

# Grace Lutheran Church

## THE WELCOME PLACE



### Holy Week Calendar



**Palm Sunday Services** will be held April 5, 2009. There will be two Services, 8:15am and 10:45am. As we celebrate this holy Sunday with a Procession with Palms, it is the beginning of Holy Week, and a time for reflection. Invite your family, friends and neighbors for this service.

**Maundy Thursday Service** will be held Thursday, April 9th at 7:00pm. This will be a healing service and a time to remember the Last Supper. The service will conclude with the stripping of the alter to symbolize the darkness of Jesus' crucifixion and earthly death.



**Good Friday Service** will be held Friday, April 10th at 7:00pm. The service will be the "Stations of The Cross."

**Easter services** will begin with the **Sunrise Service at 6:30 am**, April 12th. where we will dress the alter at the beginning of the service to symbolize the risen Christ.



## EASTER

**Easter Services** will be held at 8:15am and 10:45am, April 12th. There will be an Easter Breakfast held between the two services in the Parish Hall. Come out for either of these services and Rejoice that Christ has Risen. Please be sure to invite all of your family, friends and neighbors.



Church Council will meet Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.



### Elder Care

Elder Care will meet Wednesday, April 8th at 10:30am in the Parish Hall.



## ITS FRIDAY...BUT SUNDAY'S COMING

As I sit down to write this edition of "Cathy's Corner", we are just a little over half way through our Lenten journey. It is my hope and prayer for each of you that, through the disciplines of Lent, you are drawing into a closer relationship with our Lord.

As we begin April, Holy week comes upon us with Palm Sunday--the first Sunday in April. Please join us as we say "Hosanna to the King" at our two worship services. After those services, the Ladies of Grace are hosting our Family Dinner. Please join us and share in this wonderful time when our family here at Grace celebrates our Lord and what He did for us on the cross.

Throughout Holy week we will be having special worship services, beginning with Maundy Thursday where we will once again remember the Last Supper with Holy Communion and the Healing Rite. As we remember Christ's arrest and scourging and following crucifixion, we will strip the altar and chancel area bear. On Good Friday we will gather to remember our Lord's death with the Stations of the Cross.

This is a time when we come together to concentrate on the physical action our Lord took on our behalf--that of dying a human death in a very painful way. When we get to Sunday morning, we begin at sunrise with a darkened empty church; bringing in the Christ candle--the light of the world and then dressing the sanctuary in the glory of the Risen Lord; as we hear the words "He is Risen!" "He is risen indeed!" Please make plans to join us at one of the three worship services we will be holding that morning. Between the Sunrise service and the 8:15 service we will hold our annual Easter Breakfast. Come and join us!

As we celebrate the Easter season, we are reminded of this one fact: this was Jesus' sole mission here on earth...to be OUR SALVATION.

Blessings to you and yours,

Cathy



### *Ladies of Grace*

The Ladies of Grace will hold their first meeting in April on the 2nd as a work day. Laura Hamre will be hostess. April 9th is the Ladies Lunch Out. Please watch your bulletin for the time and place. April 16th will be Bible Study with Ruth Thompson leading the study and Flora Gunderson as the hostess. All ladies of the Church are welcome to attend.

There will be a *Palm Sunday Ham Dinner* following the second service. It will be a free will offering to use for the indoor ceiling repairs. This will be a Thrivent Financial partial matching fund event.

The **Once-A-Month** box is set up in the Parish Hall for sanitary supplies for the women's shelter.

**Mission Statement**

**God's purpose for Grace Lutheran Church is:**

**Welcome to grace,  
Welcome the message.**

**Principle Values:**

**Jesus is Lord**

**Everyone is welcome**

**All serve in different ways**

**Seek and share the message**

**God's love is life changing**



The wife of former pastor, Ben Warrenburg, **Linda Warrenburg**, 67, of Clifton, TX. was killed in an automobile accident on her way to church Wednesday night, March 18th 2009. The funeral was at 10 a.m. Monday, March 23, 2009, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church at Norse. Her son, **John Hampton**, can be contacted at [sideyard@att.net](mailto:sideyard@att.net)

**Bonnie & Ron Morton, Mike Thorn** on the passing of Bonnie's mother **Leona Wasson**.  
**Marvel Devine** on the passing of her sister **Adelle Schleicher**.

**PRAY FOR OUR**  
 ★★★★★  
**MILITARY**

**Christopher Petersen, Bradley Hunt, Steve Sherman  
 Damien Young, Todd Steffan**

KEEP THEM  
 IN YOUR PRAYERS



**Critical**

**Leon MacQueen  
 Wilma Lucas  
 Carolyn Linden**

**Shut Ins**

**Gwen Pierce  
 Florence Miller  
 Kent Stratford  
 Elsie Gunderson**

**Healing**

**Frank Bingham  
 Happy Bingham  
 Dick Mars  
 Dot Stribling  
 Barb Christensen**

**Family Members**

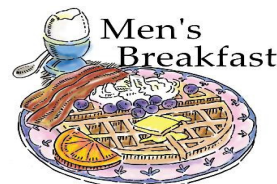
**Reba Gandara, Darrell Kennedy, Jan Miller, Emma Dahl,  
 Marcy Oppegaard, Jimmy Faires**

**Friends of Congregation**

**Larry Adair, Dr. Warren Lee, Nancy Dieringer, John Rosnik, Teresa  
 Herrera, Joan Stuhl, George Garcia, Ron Patrick, Kelby Eddleman,  
 Jean Lynch, Melisa Siebert, Betty Domask, Stephen Schluender, Lester  
 Johnson, John Firl, Curtis Mueller, Stella Buchen**



On **May 3<sup>rd</sup>**, we will go to **one service** for the summer months. Time for the service will be **10:00 a.m.** in the Church. Please remember to mark this schedule change on your calendars. We don't want anyone to miss out on services.



**Men's Breakfast** will be held on Wednesday, April 8th and Wednesday, April 22 at 8:00am at Tila's Restaurant. All men of the Church are welcome to attend.



**Worship and Music Committee will meet on Sunday, April 19th following the Second Service.**

## Service Schedule

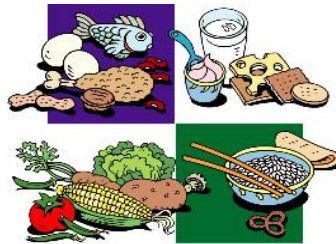
	April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26
<b>Usher Early</b>	Vern Dokken Frank Sommerfeldt	Vern Dokken Frank Sommerfeldt	Vern Dokken Frank Sommerfeldt	Vern Dokken Frank Sommerfeldt
<b>Usher Late</b>	Mattie & Sarah Kennedy	Mattie & Sarah Kennedy	Mattie & Sarah Kennedy	Mattie & Sarah Kennedy
<b>Liturgical Assistant Early</b>	Irene Dear	Irene Dear	Irene Dear	Irene Dear
<b>Communion Assistant Late</b>	Jan Demro	Jan Demro	Not Needed	Jan Demro
<b>Lector Early</b>	Clair Schulle	Elaine Pulver	Bonnie Morton	Clair Schulle
<b>Lector Late</b>	Elaine Pulver	Marlene Pegg	Marlene Pegg	Marlene Pegg
<b>Acolyte Early</b>	Anne/Gwendolyn Poulos	Anne/Gwendolyn Poulos	Anne/Gwendolyn Poulos	Anne/Gwendolyn Poulos
<b>Altar Guild</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA



- Erik McGee 4/3
- Katlyn Walther 4/5
- Mike Thorn 4/5
- Sophia Figarelli 4/7
- Constantine Poulos 4/11
- Don Gustafson 4/14
- Al Rudolph 4/18
- Maurine Freye 4/18
- Kelly Galloway 4/22
- Mary Mars 4/22



**Frank & Happy Bingham**  
April 26



### Neighborhood Food Pantry

Donations are being accepted for the **Neighborhood Pantry**. The food item for this month is **small bottle of cooking oil**. Please place your donations in the boxes that are placed in the Narthex. If you will be **leaving the Valley** anytime soon, and you have extra food, please donate it to the Neighborhood Food Pantry. They will welcome any type of food. Tell all of your friends and neighbors to remember the Pantry when they are packing up to go North. Please also remember the Neighborhood Pantry accepts gently used clothing for the Clothes Closet.



### Church Council Notes

### Council Highlights

- Roof Repairs are complete and paid for.
- Bids are being sought for interior repair and painting of the sanctuary.
- Bids are being sought for Air Conditioning repair in the parsonage.
- Action on Listening Team Report: Planning for Asset Based Planning
- Action on Listening Team Report: Finding outside contact for Council Retreat.

# APRIL 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 9:00am Ladies of Grace	3	4 10:00am Church Work Day
5 8:15 Church 9:30 S.S. 10:45 Church Palm Sunday Ham Dinner	6 6:30pm Bible Study	7	8 8:00am Men's Breakfast 10:30AM Elder Care	9 Ladies Lunch Out Maundy Thursday	10 Good Friday	11 10:00am Set up Easter Cross
12 6:30 Church 8:15 Church 9:30 S.S. 10:45 Church Easter Sunday	13 6:30pm Bible Study	14 7:00pm Church Council	15	16 Ladies of Grace	17	18 Deadline for Newsletter Articles
19 8:15 Church 9:30 S.S. 10:45 Church Worship Music Committee	20 6:30pm Bible Study	21	22 8:00am Men's Breakfast	23	24	25
26 8:15 Church 9:30 S.S. 10:45 Church	27 6:30pm Bible Study	28	29	30		



The deadline for the May Newsletter will be April 18th. Thank you for your help.  
Judi Christensen



## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

### Southwestern Texas Synod

#### 2009 SYNOD ASSEMBLY OFFERING

The Southwestern Texas Synod, in support of its Poverty Task Force and Assembly Planning Team, invites you to make an offering for faith-based projects that will work to make systemic change in the fight against poverty. This year each Conference has a dollar goal rather than a project goal. The Synod Challenge totals \$88,000 for distribution to the seven projects.

#### Conference Goals:

Austin Conference \$20,000  
 San Antonio Conference \$20,000  
 Hill Country Conference \$16,000  
 Victoria Conference \$15,000  
 Coastal Bend Conference \$13,000  
 Rio Grande Valley Conference \$ 4,000

#### Project Goals:

1. Casa Bugambilia in Matamoros, Mexico  
 \$ 7,000 Sponsor: Grace Lutheran Church in Harlingen, Texas
2. Nueva Vida (New Life) in Mexico & San Juan, Texas  
 \$ 8,000 Sponsor: St. John Lutheran Church in San Juan, Texas
3. Colonia 21 de Marzo in Reynosa, Mexico  
 \$17,000 Sponsor: Our Savior in McAllen & Cristo Rey in Pharr, Texas
4. English Language Program in McAllen, Texas  
 \$ 5,000 Sponsor: Our Savior Lutheran Church in McAllen, Texas
5. New Creation Community in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico  
 \$ 7,000 Sponsor: Mision Luterana in Laredo, Texas
6. Women's Co-op in El Cenizo, Texas  
 \$24,000 Sponsor: Mision Luterana in Laredo, Texas
7. Casa Marianella in Austin, Texas  
 \$20,000 Sponsor: Casa Marianella Board in Austin, Texas



Churchyard  
Work Day

There will be a **Church Work Day** on April 4th at 10:00am. We need to cut the palms for Palm Sunday and do general yard work, and cleanup. Everyone's help is needed. The **Altar Guild** will also be cleaning brass and the inside of the Church. Please mark your calendars and come out and help make our Church a clean place to worship.



Saturday April 11th at 10:00am the Altar Guild will be decorating the Church for Easter. They will be putting up the Cross and adding the Easter Lilies. If you would like to help, please come out and give them a hand.



Garden  
Club

The Harlingen Council of Garden Clubs invites everyone to come to its 41st annual Flower Show on Saturday and Sunday, April 4-5, 2009. The show will feature a broad display of horticultural items, designs and arrangements, educational displays and a plant sale. There is a new location for the show this year--it will not be held at the Cultural Arts Center by the library as in past years. Instead, it will be in the First Christian Church's Youth Building at the corner of Polk and 13th Sts. The show is open to the public from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday and 12:30-5 p.m. on Sunday. It's only a few blocks from Grace, so stop by after the congregational dinner on Sunday and enjoy some of the beauties of God's glorious spring.