

# Grace Lutheran Church

## THE WELCOME PLACE



*From the  
Pastor's  
Desk*

I hope that this newsletter finds everyone well.

My wife, Lili, and I are getting adjusted to The Valley. The pace of life. The style of driving. The heat. So far, so good.

We greatly appreciate the welcome that we have received. It has made our transition easier. We are also very grateful for all of the hard work people have put into getting the parsonage ready. Quite a few of you have put in many hours and quarts of elbow grease. It is all coming together well. Thank you for all of the time and effort. Also, thank you for your donations. And a special thanks to those who brought lunch for the folks who were working. We look forward to moving in to our new home. We are almost there.

I have enjoyed getting to meet many of you. So far, I can say those I've had the pleasure of meeting are mostly a bunch of characters. You'll be fun to work with. I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming weeks and months. I plan on setting aside some Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to visit with people. I'll have a sign-up sheet in the narthex on Sundays and I'll move it to the office during the week. Sign up and I can come to your home. Or you can come to the office. Or we can meet in "neutral territory" like a cafe or some other place.

Peace,  
Pastor Ryan



**Church  
Council Notes**

- \* Mid-year budget review was conducted.
- \* Progress report on parsonage renovations by Bob Raynor (Painting complete).

Donations have been made to replace bottom cabinets, counter top, dishwasher and some window treatments.

- \* Sanctuary renovations to be done after parsonage is complete.
- \* Remote Computer Access (free) will be downloaded to office computer.
- \* Planning for Fall Fest redirected to committee to reevaluate time, place, and purpose.



**Pastor's  
Office Hours**

Pastor Ryan will be in the Church Office Monday—Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. He will be setting up appointments for visits on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

In case of an emergency, please contact Pastor Ryan at (949) 870-0334. If you are unable to contact him, please call Randy Nicholas at (956) 222-6876.



**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**



**PARSONAGE  
REMODELING  
PROJECT**

The following jobs have been completed in the restoration of the parsonage in the past two weeks.

1. Replaced leaking faucet in the laundry room.
2. Serviced the air conditioner.
3. Repaired bedroom fan
4. Rewired living room fan.
5. Added bedroom fan.
6. Removed rugs from three bedrooms. hallway and living room.
7. Painted three bedrooms, living room, hallway, kitchen, office and utility room
8. Pressure washed the rear entry way and sidewalk.
9. Replaced switch and outlet cover.

Thanks to the volunteer paint crew: Jim Dallman. Jan Demro, Rita Galloway, Ryan Pederson, Sheila Magoon, Anne Poulos, Gwendolyn Poulos, Demetria Poulos, Constantine Poulos, Pam Ramsey, Lillian Raynor, Claire Schulle, Paul Schulle and Dwane Thompson. A special thanks to Irene Dear and Loretta Snyder for bringing in lunch.

Thank you to the church for the \$325.00 in donations for the **ELCA Youth Gathering**. The ELCA Youth is planning to raise \$1,000,000.00 this year for World Hunger. \$125.00 of the donations will go for this part of the project. The rest of the money was divided as following: One tool kit was purchased to work on the environment, eleven health kits, and seven backpacks each containing a set of school books.



Joe and Barb Figarelli  
2555 Retsdorph Rd. Apt. 511  
Seabrook, TX 77586.

Jon, Judi & Shayne Christensen  
102 E. Dominion Dr.  
Harlingen, TX 78550



The Worship and Music Committee will meet on Sunday, August 9th following the Service. If you are interested in joining the Worship and Music Committee, please contact either Mattie Kennedy or Jim Dallman.



**Choir Director**  
Wanted

Grace is looking for a new Choir Director. If you are interested, or know of someone who is, please contact a member of the Church Council.



**Ladies Lunch Out**

The Ladies of Grace will hold their monthly Ladies Lunch Out on Thursday, August 13th at 11:30am. The Ladies will meet at New York Deli. All Ladies of the church are welcome to attend. The regular meeting for The Ladies of Grace will begin in September.



**Elder Care**

Elder Care will meet on Tuesday, August 4th at 10:30am in the Parish Hall.



**Medical Missions**

The medical mission team will be holding a clinic in Matamoros Mexico October 10th and St. Thomas Mexico October 24th. The Rotary of Matamoros along with the Anglican Church in Matamoros and St John Lutheran Church of San Juan will be working at the clinic. See Eleanor Reinhold for more information.



**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

**THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY WILL MEET ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH AT 9:00AM IN THE PARISH HALL. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. YOU DO NOT**

**NEED TO KNOW HOW TO KNIT OR CROCHET TO COME. PEOPLE ARE ALSO FOR MAKING LAP QUILTS OR TO JUST TIE THE QUILTS. PLEASE COME OUT AND JOIN THE LADIES OF THE CHURCH AS THEY SHARE THIS VERY SPECIAL MINISTRY.**

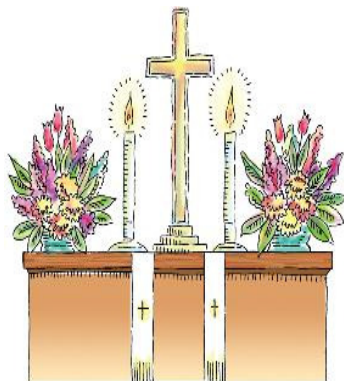
Men's Breakfast will meet on Wednesday, August 12th and August



26th at 8:00am at Tila's. All men of the church are welcome to attend.



**Church Council will meet on Tuesday August 11th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.**



**Altar Flowers**

**Altar Flowers for the month of August**

- August 2 Loretta Snyder in honor of Jim & Judy Werth's birthdays.
  - August 9 Paul & Clair Schulle
  - August 16 Open
  - August 23 Butch & Skippy Palmer in honor of men & women in uniform
  - August 30 Open.
- There is still time to sign up for one of the open Sundays. The cost is \$28.00 and can either be paid in the Church Office or can be placed in an envelop marked "Flowers" and placed in the offering plate.



If you are interested in helping with the Altar Guild, please contact Marvel Devine. There is a sing up sheet for the Altar Guild in the Narthex. Please sign up to help.



School Starts Soon

School will start on August 24th in Harlingen and the surrounding school districts. Please remember to watch your speed while driving through school zones. You never know when a child will dart out from in-between cars. If you have a student in your family, either a child or grandchild, that you would like to share their accomplishments with the church, please contact Judi Christensen at 230-0716 or email her at [judikchristensen@gmail.com](mailto:judikchristensen@gmail.com). No matter what age or grade level, elementary, middle school, high school or college, we would love to hear about the happenings of the youth in our lives.

**A good and perfect gift**

O Lord, let thyself be found with a good gift to everyone who needs it, that the happy may find courage to accept thy good gifts, that the sorrowful may find courage to accept thy perfect gifts. For to men there is a difference of joy and of sorrow, but for thee, O Lord, there is no difference in these things; everything that comes from thee is a good and perfect gift.

-Søren Kierkegaard



Coffee and the church



An 8-year-old girl who lived two doors away from a retired pastor asked him, "Why do you drink coffee?" The surprised pastor answered with a smile, "Because I like the taste of it and it gets me going in the morning."

That pastor might have been interested in this bit of trivia: In 1592, Pope Clement VIII declared coffee to be a legitimate drink for Christians. Before that edict, it had been labeled "the wine of infidels" because of its popularity among non-Christians.



**DON'T TAKE A VACATION FROM CHURCH**



**From the Editor**

If you have any news that you would like to share with your Grace Family, please contact Judi Christensen at 230-0716 or send her an email at [judikchristensen@gamil.com](mailto:judikchristensen@gamil.com). Let's share with our Church Family what is happening in our lives.



The Deadline for the September Newsletter is August 21st. Please have all articles and news announcements turned in by that time. Thank you for all of your help.

**Church Council Members**

Martha Kennedy, President  
Bob Raynor, Vice President  
James Dallman, Secretary

Sherryn Brooks, Treasure  
Paul Schuelle  
Irene Dear

Jon Christensen  
Skippy Palmer

## August Service Schedule

	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
Usher	Dwane & Ruth Thompson	Dwane Thompson Vern Dokken	Dwane & Ruth Thompson	Dwane & Ruth Thompson	Dwane & Ruth Thompson
Liturgical Assistant	Jan Demro	Jan Demro	Jan Demro	Jan Demro	Jan Demro
Lector	Edna Gross	Elaine Krueger	Edna Gross	Edna Gross	Edna Gross
Acolyte	Poulos Children	Poulos Children	Poulos Children	Poulos Children	Poulos Children
Altar Guild	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA



- Jim Werth 8/01
- Don Ringblom 8/03
- Evie McCann 8/10
- Glen Huntington 8/16
- Grace Malphrus 8/19
- Butch Palmer 8/23
- Barbara Lomalino 8/24
- Al Christian 8/26
- Karen Villarreal 8/24



- Pau & Clair Schulle 8/06
- Pam & Butch Ramsey 8/22
- George & Flora Gunderson 8/30



### Neighborhood Food Pantry

Donations are being accepted for the Neighborhood Pantry. Items needed this month are **Cookies & Crackers**. Please place your donations in the boxes that are placed in the Narthex. In these hard times, many more families are using the Food Pantry and other Food Banks. Please help out in any way that you can. The Pantry will also accept monetary donations as well. The Neighborhood Pantry is also accepting gently used or new clothing for their Clothes Closet.

### PRAY FOR OUR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ MILITARY

**Bradley Hunt, Steve Sherman  
Damien Young, Todd Steffan  
Capt. Jacob Goodine, D.J. Mott**

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

**Family Members  
Reba Gandara  
Darrell Kennedy  
Jan Miller  
Jimmy Faires  
Emma Dahl  
David Bledsoe  
Mindy Staruh**



**Critical  
Carolyn Linden  
Wilma Lucas  
Dick Mars**

**Healing  
Jody Bothwell  
Ruth Pegg  
Gladys Hanson  
Eleanora Klein**

**Friends of Congregation  
Larry Adair, Nancy Dieringer  
Glen Huntington, Kelby Eddleman  
George Garcia, Stephen Schluender  
Delbert Poire, Joe Erickson, John Lucas  
Dr. Warren Lee, John Rosnik  
Carolyn Sauerbrei, Matthew Reed  
Lester Johnson, Carolyn Buchannon  
Melva Poire, Murial Erickson  
Edward Haught, Sandy & Whitey Thompson**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Service	3	4 10:30am Elder Care	5	6	7 Pastor Off	8
9 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Service Worship & Music Committee	10	11 7:00pm Council	12 8:00am Men's Breakfast	13 11:30am Ladies Lunch Out	14 Pastor Off	15
16 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Service	17	18	19	20	21 Pastor Off September Newsletter Deadline	22
23 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Service	24 First Day Of School	25 7:00 Committees	26 8:00am Men's Breakfast	27 9:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry	28 Pastor Off	29
30 9:00 Coffee 10:00 Service	31					