

# GRACE TO YOU

*Proclaim, Build, and Serve*



## WE SAY "YES" TO GOD!

We as Christians say "yes" because God said it first to us. In the moment of our baptisms we are made children of God. God renews that blessing for us each time we worship, each time we hear or read the Bible, each time we come to Holy Communion. We say "yes" to God because God calls us to do so. God welcomes us to be part of a life that looks beyond ourselves, a life rich in meaning. We also respond positively because God shows us how to do so. Jesus' life was his message. We have the perfect role model and when we don't live up to that we are forgiven and try again. Last we say "yes" because it blesses us as it blesses others. Before any of our efforts reach others, they have made us feel the satisfaction and hopefulness that comes from being a sharing Christian.

On February 11, our guest preacher is Rev Robert Klonowski in worship and at 9am forum. Rev Klonowski is Assistant to Bishop Paul Landahl with a special area in stewardship. In the next month we will hear many stories of how members of Grace have responded to God and we will reflect and celebrate the joy it is to be invited by God to say "yes." Our Response Sunday is February 25.

*May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us— yes, establish the work of our hands.*



## Take Home Grace for Mission Trip

The congregation will be eating Lasagna for dinner on Sunday, Feb. 25! The Sr. High Youth have teamed up with Rick Johnson, once again, to make a tasty dinner complete with salad, lettuce & dessert! On Sunday, Feb. 25, after both services, dinner will be packaged & ready for you to take home & eat for dinner. All profits will benefit 2007 Mission trip(s).

Young father and Grace member Andy Ross needs a kidney. Are you someone who has thought about being an organ donor or know someone who might?? **To be considered as a donor for Andy, you must be an A or O blood type, in good health and under about 50 years of age.**

## Proclaim, Build and Serve! Grace's mission and our way of life!

### It's FITNESS FEBRUARY!!

We have a great space in our church just asking to be used. THE GYM!! It's too cold outside to get as much exercise as we should, so come use the gym to walk or run, skip or play ball. See which of the following dates work for you:

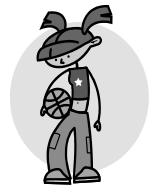
**Moms and Tots-** Thurs. 9:30am-11:00am

**Open Gym-** Tues and Thurs 2:00-3:00pm

Tues and Weds 7:00-8:00pm

**Family Open Gym-**Saturday Feb 10, 2:00-5:00pm

**Adult Volleyball-** Saturday Feb 24, 7:00-9:00pm



# GRACE TO YOU

## **Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn**

493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Return Service Requested

West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod - ELCA

Weeks of February 11 and 18  
6th Sunday of Epiphany and Transfiguration Sunday  
1085407-03

Vol. 2007-08 No. 07-03 *Grace To You* is the bi-weekly newsletter of Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn.

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
Permit #104

## NEW BUSINESS AND FACILITIES COORDINATOR AT GRACE

*From Donna Barber, Chair,  
Personnel Ministries*

Barbara Sudds has joined the Grace Church staff as our new Business and Facilities Coordinator. Her work background is over 18 years experience in an administrative capacity for the Hallmark Marketing and Hollywood Entertainment Corporations.

As Business and Facilities Coordinator, her key responsibilities for Grace are as follows: FINANCE AND DATA BASES: Pays all bills and salaries; Records counter sheets; Prepare and distribute all financial reports; Key contact for Grace bank accounts; Maintains membership and financial data bases, web site and links and calendar updates.

FACILITIES USE: Tracks building use; i.e., building schedule, rental agreements and posting of meeting room signs; Collects and records all rent; Performs security checks of building and serves as emergency contact; Prepares space for large congregational events including PADS.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT: Monitors building condition, schedules necessary repairs and follows up to completion; Hires, coordinates and supervises large special cleanings; Supervises and assigns duties to regular cleaning service ; Coordinates all computer installation and upgrades, back ups; Monitors and reports all equipment malfunction.

Barbara will serve as a staff member on the Property and Finance Ministries and will attend their meetings. She will also share church office duties with Patti Lewis, Grace's Church Coordinator. Please welcome Barbara to the Grace Church staff.

### Lenten Lunch

We will have a mid-week Lenten Lunch at 12:30 on Wednesdays during lent. We will gather for fellowship and a soup lunch followed by an NEN Bible study. Everyone is welcome. We will gather in the overflow. Mark your calendars for Feb 28, March 7, 14, 21 and 28. If you have any questions call Cathy Milleville ext 13.

### Remember in Prayer:

Andy Ross and family still waiting for a kidney transplant, if anyone would like information on being a donor please call the Church Office; Bernie Arendt is doing well after a knee replacement surgery; Lynda Baumgartner and family on the death of her stepfather, Paul Behry; Grace as we discern our responses to God's blessings; Thanking our Youth for delivering warm sweaters to the PADS guest; Pastor Robin's daughter, Bethany delivered a beautiful baby girl, Lily Beth, on Tuesday January 31, 2007 all are doing great!



### Grow with Grace in 2007

The Design Team met with our architect and contractor for the first time on Jan. 31, setting into motion a flurry of activity! In February reps will meet informally with Village officials to apprise them of our plans, our contractor will draft a preliminary budget, work will begin on construction drawings and a schedule will be drafted. Our goal is to have construction drawings ready to submit to the Village for approval in August in order to begin construction in the spring of '08.

The Grow with Grace balance sheet and December 31, 2006, statement is enclosed with this newsletter. As of Dec. 31, we have collected 86% of pledged income! The \$226,750 balance of pledges is due by Oct. 31 of this year.

### Ash Wednesday February 21

Worship with imposition of ashes and communion will be at 7am, 12:30pm, 6pm and 7:30pm. Soup will be served after the 12:30pm worship and between the evening services from 6:45-7:30. There is no WYC or Confirmation that day so youth can attend with families.

### Nursery Help Needed

We no longer have a nursery attendant, and so we are looking for members to help staff the nursery during 10:00 worship. If you could take 1 Sunday between now and June to work in the nursery with a few of our youngest members, then their parents could attend church. Please contact the office and thank-you!!



### Ministry Meetings

February		
12	7pm	Finance
13	6:30pm	Ad Ed
14	3pm	LSTC students
	7:30pm	Property
16	9:30am	Grow with Grace
19	7:30pm	Council
20	7pm	Turning Point
21	3pm	LSTC students
26	10am	WYC leaders

### Proclaim build, serve!

February		
11	9am	Stewardship forum
14	9:30am & 7pm	NEN2 leaders
21	7am, 12:30, 6 and 7:30pm	Ash Wednesday worship NO WYC or Confirmation
25	8 and 10am 9am	Say "YES" to God Response Sunday 1st Communion/parents meeting

Sunday February 11, 2007		Sunday February 18, 2007
Norma Petersen	<b>Welcome Ministers</b>	Beth Bruning
Norma Petersen	<b>Cookie Patrol</b>	Jean Jeske
Marlene Fenske	<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marlene Fenske
Cathy Milleville	<b>Kidsword</b>	Jon Ciero
Jon Ciero Bill Murdoch	<b>8am Usher</b>	Jon Ciero Bill Murdoch
Tim Derrico Mark Danly Charlie Ortmann Jay Malo	<b>10 am Usher</b>	Tim Derrico Mark Danly Charlie Ortmann Jay Malo
Ben Jacobson	<b>10 am Acolytes</b>	Kenny Milleville
Ellen Mills-Lector Pam Lange	<b>10 am Lectors</b>	Pam Lange-Lector Ellen Mills

### Weekly Grace Events

Sun	8 & 10am 8:30am 9:00am 9:00am	Worship Service Parish Nurse Sunday School age 3-gr 8 Choir of Grace, Sr. High study Parents SS, Adult Bible Study
Wed	7:15am 4:30pm	Early Risers Adult Bible Study WYC/ 6-8 gr. Confirm class
Thurs	Noon & 6:30pm 6:45pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	Prayers Bible Study PADS (gym) Choir Rehearsal

### Weekly Building Use

Sun	5:00pm	SA/AA
Mon	7:30pm 7:30pm	Al-Anon (polish language) Al-Anon (Serenity Seekers)
Tues	12:30pm 7:30pm	S-Anon Al-Anon
Fri	6:30pm	SA/S-Anon
<b>Senior Meals</b>		Monday - Friday at 11:00am
<b>Senior Services</b>		Monday - Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm
<b>Food Pantry</b>		Tuesday & Friday 9-11am, 1-3pm Wednesday 5pm home delivery Thursday 1-3 pm

### Our Thanks and Praise

Date	Attendance		Offering	
	8:00 am	10:00 am	Regular	Capt. Campgn
1/21	27	123	\$2216	\$1645
1/28	46	132	\$5450	\$3623

### Short Summary of Benefits of Stock Donation

*from Matt Fenske, Congregation Treasurer*

There are benefits of donating stock or other securities instead of cash or check! When you donate stock instead of giving cash or writing a check, it's like double dipping.

First, the donor gets the tax deduction for the transaction. Second, the donor does not have to pay tax on the transaction like you would if you simply sold the stock yourself. Third, Grace does not have to pay ANY taxes on the sale and keeps ALL the proceeds

In short, the donor gets a higher tax deduction and Grace gets a bigger donation. Many members have chosen to say YES this way and it is a nice way to maximize the giving. I am happy to go over any details about this with anyone interested.

### OUTREACH UPDATE

Grace received a thank you card from Bethpage Village. Remember to save your cancelled stamps. We appreciated our regular Budget Partner LSSI providing Rev Dan Schwick to update us on the activities of that agency on January 21<sup>st</sup>. We received a thank you letter from the Willowbrook Wildlife Foundation, a special partner last summer. To commemorate our donation of \$527, a paving brick will be placed in the Butterfly Garden on behalf of Grace. This summer look for our brick at Willowbrook.

### Family Fun at Grace!

**"BINGO BASH" for all ages, Sunday March 11th, following 10am worship.**

### Council Corner

The Congregation Council met for its regular monthly meeting January 22, 2007. Jeff Nelson, the newest member of the council was welcomed, as was Barbara Sudds, the newest staff member. Barbara was hired in January 2007 to assume Fred Warnke's responsibilities given his December 2006 retirement. In Matt Fenske's absence, Tim Stephen reported December income was approximately \$57,723, exceeding by nearly \$3,000 the budgeted projected income for December. Tim also discussed the end of year 2006 financials which are nearly complete, but subject to final accounting and revision. For the overall year, nearly across the board expenses were slightly less than budget. The balance sheets were examined by the counsel and general items discussed. Although the numbers are still subject to verification, total income for the year was about \$370,069.14, nearly \$10,000 less than was budgeted for income. Since expenses were approximately \$5,000 less than budgeted, it appears the Congregation will end the 2006 year \$5,205 in the red.

Paula Kregor reported on behalf of the Grow with Grace campaign. The capital campaign and Turning Point finances are all favorable. Thus far, 86% of the pledges for the first capital campaign have been collected and the total fund balance for the capital campaign and Turning Point after expenses paid is about \$1.126 million. Participation has been wonderful. A total of 188 family units have pledged money and contributed. Some members have already contributed money and pledges for a second capital campaign.

Tim Stephan also updated the Council on Turning Point progress. Bob Lewis did a great job of negotiating new leases with two of the current tenants whose leases were expiring. He also secured 8% rent increases. Dominic LoGalbo has had a couple of meetings with the Village of Glen Ellyn and it appears the Congregation will meet no resistance in moving some church office functions to the building.

The Council discussed Stewardship considerations for the upcoming year. The focus was to develop a plan for motivating all members of the congregation, young and adult alike, to volunteer and get involved with both their skills and resources. It was agreed that increased participation will help members feel more fulfilled in their lives, as well as feel better about the church and their religious well being. A timeline for this campaign was discussed; materials to be used to reach out to the congregation were also examined and edited.

**CONT next column**

### Grace Lutheran Church of Glen Ellyn

West Conference - Metropolitan Chicago Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
493 Forest Avenue at Pennsylvania  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137  
Office: 630-469-1555  
Fax: 630-469-1561

**[www.graceglenellyn.org](http://www.graceglenellyn.org)**

Rev. Dr. Robin Currie, Pastor, 858-3329, office x 17  
Patti Lewis, Church Coordinator, 668-8929, office x 10  
Barbara Sudds, Business & Facilities Cord. 790-9862, office 16  
Diane Lombardi, Youth Director 871-2372, office x 14  
Cathy Milleville, Parish Nurse, 653-0957, office x 13  
Edward Zimmerman, Director of Music, 553-3671  
Carole LoGalbo, Parish Counselor, 668-4594  
Cyndy Drager, Sunday School Coordinator, 653-5257  
Grace Information Hotline, office x 20

#### Church office hours

M-Thur. 9:30am-4pm  
Friday 9:30am-noon

Involvement and resource cards will be sent to all members and will include volunteer opportunities for children, youth, and adults. The first of such mailings will be sent the end of January.

Bob Stein was thanked for painting the interiors of all of light fixtures in the meeting room behind the sanctuary, and for changing all of those bulbs to the new energy saving florescent type. He also placed similar florescent bulbs in the foyer and balcony.

The meeting concluded with the Parish report. To better balance work loads, the Church office will open Monday - Thursday 9:30-4:00, on Wednesday and Thursday until 6:00, and close at noon on Friday. The office will also be open Sunday mornings 8:30-10:00. The next Congregational meeting will be April 22. The next regularly scheduled Congregation Council meetings are set for February 19, March 19 and April 19, each at 7:30 pm. All members are of course welcome to attend.



### First Communion

First Communion Instruction will take place on Saturday March 17 from 9:30am to noon. There will be an information session for interested parents of those students considering this important step in their faith life on Sunday February 25 at 9am. Contact Pastor Robin at [rcurrie@graceglenellyn.org](mailto:rcurrie@graceglenellyn.org).

### Summer 2007 Mission Trip to Help Katrina Victims

Anyone 14 yrs. of age, or older, are encouraged to join us as we travel to either New Orleans or Mississippi to work in the recovery efforts. The trip is scheduled for June 23-30<sup>th</sup>. The cost per person for lodging & food is \$125, plus the cost of transportation to get there. (We could drive or fly.) This is NOT a vacation. It will be 5 days of eight hour work days. We would like carpenters, plumbers and electricians to go with us. Our time down there will be short, but we will come away with many wonderful stories and blessings. Anyone interested in more information can sign up on the bulletin board outside Diane Lombardi's office, or contact Diane at ext. 14 or [dlombardi@graceglenellyn.org](mailto:dlombardi@graceglenellyn.org)

#### Underground Railroad Story at Stacy's Tavern

On Sunday, February 18, at Stacy's Tavern Museum, 557 Geneva Road, between 1:30 and 3:30pm, visitors will have the opportunity to follow a visual presentation of the path of the underground railroad as it passed through the DuPage County area. Glenbard West High School sophomore, Melissa Zelko, a member of the drama and forensic organizations at the high school will read an original short story describing the experiences of a runaway slave named Precious. The story is written by Glen Ellyn Historical Society past president, Ruth Wright, for this special exhibit on the third Sunday of February. Zelko will read the story at least two times during the time the exhibit is open so all the visitors will be able to hear the account of the girl and the underground railroad. The Black History Month exhibit is located in the second floor area of the Tavern Museum. The readings will be presented in the same place as the exhibit. For information about the Feb. Third Sunday activities, call 630-858-8696.

Looking forward to the Third Sunday event on March 18, the Old Time Radio Players will visit the Glen Ellyn History Center located at 800 North Main Street and present an afternoon of old radio comedy. Tickets for this program are \$5 per person at Stacy's Tavern Museum and Machesney and Miller's Super Market at 460 Crescent in Glen Ellyn.

#### Help Needed February, March and April, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday/Friday at PADS

Can you spare 2 hours the first Friday each month in Feb, March and April, 2007, from 5-7am to cook breakfast, monitor the PADS guests as they depart for the day, and clean up the site? Contact John Doty at [john.doty@sbcglobal.net](mailto:john.doty@sbcglobal.net). We also need a male presence from 10pm-2am. Monitor activity. Contact Doris Nelson, [dorisonelson@mac.com](mailto:dorisonelson@mac.com).

#### WHY NEN?

**The primary reason to sign up for an NEN small group Bible exploration is to deepen your relationship with God.**

It is only a six week commitment during Lent

The entire congregation of Grace is doing it together

Sign up is easy on the kiosk or the bulletin insert

You will meet new people and get to know old friends better

Small groups are lead by other members who lead, not teach

Groups are offered on nights, days, at Lent Lunches and Sundays at 9am

There are parts of the Bible you have not seen before

Familiar passages can be heard in a new way

**So the only question left is:  
NEN – WHY NOT?**

#### Sweaters turn into Unexpected Miracles

What started out as a small church wide event turned into a community project of love. Grace Lutheran Church single-handedly collected 140 men's' & women's' sweaters. The Five Corners Dry Cleaners cleaned & delivered them to Grace, all for free. Eighteen of our Confirmation students organized the sweaters by size & arranged them onto tables. Our Sr. High youth distributed them to 55 PADS guests on Jan. 25. The remaining sweaters were offered to those coming into the Glen Ellyn Food Pantry on Jan. 26. Those coming to the food pantry were pleasantly surprised! Three remaining boxes of men's' sweaters were donated to the Hines VA hospital in Maywood, just in time for their annual "sweater night." The few remaining women's' sweaters were donated to the Am Vets collection center. The thank you note from the Vets from the Hines hospital reads, "You just don't know when something you do touches someone else's life and works a miracle."

#### Got a song in your heart? Give it voice!

Join the Choir of Grace for the winter months! Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7:30pm and/or Sundays at 9am.