

Living Grace

Notes

September 2011 Newsletter

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

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

Remembering 11 September

While dying, hanging from a cross, the very first words spoken by Jesus are words of forgiveness for the very ones who were the cause of his agony. Although forgiveness for the carnage that took place 10 years ago on 11 September 2001, may still be far from our hearts and minds, even in our anger, in our grief, and in our outrage, we are guided by the Holy Spirit to work for justice and peace.

Rally Day – 18 September

Rally Day for our youth and children will be on Sunday, 18 September during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The parents can bring their children for a fun filled hour while they worship. Then at the time of the distribution of Holy Communion, the parents can come and get their children to receive communion or a blessing. Mark your calendars!!

<i>Lay Assistants</i>

Sunday, 4 September

Ushers	8:30 – Leanne Beutler 10:30 – John Nelson/Scott Hilley
Lectors	8:30 – Merritt Shealy 10:30 – Margery Kellar
Communion Assistants	8:30 – Missy Streubel 10:30 – Team 4
Acolyte	10:30 – Emma Jorkey
Greeter	10:30 – Lanny Henderson
Counters	Dot Beavers/Pat Stowers

Sunday, 11 September – (9:30 service lead by the Spirits out at the Pavilion)

Ushers	8:30 – Jim Tuminella 10:30 – Merrill and Jo Ann Durrence
Lectors	8:30 – Jim Tuminella 10:30 – John Nelson
Communion Assistants	8:30 – Jan Levensgood 10:30 – Team 2
Acolyte	10:30 – Cynthia Outman
Greeter	10:30 – Doris McGreevy
Counters	David and Lin Parker

Sunday, 18 September

Ushers	8:30 – David Benner 10:30 – Will Arroyo/Terry Blanton
Lectors	8:30 – Missy Streubel 10:30 – Jo Kroger
Communion Assistants	8:30 – Leanne Beutler 10:30 – Team 1
Acolyte	10:30 – Erin Cunefare
Greeter s	10:30 – Dot Beaver/Pat Stowers
Counter	Leanne Beutler

Sunday, 25 September

Ushers	8:30 – Keith Siekierski 10:30 – Cate Sulek/Walter Sobers
Lectors	8:30 – David Benner 10:30 – Mary Jane Outman
Communion Assistants	8:30 – David Benner 10:30 – Team 3
Acolyte	10:30 – Mackenzie Arroyo
Greeter s	10:30 – David and Lin Parker
Counters	Will and Shirley Arroyo

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

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. 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

September Birthdays

3	Stephanie Rhodes		
4	Franklin Benner		
6	Little Lionberger	Tate Arroyo	Larry Wall
7	Phyllis Prunty	Mary Anne Long	
9	Jim Outman		
12	Leanne Beutler		
19	Paul Lefebvre		
20	Randy Helmey		
28	John Lyons		

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 that announcements for weekly Sunday bulletins need to be electronically sent to Leanne Beutler no later than Thursday evening prior to the Sunday insertion normally. 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.

Graceful Group

Attention, all who are young at heart. Our first meeting of the Graceful Group for 2011-2012 will be on Thursday, 8 September 2011, at 11:30 a.m. Alice Rhodes Adler has contacted Thomas Reese for our first program on "*The Grand Canyon and The Genesis Flood.*" It sounds like an interesting program, so come and bring a friend.

We will have a large pot of vegetable soup so please bring either a salad or a dessert.

We always need helpers for table set up and clean up. Let us know if you can help. We will have a table for books and magazines that you are willing to donate for someone else to enjoy. See you on 8 September.

Johnny Levensgood

Gift Bags Needed by Sew 'N' Sews

Sew 'N' Sews assemble layettes which are given to needy mothers of newborns. We put these in attractive, medium or large size gift bags. If you have any of these bags, please bring them to church and put them in the box in the narthex. Thank you.

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 Newsletter Prayer Requests

Please notify Leanne Beutler, Parish Administrator, 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

Nancy Althafer; Sheree Benner; Laurel Jackson; Verna Jensen; Fred Kroger; Julien Lange; Paul Lefebvre; Debra Melchionda; Agnes Nelson; Lin Parker; John, Diane and Lisa Reitz and Connie Rivers-Ivy.

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

Diana Williams Martin

Friend of Kathie Kennedy

Emily and Nick

Friends of David Guptill

Kathryn Fugate

Friend of Margery Kellar

Sue Stutts

Friend of Ruth Scott

Anne Mola

Mother of Jim Gerke

Virginia Freeman

Friend of Don Larson

Linda Linke

Friend of Living Grace

Jimmy and Caroline

Gammell

Parents of Louise Iconis

Patricia Newton

Friend of Leanne Beutler

Tom Grissmon

Friend of Don Larson

Pastor Don Hanberry

Friend of Living Grace

Larry Leach

Friend of Jan Levensgood

Lindsay

Friend of Lisa Guptill

Jerry

Friend of Ruth Scott

Eugene Lee

Carolyn Davis

Beverly

Daughter of Lanny Henderson

Marquetta Clark and Family

Friends of Living Grace

PFC Sean O'Connor

Deployed to Afghanistan, serving in Paktika Province with 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade
– (grandson of Mary Ann Blessing)

Health Ministry

“Ears to hear and eyes to see-both are gifts from the Lord.” Proverbs 20:12

We’ve all said it, “He hears when he wants to hear.” Sometimes people seem to hear and understand without difficulty and other times they seem not to hear anything. We often assume that it is selective listening, but it is usually more than just not listening.

When hearing is lost, a great deal of energy and time goes into trying to understand what is being said. A person can be totally exhausted by the end of a day spent struggling to hear. Hearing aids help make conversation better – not perfect. Even with hearing aids some things will be missed. Most people with good hearing miss things but fill in the blanks. To ensure that one who doesn’t hear well, will hear what you say:

- Face them so they can see your lips and your facial expression – be sure the light is not behind you as your face will be in the shadows
- Try to eliminate as much extraneous noise as possible
- Don’t shout – use a normal voice
- Try not to drop your voice at the end of a sentence
- Enunciate your words without exaggerating them
- Remember that speaking rapidly makes you difficult to understand so slow down
- When you are not understood, try rephrasing what you are saying. It often gives more clues to meaning.
- Don’t say “never mind; it wasn’t important.” The person might feel that they are not important enough for you to repeat the statement.

Hearing impairment is complex. Get a person’s attention first and you have a better chance of being understood. Be patient and keep trying. If the hearing-impaired appear aloof or disinterested, they may not be aware of your presence or be able to understand what you are saying. Don’t assume that hearing aids will help since adjusting to them can be difficult. This especially impacts older people who have lived in a very quiet world for a long time and suddenly experience painful, loud, and disruptive noise. Time and patience are needed to make the adjustment as the person must gradually increase both the wearing time and noise level before being comfortable with the aids.

If you are having difficulty hearing, ask for help. God is good and has provided many advances to help the hearing impaired. There may be no need to be isolated by hearing loss. Check with your doctor.

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

We have several exciting things happening in September!

Beginning Sunday, 11 September, Health ministry will offer the Grief-Share bereavement support program every Sunday at 12 noon to 1 PM from September to early December. The cost to purchase your own Grief-Share workbook is \$20.00. You can read more about the program at www.griefshare.org. Please contact me for more information. Come join us and see what it's all about!

All Thrivent members and families are invited to the second Chili cook-off here at Living Grace on September 24th from 5 to 7 PM. There will be prizes for the best chili and pies, and for the church with the most Thrivent members present. Last year was great fun with wonderful food and fellowship. There will be a kid's slide set up in the narthex. Let me know if you can come and bring your best chili or pie so we know how many hotdogs we need to supplement

Outreach Committee

Heifer Sunday



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

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.

Sew 'N' Sews

The Sew 'N' Sews next scheduled meetings are Monday September 12th beginning 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. You may call Jo Ann Durrence @404.633.1833 or Sue Benner @ 770.493.4044 to find out additional information on how you can help.

Piece Maker's

In September the quilting group will meet at St. James Church on Thursday September 1st and Thursday September 22nd. All meetings begin at 9:00AM

Please note there is no quilting on Saturday, September 10th as all quilts, sewing kits, health kits and school bags will be taken to Emmanuel Lutheran Church and will be loaded on the Lutheran World Relief truck for shipment.

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

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.

NETWorks is in the process of moving into the old bank building behind Tucker First Baptist Church. The new location will provide better facilities for current and expanded programs. Reopening date and new hours of operations will soon be announced.

Upcoming Outreach Activities

As family vacations end and we return to our regular schedules, please remember to plan to volunteer for one or more of the Outreach ministry projects that will be coming this fall. Our major programs are:

Hope Lodge: On Tuesday, September 13th, we will continue our tradition of serving an evening meal to guests who reside at Hope Lodge. Hope Lodge provides housing for cancer patients undergoing treatment at Emory Hospital and for their caregivers. A recent expansion of the facility will enable us to provide meals for approximately 100 patients, caregivers and staff.

Again this year we are grateful for Phyllis Prunty's leadership in ensuring the success of this project. Volunteers will be needed. Phyllis's phone number is: 770.237.9807.

Night Shelter for Women: for the 29th consecutive year Living Grace will be assisting Congregation Shearith Israel in staffing its overnight shelter for homeless women. The shelter opens on Monday, November 14th. Living Grace will provide overnight volunteers for that first week and also will provide overnight volunteers for last week of the shelter season, March 16th – 22nd. Additional information and sign-up sheets will be forthcoming.



**Hunger Walk 2011 Sets New LSG
Record!!!**

The Atlanta Community Food Bank has released the totals for Hunger Walk 2011 and we are thrilled to announce that LSG has not only well surpassed its goal but also set a new record! LSG's grand total for 2011 is an astounding \$79,586.93. This total is \$11,000 over our goal and translates to thousands of pounds of food for hungry families in metro Atlanta and north Georgia.

We extend our thanks to the many congregations and over 500 Lutherans who came to Turner Field on March 12. The totals raised by each congregation are still being tabulated as of press time, but we can announce that the award for the most money raised online by a congregation goes to St. John's Lutheran Church, Atlanta, and the award for the top individual online fundraiser goes to Ellen Jugar, St. Mark Lutheran Church, Tucker. Congratulations and thank you, St. John's and Ellen!

Upcoming Events

Atlanta Golf Classic

Join us to "Play for Hope" at our 17th Annual Golf Classic. This event changes lives by bringing hope, healing and strength to those in need served by Lutheran Services of Georgia. Player fees are \$110, sponsorships also available.

Heritage Golf Links Monday, October 17, 2011

Savannah Golf Classic

Our annual Savannah Golf outing is a "do not miss" event. For a fee of \$100, you'll get breakfast, lunch, golf cart, green fees and a day of fellowship. Sponsorships are also available.

Henderson Golf Club Monday, November 7, 2011
For more information, contact Alyson Coffman

Foster Parent Gas Cards

For the past several years, Living Grace, in cooperation with a number of other Lutheran churches has provided gasoline credit cards for the parents participating in the Lutheran Services of Georgia Foster Parent program. This is just a quick reminder to please include this program in your Christmas giving plans.

Aug. 15-19, 2011 • Orlando World Center Marriott • Theme: "Freed in Christ to Serve."





2011 Church-wide Assembly Summary of Actions

The Twelfth Biennial Church-wide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) was held Aug. 15-19, 2011, at the Orlando World Center Marriott. The theme was “Freed in Christ to Serve.”

- ELCA Malaria Campaign officially launched
- “Genetics, Faith and Responsibility” social statement adopted
- Review process for social statements adopted
- Living into the Future Together implementing resolutions adopted
- 2012-2013 Budget proposals adopted
- Memorials and constitutional changes adopted

For more information on the work of the assembly, including daily legislative updates, videos and a news blog, visit www.elca.org/assembly.



Book of Faith Study Continues

Beginning in September, Pastor Hardy will be presenting the next course in the continuing Book of Faith Study series, a study of the book of John. Each session will be repeated three times during the week. The sessions will meet on Wednesdays @ 10:30 AM, Thursdays @ 7:00 PM and Fridays @ 1:30 PM.

The beginning dates of the study will be announced in the Bulletin Insert and sent out via email notification



**Christ the King Lutheran Church hosts ‘Citizens Tour’
A Kick-off Event for the
2012 ELCA National Youth Gathering
July 18-22, 2012**

Agape and Rachel Kurtz will be in concert beginning at 1:00 PM October 1, 2011 at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 5575 Peachtree Parkway, Norcross Georgia.

Youth planning to attend the 2012 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans won’t want to miss the “Citizens Tour,” traveling to over 20 cities across the country for a program of music, storytelling and worship with the artists who will be featured at the Gathering

Attendees will be given a chance to:

- *Raise money and awareness for ELCA World Hunger
- *Experience a taste of what the Gathering will be like
- *Watch exclusive videos
- *Inspire youth to be the hands, feet and ears of Jesus in their community

Featured Performers:

AGAPE* (Dave Scherer) combines rapping, dancing and storytelling to communicate to young people in a way that they "get it." He performs 100 times a year across the United States and has also traveled internationally with his ministry. In 2001, AGAPE helped start JUMP Ministries (Joint Urban Ministries in Praise) which helps inner-city youth discover their leadership gifts through hip-hop and the arts.

Rachel Kurtz is a Minnesota-based singer and songwriter whose subtle blend of style reveals folk-pop sensibilities with a healthy dose of soul.

Tickets are \$5 and an offering will be taken to support Lutheran World Hunger Relief efforts. Everyone who contributes at least \$10 will receive a digital download of Agape and Rachel’s music.

Please contact Carolyn Davis for tickets and more information 678.896.5071 or 770.613.0126 or email @ fostine@comcast.net

For more information go to www.citizenstour.com.
www.youtube.com/elcagathering
www.facebookyouthgathering

Women of the ELCA

Twenty-Fourth Annual Convention
Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA
Lake Guntersville State Park
Guntersville, Alabama
September 16-18, 2011

Theme: “*Renew your Heart*”
Bible Verse: Psalms 51:10
Hymn: “*Create in me a Clean Heart*”
Bible Study: Pastor Morgan Gordy
Churchwide Rep: Sharon Heck
Chaplain: Pastor Morgan Gordy
Music Director: Diana Revell
Keynote Speaker: Amy Vehec, M.D.
Banquet: *Red & White Banquet (Casual)*
Love Offering: Lutheran Campus Ministries/GA
In-Kind Gifts: Mercy Children’s Clinic, Franklin, TN
Host Cluster: Cluster 8 - The King
Hospitality: Cluster 7 - Diaspora

If you would like more information regarding the convention, please contact Phyllis Gerke at 770-938-4880 phyllis_gerke@yahoo.com.

IN-KIND GIFTS

This year’s in-kind gathering will benefit Mercy Children’s Clinic (MCC) in Franklin, Tennessee (www.mercytn.org). Mercy Children's Clinic provides quality healthcare for children. As you enter the door of their facility, their mission statement is painted on the wall, "To Reflect the Love and Compassion of Jesus Christ by Providing Healthcare Services to **ALL** children and support to their families.". The clinic does not turn away families if they are uninsured or do not qualify for TennCare (medicaid). Even if families are unable to pay, they do not turn them away. In support of this mission, we will be collecting **\$10 gifts cards** from **Walmart, Kroger and Publix** to be shared with patients so they may purchase items such as prescriptions, diapers, food or gas. If you would like to support this wonderful ministry, please give all gift cards to our convention delegate, **Carolyn Davis**.

LOVE OFFERING

The recipient of this year's love offering will be Lutheran Campus Ministries of Georgia. Lutheran Campus Ministries is a Lutheran ministry on campus, not just a ministry to Lutherans. Students at eleven colleges and universities are served by three programs in the Atlanta and Athens area. College years are a major transition in a young person's life. Statistics show that

church attendance declines when students leave home. Many of you have children and/or grandchildren going to college this fall. High school graduates from our congregation will be heading out on their own in a few short weeks. We'd like to have them stay connected with the "church" while they are away from home. This is our chance to help campus ministry expand and provide an anchor to incoming college students.

General Meeting

Our next WELCA General Meeting will be Saturday, September 10th at 12:00 noon.

Hostesses - Miriam Circle

All women of Living Grace are invited to attend! Hope to see you there!

Parish Education/Youth

Rally Day will be on Sunday, 18 September, during the 10:30 a.m. worship service for the youth and children. The parents can bring their children for a fun filled hour while they worship. At the time of the distribution of Holy Communion, the parents can come and pick up their children to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

Youth Activities

Last month the youth went on a “Photo Scavenger Hunt.” What that means is that they were given a list of things to take pictures of and they received points for each picture. We went out into the community and took pictures of the youth wearing the same clothes as a mannequin, loading a stranger’s groceries into their car, shaking the hand of a man with a beard, pulling weeds in a stranger’s front yard, and many more! After we came back to church we shared all of the pictures over big bowls of ice cream!

I would like to plan more activities like this in the future, but in order for that to happen, I need your help! These events are way more fun the more people we have, so come and join us.

Our next event will be Colonel Cob’s Corn Maze. From what I understand, this year the maze is teaming up with Zoo Atlanta, so there will be a lot of fun animal trivia that will lead us through the maze (or in a completely wrong direction if we answer questions wrong!). Similar to last year, we will meet at the church for pizza at 5pm, and then drive down to Oxford for the maze. The date for this is September 24th. Please mark your calendars and RSVP to lisaguptill@gmail.com as soon as you can! If we don’t get enough people, we won’t be able to go.

Also, we will start up our game nights again in September. Come to the church at 7pm on September 19th and bring yourself and a game or friend if you’d like! I also would like an RSVP for game nights, so please let me know if you’re coming!

As always, feel free to ask any questions/give me comments!

Lisa Guptill

Worship and Music

Living Out Our Baptism

Images of the Season

Holy Cross Day

14 September

Helena, the mother of Constantine, made a pilgrimage to Israel to look for Christian holy sites. She found what she believed where the sites of the crucifixion and burial of Jesus, sites that modern archaeologists believe may be correct. Here Constantine built two churches. The celebration of Holy Cross Day originated with the dedication of the Church of the Resurrection in 335. The festival today provides the church an opportunity to lift up the victory of the cross with a spirit of celebration that might be less suitable on Good Friday.

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
21 September

Matthew (“Levi” in the gospels of Mark and Luke) was a tax collector for the Roman government in Capernaum. Tax collectors were distrusted because they were dishonest and worked as agents for a foreign ruler, the occupying Romans. In the gospels, tax collectors are mentioned as sinful and despised outcasts, but it was these outcasts to whom Jesus showed his love. Matthew’s name means “gift of the Lord.”

Michael and All Angels
29 September

On this festival day the church ponders the richness and variety of God’s created order and the limits of human knowledge of it. The scriptures speak of angels (the word means “messengers”) who worship God in heaven, and in both testaments angels speak for God on earth. They are remembered most vividly as they appear to the shepherds and announce the birth of the Savior. Michael is an angel whose name appears in Daniel as the heavenly being who leads the faithful dead to God’s throne on the day of resurrection. In Revelation, Michael fights in a cosmic battle against Satan.

Choir Program

The Senior Choir will be resuming the weekly Wednesday night rehearsals starting in September. The rehearsals are from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The choir prepares an anthem for the 10:30 a.m. worship services. If you would like to come and sing with the *choir*, please contact Ken Sass, Director of Music.

9:30 a.m. Services in the Pavilion

We will have our 9:30 a.m. service in the pavilion on Sunday, 11 September. This service is led by the “*Spirits*.”

Atlanta Sacred Chorale

Announcing the 2011-2012 Season of the Atlanta Sacred Chorale

Season Premiere:

"With a Voice of Singing"

Saturday
October 8, 2011
8:00 PM

Schwartz Center for Performing Arts

You may sign on to the website, www.atlantasacredchorale.org to find out more about the season and how to purchase season tickets.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR WILL BE PRINTED HERE

Special Days in September

14 Septembert
Holy Cross Day

21 September
Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

29 September
Michael and All Angels

SUNDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER – HEALING AND ANOINTING IN BOTH SERVICES

LIVING GRACE Evangelical Lutheran Church

1812 Coledge Road
Tucker, GA 30084
Phone: 678/406-9229

Time Sensitive Material • Please Expedite!