

Living Grace

Notes

April 2010 Newsletter

The Reverend David E. Hardy, D. D., Pastor
Web Page: www.livinggracelutheran.org

Gathered to Celebrate, Called to Witness, Sent to Serve!

The Three Days

Thursday, 1 April

Maundy Thursday

7:30 p.m. service with Holy Communion/Stripping of the Altar

Friday, 2 April

Good Friday

7:30 p.m. The Last Seven Words of Christ

Saturday, 3 April

The Great Vigil of Easter

8:00 p.m.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Sunday, 4 April

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service at the Pavilion with Holy Communion

8:30 a.m. Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Traditional Easter Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Festival Service with Holy Communion

Lay Assistants

Maundy Thursday, 1 April, 7:30 p.m.

Usher	Michael Hardy
Lector	Agnes Nelson
Communion Assistants	Team 2

Good Friday, 2 April, 7:30 p.m.

Usher	David Benner
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The Great Vigil of Easter, 3 April, 8:00 p.m.

Ushers	John and Agnes Nelson
Lectors	Melody Ireton
	Stephanie Cunefare
	Carol Ireton
Communion Assistants	Team 1

Sunday, The Resurrection of Our Lord, 4 April

Ushers	8:30 – Jim Tuminella/Keith Siekierski
	10:30 – Merrill and Jo Ann Durrence
Lectors	8:30 – David Benner
	10:30 – Gaelon Ratel
Communion Assistants	8:30 – David Benner/Leanne Beutler/Stephanie Cunefare
	10:30 – Team 6
Acolyte	10:30 – Nikki Ireton
Greeters	10:30 – TBD
Counter	Leanne Beutler

Sunday, 11 April

Ushers	8:30 – David Benner
	10:30 – Cate Sulek/Walter Sobers
Lectors	8:30 – Leanne Beutler
	10:30 – Mary Ann Blessing
Communion Assistants	8:30 – Leanne Beutler
	10:30 – Team 4
Acolyte	10:30 – Erin Cunefare
Greeters	10:30 – TBD
Counters	Chip and Allison Combee

Sunday, 18 April

Ushers	8:30 – Michael Hardy
	10:30 – Jim and Cynthia Outman
Lectors	8:30 – Michael Hardy
	10:30 – Amy Eklund
Communion Assistants	8:30 – Leanne Beutler
	10:30 – Team 3

Acolyte 10:30 – Melody Ireton
Greeters 10:30 – TBD
Counters Jim and Cynthia Outman

Sunday, 25 April

Ushers 8:30 – Jim Tuminella
10:30 – Chip Combee/Jason Dick
Lectors 8:30 – Jim Tuminella
10:30 – James Reynolds
Communion Assistants 8:30 – Missy Streubel
10:30 – Team 1
Acolyte 10:30 – Abi Akamo
Greeters 10:30 – TBD
Counters David and Lin Parker

Team 1 = Will Arroyo – Captain
Jan Levengood
Stephanie Cunefare
Lesley Campbell
Carol Ireton
Team 3 = Jim Outman – Captain
Mary Jane Outman
Cynthia Outman
Team 4 = Marlene Hardy – Captain
Jo Kroger
Paul Lefebvre
Team 5 = Lynn Lefebvre – Captain
Stephanie Rhodes
Carolyn Davis
Team 6 = Jason Eklund – Captain
David Guptill
Leanne Beutler

Floaters/Substitutes –Taylor Cunefare; Leanne Beutler

If you wish to serve as a Lector or Communion Assistant, please contact Margery Kellar at margerykellar@comcast.net and she will be happy to place you on the rotation and prior to your first reading or assisting, you will be trained.

If you wish to be an usher, please contact Leanne Beutler at LBeutler@aol.com and she will be happy to put you on the schedule.

If you wish to be a counter, please contact Leanne Beutler at LBeutler@aol.com and she will be happy to put you on the schedule.

General News and Notes

April Birthdays

1	Jeff Cox	
3	Mary Boyd	
4	Stephanie Cunefare	
5	Chip Combee	
10	Stanley Gere	
11	Andy Sulek	
12	Clyde Carlson	
14	Stella Hurst	
16	Cindy Nelson	
19	Lin Parker	
23	Ruth Cressman	
24	Marlene Hardy	Jake Melchionda
	Renee Reschenthaler	
25	Lydia Jones	Phyllis Gerke
26	Steve Nelson	
27	Jason Axel	
28	Patti Axel	
29	Jo Ann Durrence	Sarah Lyons
	Claire Shepherd	

Members

During the month of March, we received into our Living Grace family *David Guphill and Lisa Kvamme* by Letter of Transfer.

Newsletter Articles

To submit a newsletter article, you can either have a hard copy into the church office by the deadline date listed or send an electronic format to Leanne Beutler at Lbeutler@aol.com.

Newsletter Distribution

The newsletter is being received electronically via email to members of those who requested it. We will continue to print the newsletter and place them in the mailboxes in the narthex but we strongly encourage you that if you have an email address, you receive your newsletter electronically. This will save costs on paper, the copier costs and the time in collating the hard copy of the newsletter.

At any time, you wish to receive this newsletter via electronically please inform Stephanie Cunefare, sacunefare@hotmail.com or Leanne Beutler, Lbeutler@aol.com.

Announcements for Bulletins

Reminder to all that announcements for weekly Sunday bulletins need to be electronically sent to Leanne Beutler no later than Thursday evening prior to the Sunday insertion. The email address is Lbeutler@aol.com.

Communications

Have you ever wanted to know when an activity or function was happening at the Church but did not have the calendar? Have you needed the address, E Mail, or phone number, for a new Church member, but could not find it? Have you wondered how our Church communicates its existence and message to the surrounding community? These are some of the questions I hope a new or newly active committee will respond to in the coming months.

I am asking for your help in forming a Communication Committee to examine our Congregations internal and external means of communication. Our goal will be to improve existing lines and add new areas of communication to the members and community.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee please contact Lin Parker, Chris Keller, or myself. Meetings will begin in late May or early June.

Thanks for your help.

Jerry Chappell
Council President

Graceful Group Monthly Meeting

The Graceful Group will hold it's next meeting on Thursday, April 8. Come join us for a potluck lunch (main dish, salad, vegetable, or dessert) at 11:30 a.m. Invite your friends to join our group.

The very popular and successful Horizon Theater Senior Ensemble will present three plays. The original short plays are created and performed by senior actor/playwrights that reflect the interests and perspectives of senior adults. Previous acting and/or playwright experience is not required. Led by Horizon co-artistic director Jeff Adler, the Ensemble performs at venues throughout Atlanta. The performance will be an extra special treat for our Graceful Group.

The plays are titled "Delightful Dilemmas":

- Popcorn and Martinis or
"Can love be found at Happy Hour?"
- Picture Perfect or
"Are two hands necessary for picture hanging?"
- Nip It In The Bud or
"Will a budding romance be nipped?"

Make your reservation by calling or emailing JoAnne Durrence by Tuesday, April 6 if you plan to attend (404-633-1833 or email gmdurrence@bellsouth.net).

There will be several performers eating with the Graceful Group. Please bring generous portions for the potluck luncheon.

We will again have a table for books and magazines that you are willing to donate for someone else's enjoyment. You may read a book or magazine and bring it back for someone else to enjoy next month. Unclaimed magazines will always be given to the DeKalb recycling program.

Mark April 8 on your calendar and join us for a great time of food and fellowship.

Easter Egg Hunt for the Children

The annual Easter egg hunt will be held on Saturday, April 3, 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. We are asking for donations of non-chocolate, individually wrapped candy to put into the eggs. There will be a bowl in the narthex for donations to be placed. Thank you for your support. For information, please contact Carol Ireton or Ruth Cressman.

Blue Star Project

The Anna Circle will mail four boxes for Easter to the following soldiers:

SPC Brian Collver; Sp. Margaret Chitwood; Jason P. Brown;
Capt. Matthew Hardy

Thank you all for your generous contributions!

Cindy Nelson

Medshare International

We continue to collect empty prescription pill bottles which Medshare International process and distribute to doctors, hospitals and clinics in third world countries. If you have any empty prescription pill bottles, please remove the labels or cover the name and medication with felt tip pen and place them in the bottom drawer of the cabinet in the coat closet in the narthex. Please do not bring vitamin bottles or over-the-counter drug bottles. We delivered 47 pounds of bottles in March and they were greatly appreciated.

Knitting and Crochet Classes

Knitting and crochet classes will begin April 13, 2010 at 7-9PM. Both will be taught at the same time. In each class you will learn to make a dishcloth. You will need to buy 1 ball of cotton yarn. Wal-Mart carries Peaches'n Cream and Joann's or Michael's Sugar'n Cream. Judy Carter will teach knitting. For her class you will also need to buy size 7 knitting needles. Christine Chappell will teach crocheting. For that class you need to buy size H or 8 crochet hook. We

will provide the pattern and other helpful information. There is no charge for the class we just want to share our talent.

Living Grace Church Council

Here is your Church Council for the year 2010.

President	Jerry Chappell	
Vice President	Stephanie Cunefare	
Secretary	Missy Streubel	
Treasurer	Mike Collver	
Financial Secretary	Ruth Scott	
Members:	Karen Bramlet	Dot Beaver
	Meredith Collver	Chris Keller
	Carolyn Davis	Steve Nelson
	Margery Kellar	Bobby Smith
	Mike Ely	

Council Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2010

Members Present: Pastor Hardy, Jerry Chapell, Chris Keller, Carolyn Davis, Ruth Scott, Meredith Collver, Steve Nelson, Mike Ely, Stephanie Cunefare, Jan Levensgood, Dot Beaver, Margery Kellar, Karen Bramlet, Bobby Smith and Missy Streubel.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Devotions were given by Missy Streubel.

The minutes of February 28, 2010 were approved as previously distributed.

NEW BUSINESS

Critical Dates

- The critical dates were accepted per the agenda.

Committee Liaison Selection

- As a liaison, help prioritize what needs to be done, help stay focused, use other committees for help when needed and keep in mind long term goals.
- There is no finance liaison necessary as Pastor and Jerry Chappell are on the Finance Committee.
- Remove the Food Bank as it is not a formal committee
- The chairperson for the youth remains open.

Devotion Schedule

- Council meeting devotion schedule is complete.

Contact Info Review

- The contact information from the agenda is attached to these minutes. Please submit corrections to the secretary.

Youth Blueberry Fund Raiser

- Sold by pre-order, delivered by refrigerator truck, one day to deliver, at a price of \$2 per pound in 2 pound containers.
- Consensus was to pursue and find a specific direction for the proceeds.

Tucker Days

- The celebration is on May 9th at \$125 for a booth with electricity.
- Council voted not to participate this year due to the construction on Main street altering/constricting the layout of the event and since it is the same day as the yard sale and blood drive at the church.

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS

Feedback from Annual Meeting

- General discussion

Youth Director search

- Change search to a sign up for one month and coordinate through Margery Kellar. Margery will draft a new request to be approved by council and then distributed via the April newsletter.

Welcome Kits

- Go with the items already defined previously.
- Awaiting artwork from Chris Keller for the business cards.

Committee Challenges

- Give agenda items to Jerry Chappell the Wednesday before the council meeting. He will review and it will be determined if a meeting is necessary.
- Submit committee reports the Wednesday before the council meeting.
- A draft scenario was presented for the marketing dvd. It was recommended to be sure to include contemporary music, pictures of the handbell choir and the Spirits. Pastor and Chris will coordinate.

General Discussion

- None

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

- Verbal corrections to the report presented. A \$16,000 disbursement from the building fund is not shown in Designated Funds. A \$123 Youth Group disbursement is not shown in Designated Funds.
- On the Budget page the Multicultural Fund is actually a positive.
- Discretionary money of \$895 is actually Haiti Relief funds.

Mortgage Reduction Fund Report

- No figures regarding pledges at this time.
- Pastor requested the pledges are broken down by the week.

Pastor's Report

- Four couples have joined, two more are pending in April and there are two pending transfers.
- The 2010 SE Synod Assembly is Jun 4-6 in Chattanooga. LGLC is entitled to 2 lay delegates. LGLC pays for the delegates and Pastor. Carolyn Davis and Margery Kellar volunteered to attend.

The treasurer's, financial secretary and Pastor's reports were accepted.

Committee Reports

- Health Ministry – a verbal report was given. A Healing service was on March 7th, the Hunger Walk is march 14th a Financial Seminar is on March 21st and on March 27th Dr. Kang of Gwinnett Medical is speaking on Women’s Health. Med Share is overwhelmed with volunteers leaving Wednesdays from 6-9 as the only option going forward until further notice.
- Outreach – a written report was submitted.
- No other reports were submitted

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 with the Lord’s Prayer.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone that helped make the Congregational Meeting Lunch a big success. I can’t remember who all made the goodies – but everyone enjoyed them – Thanks to Judy Carter and Stephanie Cunefare for making the sloppy joes and Agnes Nelson for doing the hot dogs. Also thanks to everyone that helped set up and clean up. It sure made my job easier.

Phyllis Prunty

Guidelines for Prayer Requests

Please notify Leanne Beutler, Newsletter Editor via email at Lbeutler@aol.com or written note to add or remove a name from the prayer list. If the name has appeared in three consecutive newsletters, it will be removed in the fourth newsletter unless you notify Leanne by the newsletter deadline.

Praying for Members, Family, and Friends

Members

Franklin Benner; Bill Conley; Laurel Jackson; Verna Jensen; Fred Kroger; Julien Lange; Ree Lionberger; Debra Melchionda; and Linda Tuminella

Helen Cunningham

Mother of Margery Kellar

Alex Markert

Nephew of Linda Tuminella

MaryAnn Sweeney

Friend of Shirley Arroyo

Lib and Joe Hale

Friends of Connie Holley

Mary Mildred McArthur

Mother of Mary Jane Outman

Sarah Jane

Sister of Tom Bellamy

Max Carroll

Friend of Shirley Arroyo

John Dilg

Juanita Mitchell

Mother of Linda Tuminella

Anne Cressman

Mother of Marlene Hardy

Marietta Sandidge

Mother of Jo Kroger

Rosemary Stewart

Friend of Tom Bellamy

Father George Choyce

Friend of Leanne Beutler

Wynn Franke

Cousin of Margery Kellar

Steve

Friend of Missy Streubel

Tom McGreevy

Friend of Cate Sulek

Husband of Doris McGreevy

Dale Garner
Friend of David and Sue Benner

Lexie Lively
Friend of Leanne Beutler

Members in Armed Forces

Capt. Matthew Hardy, SC 1-41FA, 3ID - Iraq
Son of Pastor and Marlene Hardy
1st. Lt. Curtis Nelson, ACO2-3-AVN – Afghanistan
Son of Steve and Cindy Nelson

Health Ministry

“I am in pain and distress; may your salvation, O God, protect me.” Psalm 69:29

Allergies are unusual, irritating, and potentially dangerous reactions of the immune system to a normally harmless substance. These reactions occur in about one out of three people. They will attack the respiratory tract, digestive tract, or entire body, but the type and severity of the reaction will depend on the individual’s level of sensitivity to the offending substance.

There are three categories of allergic reactions. Mild reactions are localized and include a rash, watery or itchy eyes, and congestion. Moderate reactions can spread beyond the original site of irritation and cause severe itching and difficulty breathing. The worst reaction, anaphylaxis, affects the whole body and is rare but life-threatening. Within minutes severe swelling will make breathing and swallowing difficult, and may include abdominal pain, vomiting, and mental confusion. Persons severely allergic to bees, shellfish, or peanuts should carry a dose of epinephrine to quickly reverse t his reaction.

Since allergies cannot be cured, it is important to determine and avoid the triggers for allergic reactions. Triggers can be environmental (wind, pollen, poison ivy, pollution): chemical (perfume, smoke, cleaning materials, latex rubber, medications) or foods (shellfish, peanuts, wheat, milk, soy, strawberries, eggs). In addition, do not overlook items from the surroundings like animals, mold, bee stings, or dust.

Whether an allergy is diagnosed through the medical testing of a physician or the detective process of an individual, finding the source of the allergy is like solving a mystery. Be observant to symptoms and the activities leading up to them. Look for connections between a reaction and any changes in diet, environment, or product use. Also consider others and eliminate bringing potential triggers into public venues whenever possible. Through process of elimination, irritants can be discovered and reactions prevented.

FYI: So far, Lutheran Services of Georgia is ahead of the other religious organizations that collected money and walked the Hunger Walk at Turner Field.

Thanks to all who donated and walked. We had twelve walkers (one runner) from the group and even though it was mighty cold, we had a good time! If anyone would like to contribute to feeding the hungry, we have until March 31, 2010, to contribute.

FYI: On April 18, we would like to have all Shepherd Leaders meet after the 10:30 service for a short get-together to discuss duties of the leaders and get ideas and concerns.

See you all during Holy Week!

Jan Levengood, Parish Nurse/Health Minister

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WELCA) News

Cluster Meeting

Magi Conference meeting will be held on Saturday April 17th at Living Grace Lutheran Church registration will begin at 9:00 AM. Women of Living Grace are pleased to be hosting the meeting. Volunteers will be needed to help with this event please call Sue Benner @ 770.493.4044 or Louise Iconis @ 770.934.5072.

Pastor Patty Axel will lead the worship service.

Next General Meeting

Saturday May 1, 2010
Hosts - Phyllis Prunty
Naomi Circle

Sew-N-Sews-Book Bag Ladies

The Sew-N-Sews and the Book Bag Ladies next scheduled meeting is Monday April 12th, 2010 from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM at the church.

The layettes made are not only used for indigent families, but are also used for children going into the Foster Care Program. Book bags are sewn, filled with supplies and donated to Lutheran World Relief.

You may call JoAnn Durrence @404.633.1833 or Sue Benner @ 770.493.4044 to find out additional information on how you can help.

Piece Maker's

The quilting group will meet at St. James Church on Thursday April 1st, Thursday April 22nd and on Saturday April 10th - 9:00AM to 12:00N.

The quilts are made and sent to Lutheran World Relief for distribution to those in need around the world.

You may call Agnes Nelson @770.458.3473 if you would like to participate.

Prison Ministries Books ...Greeting Cards!

Remember that we are now able to accept both paperback and hardback books for stocking the prison libraries.

We are also collecting Birthday Cards, Valentine Cards, Easter Cards, note cards and greeting cards for all occasions so that the women can send their personal greetings to family members and friends.

Your donations for both programs can be placed in the designated box in the Narthex.

Judy Knapp of Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, Stone Mountain, is the Clinical Chaplin at Pulaski State Women's Prison in Hawkinsville, GA.

Church Women United

Living Grace Lutheran Church will host the Church Women United May Friendship Day on Friday May 7th. Registration is at 10:30 AM, Celebration/Worship Service at 11:00 AM. Catered lunch to follow, cost will be \$6.50.

All women of Living Grace are cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

Outreach Committee

Shearith Israel Night Shelter for Homeless Women

A total of 21 women were served this year. Our twenty-sixth year of operations went very well!

A very special thanks to the fifteen members of Living Grace, (some of whom served more than one night), who made it possible for Living Grace to staff the shelter for two full weeks.

Volunteers will be needed again this fall and next spring. Please check your calendars now and set aside one or more nights this coming season so that you

can help us provide security and comfort for women without a home.

NETWorks

Thanks to all who have so generously donated food items to the food pantry. The need continues for donations. You may place your non-perishable food items in the designated box in the Narthex.

There is an opening for a volunteer to work in the administrative office on the fourth Monday of each month, 1:00PM to 4:00PM. Please contact Sue Benner, suembenner@yahoo.com or 770.493.4044. The NETWorks office is located at Tucker First Baptist Church.

Heifer Sunday

The Third Sunday of each month has been designated to be Heifer International Sunday. April 18th will be the next designated date for donations.

Heifer International is an organization that provides farm animals for families in developing countries. **Heifer International puts faith into action with its time proven principal of "passing on the gift". Every family who receives livestock agrees to pass on one or more of its animal's offspring to another neighbor in need.**

Special envelopes are provided on these designated Sundays for contribution to this cause.

Game Night

The first Game Night was held at Living Grace on Thursday, March 18. Three different games were played during the evening at several tables. There is interest in getting a bridge table started, too. Come check out our assortment of games. Bring your favorite games along. Our next Game Night will be held on Tuesday, April 20, at 7 p.m. at the church.

Southeastern Synod

The staff at the Southeastern Synod office on Edgewood Avenue in Atlanta has been reduced and they are trying to locate people that might be able to serve as part time volunteers or on-call assistants. It would be a wonderful opportunity for anyone that was retired and wanted to help a few hours each week.

If you would like to volunteer or if you know someone that would be willing to help, please contact the synod office at synod.office@elca-ses.org or Holly @404-589-1977 for more information.

Parish Education/Youth

March came in like a lion and out like a lamb. The children and youth here at Living Grace were very busy this month with two combined Sunday schools - preparing Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief (we met our goal of 100 kits for Haiti, great work, everybody!) and having a Resurrection Egg celebration on Palm Sunday.

Important Dates to remember:

Easter Egg Hunt/Celebration: April 3; 11-2. A light lunch will be provided. This annual event is open to the community and especially Living Grace children and youth.

Easter Sunday: No Sunday School for youth and children.

Youth Guides Wanted: While we are waiting for the perfect Youth Chairperson(s) to apply, we are exploring other possibilities... The ideal scenario would be one or two adults committed to 12 months of planning, instructing, and leading LG youth in a variety of activities to promote spiritual, physical, mental, and social development. Instead, how about 12-24 adults volunteering to be fully responsible for just one activity per year?!? I am requesting that all congregational members think back to his or her own teenage years... what church youth group activities stand out as your favorites? Is there something you would like to recreate? Is there something you would like to create now? Please contact Margery Kellar and/or Pastor Hardy if you are interested. Thank you.

VBS UPDATE

VBS is fast -approaching. Parish ed. is busy making lots of plans. Two other Lutheran churches have asked to participate with us, Messiah and St. Mark. It is important for parents to pre-register online this year. Please do so on our church website: www.livinggracelutheran.org <<http://www.livinggracelutheran.org/>>. Go to Programs and then, click on Parish Education where you will find a link to register your child for VBS. Volunteer helpers, please also register there. We only have 36 student spaces available. We hope to see all of the Living Grace kids and youth helpers at VBS this year (June 21-25). Also, keep in mind there will not be a parish ed. meeting this month. We will meet with volunteers individually in April and again as a group in May.

God's peace,
Cathy Shirah and Stephanie Rhodes
Co-Directors, Parish Education

Images of the Season***The Resurrection of Our Lord***

“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” God has indeed raised from the dead the one who was put to death “by hanging him on a tree.” Alleluia! God allows Jesus to appear “to us who were chosen by God as witnesses” in holy baptism and invites us to eat and drink at the table of the risen Christ. Alleluia!

Handbell Choir Rehearsal

The Handbell Choir rehearses on Sundays, at 12:15 p.m. The days of rehearsal for April will be 11 and 25 April. We welcome all beginning with age 10 who wish to praise the Lord with ringing of handbells. If you don't know how to read music, we will teach you. For more information, please contact Leanne Beutler, Director.

“Spirits”

A new season of outdoor services in the pavilion will begin Easter Sunday, 4 April at 7:00 a.m. During the months of May through October there will be a service on the second Sunday of each month at 9:30 a.m. Music rehearsals for these services will be after the 10:30 services as indicated in the bulletins. If you're interested in playing an instrument and/or singing with us during these services, feel free to come to the rehearsal or talk to or e-mail Andy or Cate Sulek sulek@comcast.net.

Special Days in April*1 April*

Maundy Thursday

2 April

Good Friday

3 April

The Great Vigil of Easter

4 April

The Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter Day

26 April

Mark, Evangelist



Christ is Risen, Alleluia!

LIVING GRACE Evangelical Lutheran Church

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