Each minute is an irretrievable gift--and unredeemable slice of eternity. Sure, we have to make the phone calls, and we must wait at the light. But what about the rest of our time? Are we using it to advance the cause of Christ and to enhance our relationship with Him? Is our time well spent? Is Christ a "Big Rock" in our life?

LWML invites you to consider our organization a "BIG ROCK," and join us during the summer to collect items to be sent to Lutheran World Relief when we gather again in the Fall. Until then, enjoy your Summer



SUMMER PROJECT HEALTH KITS

People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack essential items. Health kits can help maintain personal hygiene while living in exile.

The LWML will be putting together the kits at our regular meeting in September. So over the summer we'll be collecting the following items.

- Dark colored Hand Towels
- Dark colored washcloths
- Bath-size (4 - 5 oz) soap, in its original wrapper
- Adult size Toothbrush, in original wrapper
- Sturdy Combs
- Metal Nail Files or Nail Clippers with Files
- Band Aids - 1/2" to 3/4"

If you can help by supplying any of the above items, just drop them off in the kitchen any Sunday, by August 29.

There's a Bible Study Group for You!

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY meets in the Chapel at approximately 9:30a.m. Listen for the ringing of the class bell. Enter the chapel and join this informal study group, currently led by Mr. Lia Franklin. Mr. Jim Knapp is his back-up.

SUNDAY ADULT STUDY IN THE ROUND meets in Room #15 at 9:30 a.m. A current course of study is "Confession – God Gives Us Truth". Have questions concerning this study group? Speak with Maryellen Jeske.

SUNDAY YOUNG ADULTS are conducting their own Bible Study in the Library, at 9:15a.m. Singles, 18 – 30 years of age, are invited to join with them. The current study is in Max Lucado's book, "God Came Near".

SUNDAY PARENTS & BABIES meets in Room 11A. There is Bible Study and Fellowship for parents and a playroom for children, newborn up to age 3.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES STUDY meets at various locations, homes of those attending the study. The study begins at 9:30a.m. The present study is "Hebrews" by Max Lucado. If you need more information concerning locations, etc. call Ila Knight.

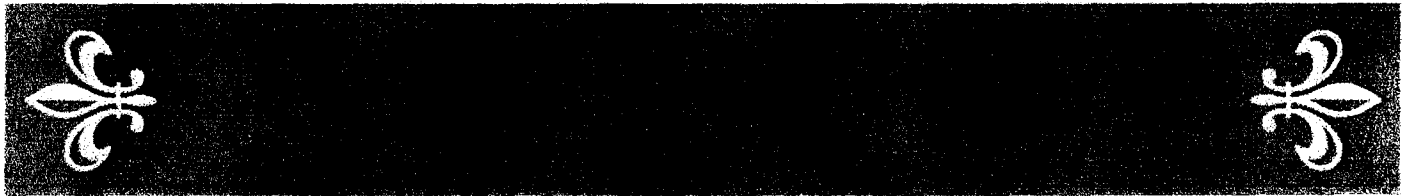
Scheduled Locations:

June 29 – Home of Ila Knight
July 06 – Home of Linda Valazza
July 13 – Home of Ila Knight
July 20 – Home of Linda Valazza
July 27 – Home of Ila Knight

FAITHFUL YOUTH SERVING HIM (FYSH) meets on Sunday, at 9:00am, in the FYSHBowl, Room 14. This Middle School Class is under the leadership of Richard & Ronda Johnston. See the FYSH page for monthly activities and events.

YOUTH OF GRACE (YOG) meets on Sunday at 9:15a.m. in Room 16, under the leadership of Matt & Michelle Knauss-Behal. Fellowship meetings are conducted every other Wednesday. Check the YOG calendar for time and place. Questions? Contact Matt or Michelle Knauss

MEN OF GRACE (MOG) a study/support group for men, 18 years of age and older, meets on Saturday mornings, at 7:00a.m. in Room #15. There is fresh coffee and donuts, and on the last Saturday of each month breakfast is served. The current study is, "How We Got the Bible", featuring Dr. Paul L. Maier. Questions? Contact Paul Dols.



The Young Adults of Grace are coming together to worship, study and grow in faith. **If you are 18 to 30 years of age and single you are welcome to join us on this adventure.** We meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the Library for a study in Max Lucado's book "God came near". Looking for more meeting opportunities...join us for Pizza at Rusty's twice a month.

Sundays - 9:15 am GLC Library
Rusty's Pizza - July 11th & 25th @ noon



follow www.gracelutheranventura.com for other events to come

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Young peoples Sunday school (Pre-K to 5th grade) will meet in room 9 as a combined class this summer. They will learn:

- How God controls the Sun and Moon
- How God answers prayer
- How God reigned down fire from heaven
- How God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind

And much, much more lasting them a lifetime. We welcome all children at any time. Please join us.

FYSHFOOD

Every Sunday in July at
9:00 a.m.
Bible study during the
Sunday School hour along
with activities and
fellowship.



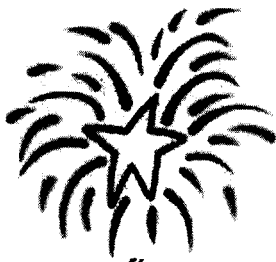
July 11th is
Breakfast Sunday.
Yum!

Faithful Youth



Serving Him

July
2010



**GOD
BLESS
AMERICA**



WHO: All

Middle Schoolers

WHAT: Bible Study
and Fellowship
designed just for them.

WHERE: Grace
Lutheran Church
(A great place to be!)

WHEN: Every Sunday
during the Sunday School
hour + TBA dates for special
activities

WHY: "He who is not with me
is against me,
and he who does not gather
with me scatters."
Matthew 12:30

Contact Richard or Ronda
with any questions
glc78g@gmail.com

As we finish the month of July
we will be completing one our
first full year of FYSH!

We would like to say thank you
to the many people who have
made FYSH a success. Sorry
there is not enough room to list
them all, but it suffices to say a
youth ministry such as this is not
successful without thoughtful
prayers, offerings of assistance,
guidance, words of support, and
most of all the devoted middle
school students who made it all
possible!

May the Lord Bless Year 2!

FYSH & YOG

**Camping @ McGill
Summer Retreat**

July 30th - August 1st

**Must pre-register
and pre-pay!**

**See Richard, Ronda,
Matt, Michelle, or
Diana to take care
of this. Last day to
register will be 7/25**

Fee: \$50

Y.O.C.G.



NOW MAY THE GOD OF PEACE
HIMSELF SANCTIFY YOU COMPLETELY...
HE WHO CALLS YOU IS FAITHFUL. 1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-24

Every Sunday Morning SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us on Sunday mornings for a time to study God's word and be renewed in strength and faith. Don't miss Bagel Sunday first Sunday of every month! Bring an offering for our World Vision sponsor Matsie.

YOG Rm 9:15 am

Wednesday - 14th & 28th YOG NIGHTS

This is a night for the Youth Of Grace and friends to come together and be reminded of God's love. We'll be starting our new summer "Tough Stuff" Bible studies. Be encouraged to stand strong knowing God is by your side.

YOG Rm 7pm

Saturday - 17th Burgers & Beach

Summer is here and what do we do? Head to the beach for some fun in the sun! Bring your towel, sunscreen, a snack to share, kites, surfboards & Frisbees. We'll head to In-N-Out for a late lunch after our time in the sand.

Church 10 am

Friday - 30th - Sunday 1st YOG & FYSH MCGILL CAMP

Our annual summer camp out is here! This year we are joining with the FYSH to worship the Lord, Study His word and have fun! We will be eating, singing around the campfire, hiking and much more. See the McGill flier for more details. Registration and \$50 due by July 25th.

McGill Campgrounds

A LITTLE NOTE FROM 4|| GOD!

You don't have to be afraid of the future when God's in control.

Philippians 4:4-7

Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again-rejoice! Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do.

Remember, the Lord is coming soon.

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

So when you're feeling a little worried today, take it to God and experience His peace.



Grace Lutheran Church-Ventura

We are a High School group who are blessed by God's grace in our lives and want to share it with all those around us.

By grace we are saved, through faith and that is a gift!

Have Questions? Please contact:
Matt and Michelle Knauss
525-3317 / glc.yog@gmail.com

sites.google.com/site/youthofgraceventura

Camping @ McGill Retreat

INFORMATION FORM

DATES: Friday, June 30, 2010 @ 12:00 p.m. until Sunday, August 1, 2010 about 2:00pm.

REGISTRATION: If you would like to attend, fill out a registration form and return it to us no later than Sunday, July 25th, 2010. If you have any questions please contact Richard, Ronda, Matt, or Michelle.

FEE: \$50 per person which includes two dinners, two breakfasts, and one lunch.

PURPOSE: Our purpose is to worship the Lord, study His Word, and enjoy Christian fellowship together.

ACTIVITIES: Activities will include Bible studies, singing about the campfire (if campfires are allowed), activities, transportation and games.

REMINDER: We will be camping at McGill National Forest Campground. The campground is a "primitive" campground. We will be roughing it. No blow dryers, curling irons, or electricity. Come with the attitude that you are going to have a great time, get dirty, and learn about God's blessings.

BRING: Bible, pencil, appropriate night clothes, a warm jacket, warm and cool clothes, sleeping bag, a flashlight with new batteries, a pillow, and toiletries.

LOCATION: We will meet at Grace Lutheran Church, 6190 Telephone Road, Ventura, California, 93003. (805) 642-2267 and carpool up to McGill. McGill has little to no cell phone reception, but Ronda, Richard, Matt, and Michelle will make sure to get to a place that has coverage at least once a day. If there is an emergency contact our cell phones not the kids. They will not have regular cell phone coverage.

MISBEHAVIOR: If any camper is having major issues following the rules of the group, the parents will be contacted and will immediately come to pick-up their child who will be removed from activities until the parents come and pick them up.

QUESTIONS: Contact Richard, Ronda, Matt, or Michelle with any questions.

Youth Name: _____ T-Shirt Size: Adult S M L XL XXL

Circle One

Address, City, State, and Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate (Mo/Day/Yr): _____

I, _____ hereby give my consent as the parent/guardian of _____ for his/her involvement in the retreat with Grace Lutheran Church, 6190 telephone Road, Ventura, CA 93003, from Friday, July 30th, 2010, until Sunday, August 1, 2010 at McGill Campground.

I understand that my son or daughter, once at the retreat, will not be allowed to leave unless picked up by a parent or guardian.

I hereby authorize any adult representative of Grace Lutheran Church to consent to any medical treatment of above named youth, which in the judgment of a recognized medical facility, under general or special supervision of a licensed physician, may be deemed necessary.

Phone #(s) to reach parent/guardian in an emergency: _____

Allergies: _____ Medications: _____

Health Insurance Co.: _____ Policy #: _____

Family Physician: _____ Physician Phone: _____

I also understand that if the behavior of my youth causes the Retreat Leaders to deem it necessary for my youth to be removed from the group I will be called at once to come and pick up my youth immediately at the site of the activity.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Youth

JULY 2010

Grace Lutheran Church – 6190 Telephone Rd, Ventura, CA 93003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Duty Trustee: Steve Medeiros 985-2726				1	2	3 MOG 7am Chapel: Hayes Rms 1-8: Hutton /Jeske Sweep: Olson
4 Services 8 & 10:30am Communion	5 MOG Walk Vta Harbor 7pm	6 Ladies Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6:30pm Special Voters 7:30pm	7 Quilters 9am	8	9	10 MOG 7am Chapel: Chadier Rms 1-8: Burke Sweep: Johnston, RA
11 Services 8 & 10:30am Door Offering Food (Peanut Butter) Used Goods Young Adults Noon (Rusty's Pizza, VTA)	12 MOG Walk Vta Harbor 7pm	13 Ladies Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6:30pm Elders 7pm	14 Quilters 9 am YOG 7pm	15	16	17 MOG 7am Chapel: Knaust Rms 1-8: Knauss Sweep: Misemer/Suarez
18 Services 8 & 10:30am Communion	19 MOG Walk Vta Harbor 7pm	20 Ladies Bible Study 9:30am Newsletter Articles due 4pm Voters 7:30pm	21 Quilters 9am Altar Guild 9:30am	22	23 Newsletter Crew 7am	24 MOG 7am Chapel: Olivas Rms 1-8: Koch Sweep: Broberg YOG (B&B) 10:30am
25 Services 8 & 10:30am Congregational Meeting 11:45am Young Adults 1pm (Rusty's Pizza, VTA)	26 MOG Dine/Walk Vta Harbor 6:15pm	27 Ladies Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6:30 pm	28 Quilters 9am YOG 7pm	29	30 YOG & FYSH to McGill Campgrounds	31 MOG 7am Chapel: Taylor, L. Rms 1-8: Dols Sweep: Leach