



# GRACE NOTES

A Communications Ministry of Grace United Methodist Church

**Gather  
to  
Christ  
Grow  
as  
Disciples  
Go  
to  
Serve**

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Grow as Disciples  
Go to Serve

November 2010

## For All the Saints, and All Who Loved Them *By Barb Ceruti*

Every November, All Saints' Day presents an opportunity for us to remember, honor and reflect upon those we have loved and lost...even more than we are inclined to do at other times of the year. For me, All Saints' Day conjures thoughts and memories of my father, and when the bell tolls in worship for those who have died within the past year, I am reminded of how many years have gone

by since life on earth suddenly stopped for him. It was nearly 24 years ago, and while it sometimes seems that long ago (I was still in college!), it often feels like yesterday. I had no opportunity to say goodbye to my dad, which is the curse of those who survive, but the blessing of those who pass on. My father endured no pain, no suffering, as a result of his fatal heart attack. He was, in fact, doing what he

enjoyed most: taking his morning five-mile walk.

I am also reminded on All Saints' Day, and during this season of darker, longer days that herald the coming winter, of all those in our congregation who have lost loved ones...husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, friends,



even children. How deeply they must grieve, I think. How they must struggle to move forward each day, faithful that God will strengthen them, give them hope, bring them healing. When I ponder God's presence in the lives of those who are mourning, I am struck by the prospect of what it would be like *not* to believe in Him, not to feel His support, not to trust the promise of a brighter tomorrow through His love and mercy. And I am, therefore, even more grateful for this gift of faith and this time of honoring all the saints.

I am thankful, too, for the additional opportunities Grace offers those who are remembering, or grieving. (see box at left)

### *All Saints' Memorial Service in the Lacy Garden*

*Nov. 7*

A Memorial Service in the Lacy Garden will be part of the All Saints' Day commemoration on Sunday, **November 7**. This service will begin in the Garden at 12:15 p.m. in honor of those buried in the Garden and others who are being remembered On All Saints' Day. Pastor Bob Atkins will conduct this short service, followed by the lighting of votive candles as loved ones are honored.



### *"Handling The Holidays" Grief Workshop Nov. 10*

The holidays can be particularly difficult for those grieving the loss of loved ones. On Wednesday, **November 10**, 7:00-9:00 p.m., licensed clinical social worker and grief group leader Laura Windsor will conduct a "Handling the Holidays" workshop that will address the anxiety and dread that the expectations, traditions and gatherings of the holidays can bring for those who are grieving. Participants will receive a copy of Bruce Conley's booklet *The Griever's Holiday Bill of Rights and Holiday Planner*. The workshop will close with a Q&A session; refreshments will be served. Sign up in the church office.

**All Saints' "Requiem" Gets Personal—see p. 3**

*T'Shuvq!*

A youth-led worship revolution for all.

Come as the person you are.  
Leave as the person  
GOD  
intended you to be.

**Nov. 7, 7:00pm in the Sanctuary**



## Pastor's Journal

I appreciate the work of Bob Pacanowski, chair of this year's stewardship campaign, and especially Julie Kronbach, chair of Stewardship and Finance, for their tireless efforts in putting the campaign for Grace 2011 together. Almost 100 volunteers are delivering stewardship packets from the Church and picking up "estimate of giving" cards during the first two weeks of November. Others are managing mailings to those we could not visit. This is a major undertaking, and there can be no church without leaders like Julie and Bob.

Church Council, chaired by John Bodine and our NOW (Nurture, Outreach and Witness) Council, chaired by Bob Plummer, have put together a spending plan within \$3,000 equal to the 2010 budget. Within that budget, there is continued change in support of our lay-led program ministries in the areas of Children, Youth and Adults. More is allocated for missions beyond our walls, for programs within the Church, and for maintenance of the building and grounds. With fewer full time staff, we need more resources for these areas.

During this year, Grace has kept a very close watch on expenditures. Even so, Stewardship and Finance expected a cash shortfall during the summer, as we started the year with limited resources. Because of the faithful response of the congregation, however, the crisis was averted. Now the Church is looking ahead to next year by planning to work within its expected income.

Please respond to the Campaign for Grace 2011. Bob Pacanowski's humorous and moving message, along with other stewardship messages from Grace members, can be found along with the sermons of Grace at [www.peopleofgrace.org](http://www.peopleofgrace.org) on the Worship page. Fill in your estimate of giving card and return it to the Church!

Grace and Peace, 



## CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

By John Bodine  
Church Council Chair

Let us take a moment to thank our Stewardship team and speakers for the wonderful job they've done over September and October relating their personal stories of Grace in connection with the Stewardship Campaign, preparing our communications and pledge cards, and mobilizing over a hundred members to distribute Stewardship packets across Grace membership. If you didn't have a chance to hear some of the speakers live, you'll find a CD in the packets with recordings of each. Make sure you find a moment to check them out while on the road or at home. These stories get to the heart of what Grace is all about—finding a match between a person's gifts and needs with a capacity at Grace for giving and sharing.

We'll continue periodically through the year to hear from different members, each with a unique slice of Grace to recount or relate, providing more opportunities to know what's going on and why they're committed to enabling God to work through them at Grace. Stay tuned.

To ensure that we're keeping the pulse of our membership and the needs of prospective members in mind, a program was proposed to Church Council for the establishment of a "Discipleship Campaign" from Christmas through Lent 2011. The intent is to make a stronger effort to reach out across the full scope of Grace membership, working to establish small groups with common interests and building relationships that have a lasting value. There are many gifts in the broad scope of Grace membership and many needs for those gifts to be applied fruitfully. We will seek to find the match between the talent and the need. Church Council approved the proposal, so we can expect to be moving it forward over the next month or so.

Receipts for September were a bit lower than usual, following a strong summer where members did very well keeping their pledges up to date. October to date has proved to be strong, however, so we are on target for receipts at this point and still well below our spending plan to date. As mentioned previously, the Stewardship and Finance Committee, under the leadership of Julie Kronbach, has

prepared a budget approximately equal to 2010, though funding emphasis has shifted away from staffing and into programs and missions. We will adjust this tentative budget as needed to match the estimates of giving for 2011 once the Stewardship Campaign is complete.

Remember your name tag! Reach out to someone, say hello, become acquainted. Everyone is welcome here! And we make that happen!

### Ministry in Action: Grateful Thanks To...

- Lee Hoekstra, Amy Stabrawa and Carol Nelson (sub) for stepping up to serve as office receptionists!
- Char Gregory and the Temple Builders exercise group for their generous donation to the Grace facility. The Temple Builders have been faithful donors to Grace for several years, and we are grateful for their stewardship!
- All who prepared for, served at, provided ingredients for, and attended Youth Ministry's Soup and Pie Luncheon on October 24.

## *The Grace Concert Series Presents*

# Requiem in d minor, Gabriel Fauré

Grace Chancel Choir, Soloists & Orchestra

Sunday, November 7, 2010 at 8:15 & 9:30 am

## “Requiem” Gets Personal For Grace Chancel Choir

By Dan Wagner, Minister of Music

For those who love sacred classics, and for singers in fine choirs, the Fauré Requiem is one of the most beloved works of sacred choral art. The music is memorable, tuneful without being commercial, and it seems to balance the expression of loss and mourning with radiant moments of hope and faith. It is spiritually satisfying music for both the serious classical music lover and the worshiper in the pew who simply seeks a deep experience with God on All Saints' Sunday.

Choirs that prepare this kind of music already have a strong sense of commitment and connection. It takes work, and doesn't usually sound just right at the first read-through! And while the music is an “old friend” to many in the Chancel Choir, there are some who are learning it for the first time. As a conductor, it is a humbling honor to introduce singers to this level of profound greatness for the first time. I've joked that it's like being able to introduce them to some superstar of our day. Okay, I admit it, I said Oprah!

This time around, though, the Grace Chancel Choir is connected to the Requiem presentation in perhaps more ways than usual. Several of the choir members have lost loved ones in the

days leading up to the Requiem. To sing this music is a cathartic and uplifting way to honor and remember those we love, and to recall the hope that is in Christ Jesus.

But the Choir has gone a step further this year. It is no surprise that our music budget is strictly limited. The music ministry is well-supported in these trying financial days, but we are not always able to do some of the special things we'd like to do. As I was preparing for the Requiem rehearsals, my desire to include a small orchestra with the presentation continued to grow, though I suspected it was not going to be possible. But after some conversations with Pastor Atkins and other church leaders, we decided that we'd see if others shared my desire to present the Requiem in its original format—with orchestra.

I approached the Chancel Choir and simply asked them whether they shared my desire to see this happen. And if so—while expressing our desire to see the church general budget as a priority in our stewardship—would they like to help underwrite the Requiem orchestra. I explained that I was fully prepared for the possibility that this might not be a good time for them and that if they were unable to help, I would happily move ahead with the

Requiem with keyboard accompaniment. I presented a rather whimsical sketch of the composition of the small orchestra we would need. Then (I must have been getting punchy) I found pictures online of players of the various instruments. We had everyone from Yo-Yo Ma and Rostropovich on cello to a dog playing the French horn and Harpo Marx at the harp!

Over a weekend's time, members of the Chancel Choir had endowed all the players for the Requiem orchestra! Many chose to dedicate their gifts in memory of a loved one. Others have done so in honor of a living person who is dear to them. And others simply offered anonymous gifts. These dedications will be included in the Requiem worship bulletin.

I am touched and grateful for the stewardship of time, talent and treasure of the Chancel Choir. Their dedication to excellence and beauty in worship is a year-round lifestyle. But the Fauré Requiem on November 7 represents their deep love and commitment to ministry in a tangible and audible way. Please join us in worship on the 7th, bring friends and family, and take a moment to let a Chancel Choir member know that you appreciate their ministry at Grace.

### Trustees' Fall Clean-up Day Nov. 6



Bring your rakes, leaf blowers, shears, gloves, etc., and help the Grace Trustees spruce up our church grounds on Saturday, **November 6**, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Together, we can Keep Grace Beautiful! Come for as long as you can help. Youth and confirmation students, this is an excellent service opportunity! Refreshments will be served.

### Poinsettias For Sale This Month

Red Christmas poinsettias will be for sale this month in the narthex on Sundays, **November 7, 14 and 21**. Various sizes available—all fresh and beautiful! Poinsettias can be purchased in honor or memory of someone dear; a special Christmas bulletin will acknowledge these names. Please contact Ellie Lindsay at 630-961-1251 for further information.



## Memorial Gifts Bolster Grace Library

For the past three years, the Grace Church Library Committee has been working to create a space where Grace members can grow in the knowledge of their faith. We have found an appropriate home for the library collection in Room 223, which opened officially for business on September 26, and we have organized and catalogued many of the materials in the collection. We plan to continue to organize resources, weed out unused materials, and purchase new items for the collection in order to continue providing a place for our congregation to study and grow in their knowledge and understanding of their faith.

This process was aided greatly by the donation of funds from the Grace Church Foundation for cataloging software and for the purchase of books and materials as memorials befitting those they commemorate. These memorials include:

### In Memory Of...

- L. Norman, Helen Krueger and Beverly Crowder: A 14-piece set of *The Interpreter's Bible*
- Phyllis Oats-Anderson: A large Edinburgh II globe, one children's table, and eight children's books
- Olga Field: Three adult books, resources on Christmas, Easter and faith
- Constance Schoenherr: Three resource books on World History, *Treasury of the Bible* and *Give Thanks*

Other books and resources are on order and will be acknowledged later. A gift in memory or honor of a loved one is a wonderful way to show love and respect for those who have passed away as well as offer a great blessing to the Grace Church family. You may contact a member of the Memorial Committee at any time to learn more: Glenna Holloway, Merrill Litchfield, Ginny Lacy, Pastor Bob Atkins, and Winnie Graver.

## Words Matter

By Rev. Dr. Carol Findon

I recently spoke with the parents of confirmands about mental and emotional health in adolescents, which I have done for the last few years. Parents' concerns have not changed over the years; they continue to ask "How do I respond to our teen's anxious/depressed emotions?" This is always a difficult question to answer, because it depends on the teen and the specific behavior. There is no clear cut, standard answer, but I reply with "empathy, empathy, empathy"! Words do matter! Here are some helpful hints:

- Acknowledge your child's distress. Let him or her know you are aware of his/her sadness, fear, frustration, whatever is present.
- Be an active listener and respond with care.
- Reframe the incident or interaction that caused these emotions in a meaningful way, validating your child's emotions.
- Be clear and honest, without blame.
- Maintain tolerance and flexibility.
- Be available for further help.

*"Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."* Philippians 2:4-5

If you have questions or would like a referral to a professional in the area, please contact Rev. Dr. Carol Findon at 630-664-6314.

## It Takes a Congregation: Thanks to Our Stewardship Campaign Team!

From Julie Kronbach, Stewardship and Finance Chair



Many hands were needed to prepare and deliver our Stewardship messages and packets this year. Thanks to Bob Pacanowski, our Stewardship Campaign

Chair, who did a superb job recruiting, organizing and communicating with our precision team leaders, the Grace Blue Angel squadron. Our speakers, Ginny Lacy, Austin Smith, Alexis Smith, Claire Leitzen, Mike Rogers, Ruth Wills and Bob Pacanowski, each generously shared the work of Christ through Grace and through their own lives to remind us of the many effective ministries we are called to engage in. Thanks to our Blue Angels for recruiting delivery teams: Ginny Lacy, John Minger, Harriet McCabe, Ralph Philistine, Joan Stokely, Mike Rogers, Steve Correll, John Ridder, Brenda Carpen-

ter, Gary Reese, Don and Ginny Chivas, Ali and Amy Hashimi, Thatch Irwin, Bob Plummer, Tom Blair, Bill Langham, Deb Hambright, Harold Workman, and Jack Staton. Thanks to our packet delivery teams: Sue Churchill, Rod Randall, Norma Wiehrdt, Carol and Doug Bonebrake, Letty Peters, Susan Minger, Lauren Minger, Richard Bray, Bob Elazan, Skip Hornbeck, Elizabeth Dimond, Judy and Jerry Cornett, Cliff Bock, Mary Scroggins, Trudy Andsager, Bob Iutzwig, Bob Allison, Bill Blake, Jim Conniff, Beth Pacanowski, John Bushnell, Larry Getz, Jerry Hilsenbeck, Jim Nelson, John Abe, Jane Abe, Peter Abe, Bill Abe, Scott Oats, Ralph Berg, Landon Goad, Lynne Philistine, Erica Patterson, Laurel Fleming, Chris Warnes, Brian McComb, Rick Loufek, Anne Mixen, Sue Burkwald, Claire Leitzen, Ralph Keiser, Del

and Virginia Spaits, John and Jill Ridder, Darlene Noerenberg, Barbara and Larry Hartman, Linda Rings, Kathy Bessey, Melody Reese, Tony Lazzari, Bob and Jaci Tschirhart, Mark Truckenbrod, Jay Fisher, Merrill Litchfield, Beverly Michels, Sue Riedinger, Renee Roscoe-Morrison, Robin Schmuckal, Dieter and Lisa Heigl, Sharon Keenan, Tom Smart, Laura Walton, Clarence Boot, Ruth Allison, Gary Silke, Susan Marseille, Margaret Schmitt, Joe Schofield, Chris St. John, Annette Ludovice, Kim Blair, Gary Thompson, and David Biegon, who executed the plan. Thanks to Kathleen Lathrop for making our book-marks, and special thanks to Pastor Bob and Phyllis Pepiot for preparing materials and our office volunteer staff for assembling packets. Each of you has blessed us with your contribution!

Listen to personal messages of stewardship from our own Grace members at [www.peopleofgrace.org/worship](http://www.peopleofgrace.org/worship).



## Animal Attraction!

Send us your animal photos! Every month, we'll feature a photo of your pet (or a friend's, family member's, etc.) or animal shot taken by you or someone you know (no internet downloads or otherwise "anonymous" animal photos, please). E-mail them to [gumnotes@peopleofgrace.org](mailto:gumnotes@peopleofgrace.org) or drop them in the church office, ATTN: Barb, to be scanned (originals will be returned to the owner upon request). Please include your name, the animal's name, and anything you'd like us to know about the animal or photo. Photos are published in the order received.

### Patches



This is Patches, who lives with Melanie, Paulette and Ed Phelps. Patches likes to study with Melanie, though English and Spanish are hard for her—she speaks "Cattanes"! The Phelps must understand her language, because they tell us she likes to play soccer in the early morning, she prefers children over most adults, and she travels the world in shoes (though four paws are proving to be a problem!).

### CROP Walkers Respond to Hunger

On a gloriously warm October 17, 77 walkers from Grace joined many others from area churches in the 28th annual CROP Hunger Walk. Grace participants raised over \$5,000 (final numbers available next month), most of which will benefit ongoing recovery efforts in Haiti and Pakistan. The walk stepped off from our own Grace Church this year, with the Grace Praise Team providing music and Mayor George Pradel speaking in our sanctuary. Thank you to all who walked or sponsored a walker.

### November/December Hunger Collections

Remember your food donations and monetary gifts for Loaves & Fishes on Sunday, **November 7**. With just \$20, Loaves & Fishes can purchase a complete holiday meal for a family of eight! December's collection on **December 5** benefits Aurora Interfaith Pantry and Hesus House. Please deposit food donations in the narthex and monetary donations in the ceramic love loaf, making checks payable to GUMC and marking "love loaf" on the memo line.

## OUR PEOPLE

### Sympathy to the Friends and Family of...

**Marian Bidrawn**, mother of Sam Bidrawn  
**Norma Bock**, wife of Cliff Bock  
**Kenyon Bowes**, grandfather of Kip Bowes  
**Carolyn Grundy**, sister of Meena Rathod  
**Mary Louise Henwood**, mother of Joan Meador  
**Mary McDaniel**, mother of Barb Gould  
**Wallace Yenerich**, father of Phyllis Pepiot

### Celebrations and Congratulations

**Elise Mikayla**, daughter of Hannah and Michael Arzadon, was born on September 24  
**Weiwei Xu and Alan Wang** were married October 14  
**Aimee Raile and Jeff Barbeau** were married October 16  
**Kristine Cruz and Francis Magracia** were married October 29  
**Phyllis Dubson** celebrates her 91st birthday on November 17; send greetings to 2416 Putnam Dr., Naperville, IL 60565  
**Alfred Hoekstra** celebrates his 90th birthday on November 17; send greetings to 1029 Page Ct., Naperville, IL 60540

### Baptisms

**Bennett Alan**, son of Bryan and Danielle Bauer, was baptized on October 24  
**Grant Mitchell**, son of Brian and Shawna Gasik, was baptized on October 24  
**Luke Mikel**, son of Matt and Lindsay Slusher, was baptized on October 24

### Letters

Dear Friends,

I wanted to thank you for your prayers and cards during my confinements with a broken tibia bone in my leg. The power of prayers for healing is working and I am grateful to all of you.

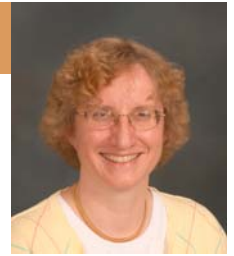
—Ann Moore

## Mistletoe Marketplace!

Don't miss United Methodist Women's annual Mistletoe Marketplace on Saturday, **November 13**, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This expansive holiday bazaar features beautiful



hand-crafted items, baked goods, the hand-stitched, queen-sized Mission Quilt, and Silent Auction. *Auction items needed!* Sarah Circle is seeking new, unused and auction-ready items (no "white elephants," please!) as well as services such as monthly home-baked pies, pet sitting, car washes, raking...get as creative as you wish! Please drop off items/service offers outside Margaret Harrison's office (lounge area) by November 8.



Christian Education Director Margaret Harrison and I recently returned from the 2010 Christian Educators' Fellowship Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. What a wonderful, renewing, inspiring event! I am praying and organizing already to take many of you with us to the 2012 CEF Conference in Wisconsin!

At this year's event, a scripture and theme continues to inspire further reflection in me. From John 4:10 (TEV): "If you only knew what God gives, and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would ask him and he would give you living water." What does God give? Do we know? Have you inventoried your life lately, to begin to notice what God is

giving you? Think about it! As you move through a day in the life of *you*, what has God given you? A loving spouse, creative children, a warm home, food to eat, friends who care about you at school and/or work, transportation, a beautiful yard, a mind that can think, a church that cares about you, time to relax, a community with lots of places to play, to care for others, to learn, a nation with an abundance of opportunities and resources, and a world with a marvelous diversity of people and life! If we only knew what God gives, would we not give thanks more often and share the blessings we have in abundance with those in need? For who is it that asks us for a drink in our lives?

Jesus sits down beside us during the day and asks to share in conversation with us about our lives—our dreams, goals, needs, and our challenges. "As you care for the least of these who are my children, you are caring for me," he says. And as we care for him, he grants us a drink of living water: of truth and love and joy and hope for our daily lives! Come and see this man who tells us all about what life with God and each other can be like lived in God's peace, in God's truth, in God's way! Truly, if we only knew what God gives... I urge you and encourage you to truly explore what God has given you in your daily life: appreciate the care of your spouse, see the creativity of

God in your children, the love of your pets, the beauty of your yard, the friendship of your colleagues, and the opportunities to learn and share life with God and others in your church, your community, our nation and the world! Who is it that makes this life and living water in our lives possible? Jesus, who asks us for a drink each day, that we might have conversation with him and remember who and whose we are, and have life abundant in him.

Sitting at the well with you,

*Rev Lisa E. Telomen*

## Harvesting Good Will At Home and Beyond

By Chris St. John, Church & Society Chair



As we get ready to take down the garden, we reflect upon how much we have harvested. In July, August, September and early October, we harvested produce almost every week, which in turn helped needy people. Several batches of produce were taken directly to Loaves & Fishes, small amounts were given to a needy family within Grace Church, and most was sold to the congregation to the benefit of Loaves & Fishes. The total amount generated by sales between services was over \$210, including funds received for surplus produce that congregation members donated as well. That amount also went directly to Loaves & Fishes. Over the course of the summer, we harvested broccoli, zucchini, yellow squash, green peppers, tomatoes, carrots, radishes and cucumbers. The Church & Society team wants to thank its own members for carefully tending the garden and congregation members for supporting our first year of vegetable sales.

Tentative future dates for our Fair Trade coffee sales are: November 21 and 28, December 5 and 12. Please watch *Grace in Mission* for confirmed dates; we'll also be e-mailing those who asked to be on our distribution list. In addition to coffees and teas, we'll

be selling chocolate bars and "mini" dark chocolate bars. At the All-Church Fall Festival on October 31, we demonstrated "Reverse Trick or Treating." This was a way to inform our neighbors about the hardships, and often the dark side no one wants to see, of the chocolate industry (child labor and poor wages). We handed out flyers along with the "mini's" so that folks could understand the problem and how to help alleviate it (including buying fair trade chocolate at Halloween and all year long). We hope Grace can participate in Reverse Trick or Treating next fall so that children and adults understand how being a wise consumer can help alleviate problems of the cocoa industry. Learn more about reverse trick or treating at [www.gb-gm-umc.org](http://www.gb-gm-umc.org); type "reverse trick or treating" in the search box.

Finally, the tentative date for our Ten Thousand Villages sale is Sunday, December 5. Ten Thousand Villages is an organization of stores across the U.S. and Canada that sell fairly traded items crafted by artisans across the globe, ensuring that these craft-people receive fair wages for their goods. This sale, held in the Activity Center between services, offers a wide variety of items from the Glen Ellyn Ten Thousand Villages store—we can shop right here! Watch for flyers this month with more information.

## NEW STUDIES STARTING!

*Women, join us in a study of THE WAY OF TRANSFORMING DISCIPLESHIP*  
Mondays  
1:00-2:30pm  
In Room 254  
6-week class  
Beginning Nov. 8  
*Books are \$12 and available in the church office*

◆ ◆ ◆  
*Everyone is welcome to join a New Disciple "Shorts" Study*  
Beginning Dec. 2  
ON THE PSALMS  
Thursdays  
9:30-11:00am  
In Room 254  
10-week class  
*No more than a chapter a day of reading!*



The Air Force

## Veteran's Day Over 50 Fellowship: Hollywood Goes to War!

America went to war on December 7, 1941, and all U.S. industry was united in supporting the war effort. Hollywood was no different, as the film industry—studios, actors and executives alike—devoted themselves not only to direct involvement in the war, but the production of post-war propaganda as well. On Thursday, **November 11**, Veteran's Day, Grace's Over 50 Fellowship will watch and discuss some memories of that time in our history with Dick Trondsen's presentation of "Hollywood Goes to War." Lunch will be served at noon, followed by the program at 1:00. Cost is \$5, payable at the door; *please reserve your spot by Nov. 9 at noon in the office.*

## Kids Camp In, Parents Go Out!

Again this year, Mom and Dad will have a chance to go out by themselves (maybe do some Christmas shopping?) while the kids (infants thru 5th grade) "camp in" at Grace on Friday, **December 3**, 5:30-9:00 p.m. Children will enjoy a meal, games, crafts, activities, and hear the story of St. Nicholas! Cost is \$20 per family; sign-ups begin Sunday, November 7, in the Activity Center and church office.

SEE BACK COVER FOR NOV. 28 FAMILY ADVENT CELEBRATION!



## Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Wed., Nov. 24, 7:30pm  
With Pastor Don

Niswonger and music from the Chancel Choir

*Join us in this service of gratitude for God's blessings*

## TURKEY BOWL!



10:00AM THANKSGIVING DAY ON THE LOWER FIELD. PLAY A GAME OF TOUCH FOOTBALL WHILE THE TURKEY BAKES! FAMILIES WELCOME!

**Christmas Card Project**  
Church Women United is collecting Christmas cards and 2011 calendars for incarcerated men and women. There is a box in the church office for Christmas cards and another one for calendars; donations will be accepted through Nov. 14. You may write personal, "non-preachy" messages and safely sign your first name. Please do not seal envelopes, use stickers, glue or tape on cards or envelopes, or enclose anything. Please avoid cards and calendars that portray Caucasian or patriotic themes. "Forever" stamps are also gratefully accepted.

## Operation Christmas Child

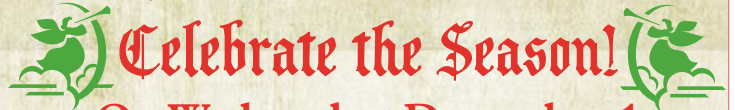
Touch the lives of suffering boys and girls around the world this Christmas by participating in Operation Christmas Child. Simply fill a shoe box with small toys, a Bible, books, clothing, school supplies, or hygiene items.

Attach a label and include \$7 to cover shipping. Labels and brochures with packing tips are in the stairwells and outside the Activity Center. Please return boxes to the church office on or before November 21. Contact Jane Hill at 630-357-7683.

## Feeling Flat?

Round out your week with **Saturday Evening Worship, 5:30pm in the Activity Center. Centering, healing, inspiring!**

Women, You're Invited to the 5th Annual



On Wednesday, December 1

Beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

*Featuring:*

CHRISTMAS TABLE VIEWING AND PUNCH  
CATERED DINNER FROM CLARA'S SERVED BY THE MEN OF GRACE  
MUSICAL PRESENTATION OF "ONLY LOVE" FROM THE GRACE PRAISE TEAM, 8:00 P.M. IN THE SANCTUARY  
*See below for program details*

\$20 per person for dinner and program;

\$10 per person for dinner or program only

Tickets go on sale Sun., Nov. 14, in the Activity Center and in the Church Office - *Table Hostesses Needed!*

Contact Kim Scharafin at 630-369-4734 to host a table

## ONLY LOVE



The Advent tale of God's son sent unto us...a promise of eternal life so unimaginable, so profound, so beyond human invention, that only love could write the story.

*"only love could write this story...only love could pay this cost..."*

**PRESENTED BY THE GRACE PRAISE TEAM AT "CELEBRATE THE SEASON" (DEC. 1) AND IN WORSHIP AT 8:15/9:30/11:00 ON DECEMBER 5**

News deadline for December Grace Notes: **Friday, Nov. 19**  
Submit news to gumcnotes@peopleofgrace.org or call 630-355-1748, ext. 240



**Grace United Methodist Church**  
300 E. Gartner Rd.,  
Naperville, IL 60540  
630-355-1748

Go Green with Grace Notes! E-mail gumcnotes@peopleofgrace.org and type "online only" in the subject line. You will be linked to new issues as soon as they're online. It's easy to be green!

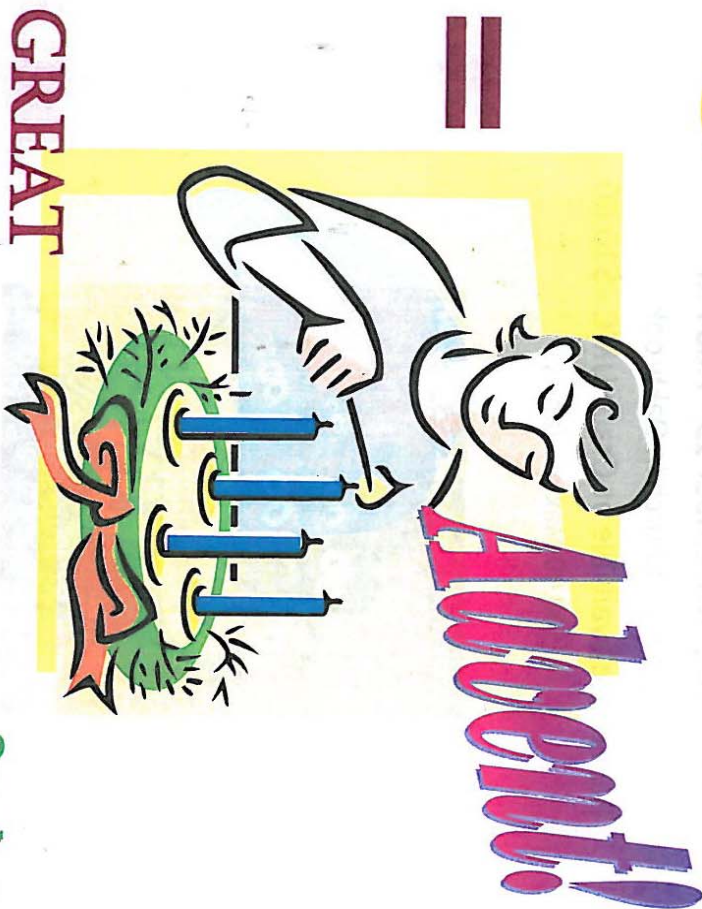


**Grace United Methodist Church**  
**300 E. Gartner Rd.**  
**Naperville, IL 60540-7424**

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**TIME-SENSITIVE ISSUE! READ RIGHT AWAY!**



**GREAT EXPECTATIONS**  
**Sunday, November 28**

**An Advent Celebration!**

Families, come gather together to make an Advent wreath, learn the meaning of its symbols, and enjoy a tasty potluck meal together! What a wonderful way to prepare for the coming of Christ!

**WITH SPECIAL GUESTS**



**JOHN THE BAPTIST AND SANTA CLAUS!**

Watch for opportunities to bring gifts for our Christmas missions, too!

*The first Sunday of Advent*  
 An Interactive Family Experience

**4:30 p.m. Worship and Wreath-Making in the Activity Center**

**5:30 p.m. Potluck Dinner in Fellowship Hall**

*Please bring a vegetable, salad or dessert to share; chicken, rolls, and beverages will be provided.*  
 \$15 per family for food and supplies

Tickets on sale in the office and the Activity Center beginning in November