

Living Grace

Notes

May 2011 Newsletter

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

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

Church Music Sunday

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America has designated Sunday, 15 May, as *Church Music Sunday*. For this Sunday, Living Grace will have in both services, *Your Favorite Hymn from the ELW*. The service will start with the gathering hymn and end with the sending hymn, but in between Pastor Hardy will ask the assembly for their favorite hymn. We will sing at least 1 stanza, maybe 2 of the hymn that is called out. This should be a fun, worshipful Sunday. Please come prepared to church with your favorite hymn from the *ELW*.

5th Sunday, 29 May-One Service Only-10:30 a.m.

We will have only one service this Sunday with lunch to follow. The lunch will be provided by the Parish Education Committee. It will be a lunch that will relate to the Vacation Bible School Theme this year, "*The Big Apple Adventure*."

We will be singing a new setting of the liturgy in the worship service. So please come join us for this service.

Lay Assistants

Sunday, 1 May

Ushers	8:30 – Jim Tuminella 10:30 – Walter Sobers/Cate Sulek
Lectors	8:30 – Merritt Shealy 10:30 – James Reynolds
Communion Assistants	8:30 – David Benner 10:30 – Team 4
Acolyte	10:30 – James Cressman
Greeters	10:30 – Connie Holley/Jac Larson
Altar Guild	8:30/10:30 setup – Phyllis Gerke Cleanup – James Reynolds
Counters	Steve and Cindy Nelson

Sunday, 8 May

Ushers	8:30 – David Benner 10:30 – Ed Kennedy/Harold Bowers
Lectors	8:30 – Jim Tuminella 10:30 – Mary Ann Blessing
Communion Assistants	8:30 – Leanne Beutler 10:30 – Team 1
Acolyte	10:30 – Samantha Ireton
Greeters	10:30 – Maurice and Betty Cole
Altar Guild	8:30/9:30/10:30 setup – TBD Cleanup – TBD
Counter	Leanne Beutler

Sunday, 15 May – Church Music Sunday

Ushers	8:30 – Michael Hardy 10:30 – Will Arroyo/Terry Blanton
Lectors	8:30 – Michael Hardy 10:30 – Will Arroyo
Communion Assistants	8:30 – David Benner 10:30 – Team 2
Acolyte	10:30 – Erin Cunefare
Greeter	Doris McGreevy
Altar Guild	8:30/10:30 setup – TBD Cleanup – TBD
Counters	Pat Stowers/Dot Beaver

Sunday, 22 May

Ushers	8:30 – Keith Siekierski 10:30 – John and Agnes Nelson
Lectors	8:30 – Missy Streubel 10:30 – Mary Jane Outman
Communion Assistants	8:30 – David Benner

	10:30 – Team 3
Acolyte	10:30 – Mackenzie Arroyo
Greeter	10:30 – Phyllis Prunty
Altar Guild	8:30/10:30 setup – TBD
	Cleanup – TBD
Counters	Will and Shirley Arroyo

Sunday, 29 May—One Service at 10:30

Ushers	Chip Combee/Jason Dick
Lector	TBD
Communion Assistants	Team TBD
Acolyte	Alvin Jorkey
Greeters	John and Agnes Nelson
Altar Guild	Setup – TBD
	Cleanup – TBD
Counters	John and Margaret Holden

Team 1 =	Will Arroyo – Captain Jan Levengood Stephanie Cunefare
Team 2 =	Margery Kellar Lesley Campbell Carol Ireton
Team 3 =	Jim Outman – Captain Mary Jane Outman Cynthia Outman
Team 4 =	Marlene Hardy – Captain Jo Kroger Nikki Ireton
Team 5 =	Lynn Lefebvre – Captain Stephanie Rhodes Carolyn Davis
Team 6 =	Jason Eklund – Captain David Guptill Mark Arneson

Floater/Substitute – 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. Also, we would like to form another team of communion assistants consisting of our youth. In order to be a communion assistant, you must be a confirmed member of the congregation. If you are interested in serving as a communion assistant, please inform Leanne Beutler and she will train you.

If you wish to be an usher and/or counter, please contact Leanne Beutler at LBeutler@aol.com

and she will be happy to put you on the schedule.

Have you ever wondered what the members of the Altar Guild do for the church? They are a very important part of the worship service. They prepare the elements for Holy Communion and do the proper clean-up of the elements after the services. They also prepare the altar with the proper liturgical paraments and make sure the candles are ready with oil and the eternal light never dies. This is a special service for the church. For those who want to serve the Lord in a very special way, please consider the Altar Guild. You will be trained! Please contact Missy Streubel at her email address streub@bellsouth.net.

General News and Notes

May Birthdays

2	Edmund Kennedy	Erin Cunefare
4	Trace Chandler	
5	David Benner	
7	Jim Carter	
10	Leah Whitmoyer	
15	Mackenzie Arroyo	
16	Charlette Beutler	
20	Michael Lionberger	
21	Fred Kroger	
24	Karen Lionberger	
25	Ryan Axel	
26	Andrew Hoppen	
28	Florence Lange	
29	Aimee Lyons	
30	Jan Levensgood	

Changes

Please note the changes below for our Living Grace family:

Ms. Bernice Bland

Change of Phone: 404-294-9247 (h)

Andrew and Nicole Hoppen

Change of address: 4374 River Stream Circle

Norcross, GA 30092 Phone: 404-304-7468 (h)

The Mulbah Family

3207 Henderson Mill Road, NE, Apt. J-3

Atlanta, GA 30341 Phone: 770-939-6799

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.

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.

Church Calendar

There is a wall calendar near the church offices in which you can check to see what is happening at the church not only for the month, but several months ahead. Please inform the church office if you wish to use the church facilities and we will check the calendar and place your event on the calendar.

Church Council of 2011

The following are your representatives on the church council for 2011.

President – Jerry Chappell
Vice President – Stephanie Cunefare
Treasurer – Mike Collver
Financial Secretary – Ruth Scott
Secretary – Missy Streubel

Dot Beaver
Carolyn Davis
David Guptill
Chris Keller

Terry Blanton
Mike Ely
Margery Kellar
Steve Nelson

Bobby Smith

Graceful Group

The Graceful Group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, May 12. Come join us for a delicious potluck lunch (main dish, salad, vegetable, or dessert) at 11:30 a.m. Invite your friends to join our group.

John and Agnes Nelson will share highlights of their river cruise on the Amazon at the Graceful Group meeting.

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 May 12 on your calendar and join us for a great time of food and fellowship.

SPRING CLEANING TIME AGAIN!! YARD SALE ITEMS NEEDED

The LGLC Youth Group is having a **Yard Sale on Saturday, May 7** from 8a.m.-1p.m. The Yard Sale will be in the Pavilion. We need items donated to help support both our Youth activities and Mission Trip. So clean out your closets, basements, and attics and bring us your treasures.

Please carefully read the instructions below as this will insure a successful sale.

- Please be sure to **price your items before you drop them off**. You may use stickers, masking tape, tags or any other form of getting a price on your items. You don't have to price books, VHS tapes, etc., however.
- You may place items in the **Fellowship Hall**, there will be a table designated. Or you may take them directly to the storage facility in the **Pavilion (left side)**. Please do not leave items unattended and unlocked.
- If you need to drop off items during a time when the church is unattended, please call to **make arrangements 1-2 days prior** and I will meet you to open any doors necessary. Don't call me from the church saying you need to get in. I probably won't be around and you'll have to take your things back home with you.
- **Suggested acceptable items:** small household appliances, children's toys/books, household goods, knick-knacks, furniture, books, linens, working electronics etc. If you would want to buy it at another sale, then bring it to ours. Someone else will think it is wonderful too. Clothing generally does **not** sell well unless it is from a fairly well known designer or store and gently used.
- Items may be dropped off **between Monday 25 April and Saturday 7 May**. If you drop off the day of the sale, please be there between 7:00a.m. and 8:30a.m.

If you have any questions or to arrange for storage of your items, please contact:
Steph C at 404-248-9739 OR sacunefare@hotmail.com

IF YOU CAN'T DONATE, PLEASE STOP BY FOR A BROWSE.
YOU MAY FIND A TREASURE!



The 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held in New Orleans from July 18 -22, 2012. During this time 39,000 ELCA young people will come together to pick up where 37,000 left off in 2009. This will be an opportunity to again connect with the citizens of New Orleans, assist in rebuilding their city and lives (physically and emotionally), and most importantly to demonstrate faith in Jesus Christ.

Such an endeavor cannot succeed without volunteers. I served as a volunteer for the first time in 2009 and found it to be one of the most rewarding experiences of

my life. Imagine: a worship service with 37,000 plus.

There are three branches of volunteerism for ages 19 and above. They are:

Community Life: “A Community Life Team staffs each hotel and is responsible for providing hospitality, being a conduit for communication with Youth Gathering planners as well as hotel staff, and troubleshooting situations that arise.”

Servant Companion: “We need 200 young adult Servant Companions to help lead 39,000 high school youth and adult leaders through a variety of experiences.”

Gathering Volunteer Corp (GVC): “The Gathering Volunteer Corps serves in multiple capacities throughout the gathering. This can include, but not be limited to, ushering in the Superdome, checking wristbands at Community Life activities, directing foot traffic in the Interaction Center, helping with registration, answering telephones, staffing an information booth, or moving equipment in the Convention Center.”

To allow for training and set up, in most cases volunteers must be available to serve from 1:00 p.m. Monday, July 16, through 3:00 p.m. Sunday, July 22, 2012. Hotel accommodations and meals will be provided. In addition, volunteers will be reimbursed for up to \$200.00 of transportation expenses.

Please prayerfully consider being a part of what promises to be an amazing experience. Online applications are being accepted beginning **Sunday, May 15, 2011**. Applications and information can be found on the ELCA Gathering website at <http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Youth-Ministry/Youth-Gathering.aspx>, or speak with me, Carolyn Davis.

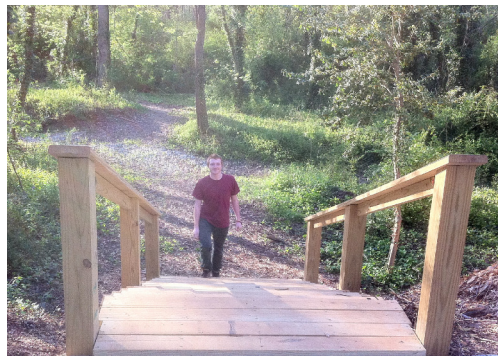
For those Living Grace high school age youth who may be interested in attending the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering as a participant, as well as their parents and/or potential chaperones, information will be provided by our Youth Leaders in the near future.

Thank You

Dear Living Grace congregation,

In response to the generosity that the congregation has shown in supporting my Eagle Project, I would like to invite you all to my Eagle Scout Court of Honor on Sunday, May 22nd - 4pm at Oak Grove United Methodist Church. Any one who is interested is more than welcome and once again, thank you very much for all your support!

Yours,
Logan Shirah



Electronic Prayer Requests

If you would like to receive Living Grace's electronic prayer list, please send your email address to: livinggraceprayers@gmail.com.

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

Will Arroyo; Laurel Jackson; Verna Jensen; Fred Kroger; Julien Lange; Paul Lefebvre; Debra Melchionda; and Nevada Seawell.

Helen Cunningham

Mother of Margery Kellar

Alex Markert

Nephew of Jim Tuminella

Marietta Sandidge

Mother of Jo Kroger

Lib and Joe Hale

Friends of Connie Holley

Pat LaFleur

Cousin of Don & Jac Larson

Patrick Newton

Friend of Leanne Beutler

Linda Linke

Friend of Living Grace

Jimmy and Caroline

Gammell

Parents of Louise Iconis

Allison Chapman

Friend of Leyla Kellar

Tom Grissmon

Friend of Don Larson

Arlene Lacy

Friend of Don Larson

Health Ministry

Greetings in the name of our Redeemer and great Physician! May is the month full of activities and celebrations. During this busy month I would like to share some thoughts with you on the **Healing Ministry of the Church.**

What Does the Word "Healing" Really Mean?

Healing refers to much more than the treating of disease and disability. Actually the root of the word "heal" means **wholeness**. As Christians, we believe that wholeness has our relationship with God as the center and it involves harmony or balance among all dimensions of our life. Healing actions are characterized by (1) reflecting Jesus' ministry (2) promoting wholeness and peace (3) relating between the person helping and the person hurting (4) sharing of self, and (5) attending to specific human needs.

What is the Healing Ministry of the Church?

In the Old Testament we read about God's healing actions, "But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him and by His wounds we are healed" (Is. 53:5) During His life, Jesus devoted much of His time to healing physical, emotional and spiritual brokenness. In addition, His charge to the New Testament Church included Preaching, Teaching and **Healing** (Mt. 10:7,8; Mt.28:19, 20; Mark 16:18)

The ministry of health and healing is central to the life of the church. Many traditional church activities are rooted in a ministry of healing. God has given us Baptism and Communion, His Word and Liturgy, and Christian Fellowship as gifts of healing! In addition, all Christians are called to live lives of peace, mercy and healing.

How Can We Lead Healing Lives?

In order to live healing lives, we must first be **grounded** in a living **relationship with Jesus Christ** and be responsive to our own spiritual needs. Second, we can grow in **sensitivity to the struggles and sufferings of others**. God enables us to live a life of kindness, compassion, gentleness and patience. Third, we can make ourselves **present to people who are suffering**. Fourth, we can try to **help others find meaning and peace in their suffering**.

One of the reasons we established the Shepherd groups is that the Shepherd leaders can check on those who have missed Sundays during the month. If you are having a problem, please call your leader or your Parish Nurse and we will do our best to help. I pray that we all may be comforted with these words of promise "I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security." (Jer. 33:6)

Yours in Christ,
Jan Levengood, Parish Nurse/Health Minister

On Sunday, 1 May, in both services, we will be offering healing and anointing during the distribution of communion.

Outreach Committee

Heifer Sunday

The Third Sunday of each month has been designated to be Heifer International Sunday. Sunday May15th will be the next designated date for donations.

Heifer International puts faith into action with its time proven principal of "passing on the gift" by providing farm animals for families in developing countries. Those families receiving the animals then provide offspring to other families who are in need.

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

Sew-N-Sews-Book Bag Ladies

The Sew-N-Sews and the Book Bag Ladies next scheduled meeting is Monday May 9th, 2011 beginning at 9:30 AM 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 May 5th and Thursday May 26th and on Saturday May 14th - 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.

NETWorks

Please mark your calendars for the next Networks Spaghetti **Fundraiser!!!!** The event will be held at Lawrenceville Road U.M.C. on Sunday, May 15, beginning at 12:30 pm. Details to follow.

Thanks again to all those who have so generously donated food items to the food pantry. The need continues for donations. You may place your nonperishable food items in the designated box in the Narthex. As our economy continues to struggle, more and more families are in need of food.

Your donations are critically needed.



Bringing Hope, Healing and Strength to People in Need

Facts about Lutheran Services of Georgia

Lutheran Services of Georgia is partnering with the Global Village School to present an Art Auction.

The Global Village School is a school for teenaged refugee girls whose formal education has been interrupted by war and refugee camp experiences. In fact, some of the families that LSG has resettled have daughters that attend the school!

The Art Auction, titled “Every Picture Tells A Story,” will be an evening of celebrating refugees’ stories and fine art. Please join us from 6:30-9:30 on Saturday, May 21, 2011 at the Phillip Rush Center in the Candler Park neighborhood, for what is sure to be a wonderful event that includes a live auction, silent auction, hors d'œuvres and special performances by refugees.

Subscribe to the LSG Newsletter by going to the LSG Home page <http://www.lsga.org/home.html> and click on the **Join Our Mailing List** icon.

ELCA News

ELCA Commits Additional \$500,000 for Response to Japan Disaster

The Evangelical 11 that it has committed an additional \$500,000 to three partners in Japan as part of the ELCA's continuing response to the massive earthquake and tsunami that struck the northern part of the country one month ago. Coupled with funds committed earlier, the ELCA has committed a total of \$740,000 toward response to the disaster. Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) announced April.

ELCA Disaster Response Sends Emergency Grant for Red River Flooding

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), through Lutheran Disaster Response, sent a \$10,000 emergency grant to Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota for immediate response to the flooding along the Red River and its tributaries. Lutheran Disaster Response is a collaborative ministry of the ELCA and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

During the past weekend, the Red River crested at Fargo, N.D., and Moorhead, Minn., at 38.75 feet, about two feet short of the record level set in 2009, said the Rev. Kevin Massey, director, ELCA Domestic Disaster Response and Lutheran Disaster Response. Levees protected both cities from widespread flooding.

May Friendship Day Friday May 6, 2011

Living Grace Lutheran Church will host the Church Women United May Friendship Day - National Day of Prayer on Friday May 6th.



Registration is at 10:30 AM,
Celebration/Worship Service at 11:00 AM.
Catered lunch to follow, cost will be \$8.00

**FABREFACTION THEATRE
COMPANY *Presents***

Chekhov's "The Seagull"

A modern adaptation of the timeless play about the romantic and artistic conflicts between a writer, an actress, and their families in Czarist Russia.

Sat. May 14th 8 PM

Sun. May 15th 3 PM



Support Shearith Israel Shelter by advertising in the Theatre Program. Contact Sallie Weddell at sweddell@sishelter.org

SAVE A DATE!

SHEARITH ISRAEL SHELTER

Theatre Benefit

Order Your Tickets Now!

Saturday, May 14th at 8 PM

Theatre Ticket only

\$20 per person

Dinner (6:30 PM) & Ticket

\$40 per person

Sunday, May 15th at 3 PM

Tea & Coffee Reception (2:00 PM)

\$25 per person

Send checks payable to:

Shearith Israel Shelter

Attn: Barbara Lang

3565 Monticello Commons

Norcross, Georgia 30092 770-729-9323

Parish Education/Youth

Spring is a busy time for the children and youth of parish education! The youth had a wonderful time zip-lining and horseback riding last month at Banning Mills. They hope to do it again next year!

April 23rd was a fun day for young and not so young alike! The Easter Egg Hunt was from 11-2. The young people enjoyed finding the eggs, playing games, doing crafts & hearing the Easter story in the church. Our 1st ever Easter play was performed that evening at 5:00 p.m. It was entitled "Jerusalem P.D." Dinner was served during the performance. A free-will offering was taken for youth activities. A BIG thank you to Carol Ireton, Leanne Beutler and Ruth Cressman for all of their leadership and to everyone else involved for making these events happen!

Important dates to remember:

- May 1st, 1:15 p.m., VBS meeting in the Conference Room, following the Thrivent luncheon/meeting,
- May 15, Last day of Sunday School for children & youth
- May 29, 5th Sunday luncheon hosted by Parish Education. Don't forget to attend!



VBS is fast approaching! Please join us for the meeting the 1st Sunday in May. If you are unable to attend, please consider making a donation. We still need outdoor benches, trees, green turf, sit-upons & large sheets of cardboard. Here is a NY City fun fact. An average of 4.9 million people ride the subway in NY City subway every weekday. Hope to see you at the meeting!

In Faith,
Cathy Shirah & Stephanie Rhodes
Co-Chairs, Parish Education

Worship and Music

Living Out Our Baptism

Philip and James, Apostles

On 1 May, the church remembers Philip and James, apostles.

Philip was one of the first disciples of Jesus, who after following Jesus invited Nathanael to “come and see.” According to tradition, Philip preached in Asia Minor and died as a martyr in Phrygia. James, the son of Alphaeus, is called “the Less” (meaning “short” or “younger”) to distinguish him from another apostle named James who is commemorated on 25 July. Philip and James are commemorated together because the remains of these two saints were placed in the Church of the Apostles in Rome on 2 May in 561.

Church Music Sunday

This year the church celebrates on Sunday, 15 May, *Church Music Sunday*. The church celebrates all the variety of music which praises and worships our Lord. Living Grace will celebrate this Sunday with a *Favorite Hymn Sunday*. Come prepared to give us your favorite hymn from the ELW during the service and we will sing at least one stanza, maybe two.

Choir Program

The Senior Choir rehearses on Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. This month will be the last month of regular Wednesday rehearsals. For the summer, the choir will rehearse on Sunday mornings easy and familiar anthems. If you would like to come and sing with the *summer choir*, please contact Ken Sass, Director of Music.

The Handbell Choir rehearses on Sundays after the 10:30 a.m. services. The May rehearsal dates will be 8 and 15 May, at 12 noon. We will be playing for the 10:30 worship services on 15 and 22 May.

9:30 a.m. Service in the Pavilion

We have our 9:30 a.m. service in the pavilion on Sunday, 8 May. This service is lead by the “*Spirits.*” We will have this service once a month on the second Sunday of each month.

57 Cent Church

A little girl stood near a small church from which she had been turned away because it was “too crowded.” “I can’t go to Sunday School,” she sobbed to the pastor as he walked by. Seeing her shabby, unkempt appearance, the pastor guessed the reason and, taking her by the hand, took her inside and found a place for her in the Sunday School Class. The child was so happy that they found room for her, and she went to bed that night thinking of the children who have no place to worship Jesus. Some two years later, this child lay dead in one of the poor tenement buildings. Her parents called for the kind-hearted pastor who had befriended their daughter to handle the final arrangements. As her poor little body was being moved, a worn and crumpled red purse was found which seemed to have been rummaged from some trash dump. Inside was found 57 cents and a note, scribbled in childish handwriting, which read: “This is to help build the little church bigger so more children can go to Sunday School.” For two years she had saved for this offering of love. When the pastor tearfully read that note, he knew instantly what he would do. Carrying this note and the cracked, red pocketbook to the pulpit, he told the story of her unselfish love and devotion. He challenged his deacons to get busy and raise enough money for the larger building. But the story does not end there. . .

A newspaper learned of the story and published it. It was read by a wealthy realtor who offered them a parcel of land worth many thousands. When told that the church could not pay so much, he offered to sell it to the little church for 57 cents. Church members made large donations. Checks came from far and wide. Within five years the little girl’s gift had increased to \$250,000—a huge sum for that time (near the turn of the century). Her unselfish love had paid large dividends. When you are in the city of Philadelphia, look up Temple Baptist Church, with a seating capacity of 3,300. And be sure to visit Temple University, where thousands of students are educated. Have a look, too, at the Good Samaritan Hospital and at a Sunday School building which houses hundreds of beautiful children, built so that no child in the area will ever need to be left outside during Sunday School time. In one of the rooms of this building may be seen the picture of the sweet face of the little girl whose 57 cents, so sacrificially saved, made such remarkable history. Alongside of it is a portrait of her kind pastor, Dr. Russell H. Conwell, author of the book, “Acres of Diamonds.” This is a true story, which goes to show WHAT GOD CAN DO WITH 57 CENTS.

May Calendar on this page.

Special Days in May

2 May

Philip and James, Apostles (transferred)

14 May

Matthias, Apostle

15 May

Church Music Sunday

31 May

Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

LIVING GRACE Evangelical Lutheran Church

1812 Cooleage Road

Tucker, GA 30084

Phone: 678/406-9229

Time Sensitive Material • Please Expedite!