



GRACE NOTES

Building up the church
to the glory of God.

Ephesians 4:12

February 2008

Grace Adds Over 50 Donors to Bone Marrow Registry

"I am so proud of Grace!" enthused Pastor Bob Atkins at Grace's 11:00 worship service on January 27, announcing to the congregation that 30 people had provided DNA samples for Grace's Bone Marrow Drive in the Activity Center thus far that Sunday. By the time LifeSource Blood Centers (which conducted the testing process) packed up



Marian Cronin takes a cheek swab DNA test in Grace's Bone Marrow Drive January 27.

and left, that number was up to 54. "I was hoping for at least five people from this church to be tested," said LifeSource representative Julie Santos. In just one morning, Grace exceeded those expectations more than ten-fold!

In addition to those tested, many more Grace family members donated the \$25 fee for others to be tested.

Initiated by Pastor Bob, Grace's Bone Marrow Drive was in honor of Grace member Bill Huber, who is battling leukemia (and recently discovered that a donor on the National Marrow Registry matches his DNA). Parish Nurse Pam Riley coordinated the drive and was positively beaming as she watched people line up in the Activity Center to be tested. "It's amazing," said Pam.

"People are reading what's involved if they are called to donate, and they're saying 'Sign me up!'"

"The people of Grace never cease to amaze me," agreed Nancy Huber, Bill's wife. "It was overwhelming to see people lined up to give a DNA sample." Nancy noted that one member said "thank you for giving me the opportunity to do this," and a young man visiting our church for the first time told her his success story of having received a bone marrow transplant six years ago. "I believe the Lord sent that man to Grace that Sunday morning," said Nancy. Explaining that someone else's bone marrow may fight the cancer one's own



Prior to being tested, Grace members read and fill out the necessary paperwork.

body cannot, Nancy added, "Giving the gift of bone marrow is new life for a cancer patient. It's one thing a healthy adult can do to make a difference in another's life."

If you were not able to participate in Grace's Bone Marrow Drive, but wish to join the National Marrow Donor Program, visit marrow.org/join and click on "Join Now," or call 1-800-627-7692. To register, you must be between the ages of 18 and 60, be willing to donate to any patient in need, and meet the program's health guidelines.

Unbind Your Heart! LENT 2008 (dates prior to the expected receipt of this newsletter have been omitted)

"Prayer and Faith Sharing" Study
in the Chapel with
Pastor Bob Atkins

Wednesdays

9:00am

February 20, 27,
March 5, March 12

Thursdays 7:00pm

February 21, 28,
March 6, March 13

Sundays 7:00pm

February 17, 24,
March 2, 9, 16

Wednesday Evenings

With the exception of
March 5, all Wednesday evening Lenten activities begin with a meal in Fellowship Hall at **6:00pm** (\$5 per person; maximum \$15 per family)

Feb. 20—6:45pm healing worship in the Sanctuary, led by Pastors Bob and Bill, with music from New Life Singers;

7:30-8pm in the Activity Center: stations for journaling, yoga, meditation and walking a labyrinth.

Feb. 27—6:45pm worship: testimonial time of witness, led by Pastor Lisa and Parish Nurse Pam Riley, with music from the Praise Team; 7:30-8pm in the Activity Center: making Easter bas-

kets for Loaves & Fishes and pillows for cancer patients.

March 5—6:00pm worship and snacks for children; 6:45-7:30pm Seder Meal, presented by Naperville's Congregation Beth Shalom

March 12—6:45pm worship: Last Supper dramatic presentation

Holy Week Services

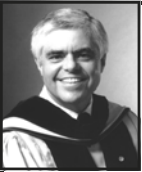
March 15/16: Palm Sunday, 8:15, 9:30, 11am (Sat. 5:30 pm)

March 20: Maundy Thursday, 7:30pm

March 21: Good Friday, 7:30pm

March 22: Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil, 8:00am-5:30pm, Chapel

March 22/23: Easter Sunday, 6:00 sunrise service (location TBD), 8:15, 9:30, 11am (Saturday 5:30 pm)



Pastor's Journal

Lessons from Lincoln

The 198th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday brings me to re-read his inaugural speeches. Far beyond Red and Blue states, Blue and Grey tore the country apart. Too easily we forget. Our collective historical amnesia confers unwarranted significance to the present, devaluing the past and diminishing the future. Until the final draft, Lincoln's first inaugural address ended with a sound-bite challenge: "Shall it be peace or sword?" Greater wisdom caused him to reflect upon history, creating options for the future. Following the suggestion of William Seward, Lincoln reflected on the writing of James Madison (from "Federalist Paper #14" of 1787):

"Hearken not to the unnatural voice which tells you that the people of America, knit together as they are by so many cords of affection, can no longer live together as members of the same family; can no longer continue the mutual guardians of their mutual happiness; can no longer be fellow citizens...the mingled blood which they have shed in defense of their sacred rights, consecrate their Union . . ."

Lincoln wrote: *"Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."*

Better angels indeed. Four years later, in 1865, still in the midst of war, Lincoln closed with immortal phrases of judgment and appeals for reconciliation: *"Fondly do we hope – fervently do we pray – that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue, until all the wealth piled by the bond-man's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash, shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said 'the judgments of the Lord, are true and righteous altogether.' With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."*

Grace and Peace,

"Man From Aldersgate" Portrays Life and Times of John Wesley by Cheryl Ameiss

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism who rode over 250,000 miles on horseback to bring spiritual renewal to England and America, thought himself a failure for most of his life—unworthy to serve God and plagued by a feeling that something was not quite right about his faith. Who knew?

In a one-man play he has performed over 1,300 times in 32 countries and all 50 states, award-winning actor Roger Nelson came to Grace January 13 to show us just how human—and ultimately significant—John Wesley was.

Entitled "The Man From Aldersgate," Nelson's portrayal transported his audience to another time and place—18th Century England. By literally stepping into Wesley's shoes (as well as his wig and waistcoat), he shared the personal and spiritual life journey of a man who recognized the desperate need

of the common people during a time when the British gentry exploited them mercilessly.

To engage his audience even further, Nelson pointed out people from the audience to "play" key people in his life. He told colorful stories from Wesley's life that shaped his faith journey, such as his narrow rescue as a small boy from a burning house that turned his life toward God and, later, his struggle with the "rich church government" that decided who and where people would worship, his own father included. Nelson also conveyed Wesley's failed trip to Georgia to minister to the "savage" American Indians.

When told of Wesley's mother's conviction that he was to do God's work—the words "Sing praises for me" on her dying breath—it was clear to the audience the influence Susanna Wesley (mother of 19 home-schooled children!) had on

John's faith and, indeed, his life.

After being kicked out of the church, Wesley began preaching to large crowds on his father's grave, the one piece of ground he felt was rightfully his. Even at this point, he still felt he needed to do good works to enter heaven, until a close friend helped him realize through Scripture that all he had to do was believe in God and His son, Jesus Christ. Wesley thought it was just too simple. But when he finally accepted that this was indeed all that Jesus asks, he felt complete and continued his preaching and service to God with fervor.

After the performance, Mr. Nelson returned to his audience to speak about the importance of having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He concluded the evening by praying the prayer of commitment



Actor Roger Nelson portrays John Wesley at Grace January 13.

for those who had not yet invited Christ into their lives. If you missed this wonderful performance, you can order a DVD by visiting www.almanplay.com, or e-mail Roger Nelson at roger@almanplay.com.

"The Man From Aldersgate" was a very moving and educational experience. Even my 12-year-old son said it was "awesome" and, although fatigued from a hectic day, he never once closed his eyes!



Elaine Jungnickel was living proof of a life-changing journey.

Instead of a photo of her radiant face, Elaine Jungnickel’s funeral program featured a logo. “Walk to Emmaus,” read the words above an image of three figures walking on a path.

Elaine—or “Elaingel,” as her loved ones came to call her during the five-year battle against ovarian cancer she waged with angelic grace and faith—was a shining example of a person forever changed by Christ. Even (especially?) in dying, she showed others how to walk with Christ, walk like Christ. Indeed, Elaine’s husband, Eric, refers to her funeral January 28 not as a me-

morial of the past, but a “celebration of the future.”

Three years before Elaine was diagnosed with cancer, she went on her first “Walk to Emmaus,” a three-day experience of Christian renewal and formation that focuses on God’s grace and affords participants the opportunity to meet Christ in a new way as He is revealed through other believers.

Though the Walk is segregated between men and women, said Eric, “Elaine and I both found faith on our Walk—faith became the total framework out of which we lived.” A self-described “cradle Christian” who has been both a sponsor and a participant in the Walk to Emmaus, Eric maintains that the Walk prepared him and Elaine for the unforeseen battle that lay ahead. “When Elaine was diagnosed, we already had faith. We didn’t need to go grasping.”

With no watches or cell phones to distract par-

ticipants, the 72-hour Emmaus experience leaves the world behind—even when the world is very much beckoning. Eric relays the story of his second Walk to Emmaus, which occurred two days after 9/11. “It was one of the most difficult things, but 40 or 50 guys and I said, ‘Lord, we’re going.’”

Others at Grace have also taken the Walk, including Joe Schofield, who (like Elaine) has served as a contact person for the experience and, like Eric, has shared his Emmaus experiences with our church congregation. “The Walk provided me the opportunity to explore more deeply my own commitment to Christ,” said Joe. “It created in me a desire to get more involved with my local church...to share God’s word of overwhelming, unconditional love with others.”

According to Joe, Elaine Jungnickel was the propelling force behind the Emmaus program at Grace. “Elaine was a

great witness to God’s love; she shared it with everyone and wanted everyone to get the message.”

“Elaine was my sponsor for my Walk in August,” said Betsy Koeppnick, who loves hearing Elaine’s daughter, Carley, sing “I want be your hands, I wanna be your feet, I’ll go where you send me.” “For me, that was the message on my Walk to Emmaus,” said Betsy. “We are, indeed, God’s hands and feet.”

Said Julie Kronbach, “I had the opportunity to share the Walk weekend with three other wonderful women of faith from Grace...what has been better than I could have imagined is the subsequent commitment to supporting each other as men and women of Christ and living out our faith in the real world.”

Judy Shotts attended the Walk in August with no expectations at all. “I was completely overcome by the Agape love demonstrated during the 72-hour experience.”

Said Dale Scholtens, who took the Walk in April, “I can say without hesitation that I encountered Christ in a way I never had before during that weekend. I grew up with the hymns of the church, like ‘What a Friend We Have in Jesus.’ Thanks to my Emmaus weekend, this friendship has been made real.” Expressed Mike Rogers, who took his “pilgrim” Walk in 1989, “We hope more of our sisters and brothers will hear Elaine’s call to take a step in faith and come to know Christ more fully.”

For those interested in the Walk, Eric is eager to assure them that it’s not a “holy roller, head hunter-type” experience. “It’s simply a chance for adults to look at themselves and where they fit in this thing called Eternity,” he said of the weekend that is 90% lay people. “Outside of my family, the greatest thing for me is witnessing people coming to Christ.” Most certainly, Elaine would feel the same.



Rev. Dr. Findon Says...

For a Christmas present, Don and I received a book entitled *Church Signs Across America*. Every page has a picture of a church and its outdoor sign. One reads, “Life is Change...Growth is Optional.”

How fitting this is, as we begin a new year and make resolutions to change something in our lives. Even a local church posted a sign advertising “Spiritual Resolutions.” But the tough question is, will we grow as we change with our new resolutions in order to make a difference? To make a resolution is simply an activity of the mind.

But to grow takes action of our whole being, our whole body, mind and spirit... and this requires choice on our part.

We have heard from the candidates for the primary elections that “I am the one for change.” They have all said these words. I ask, however, what actions our government leaders will take that will truly bring about growth?

Pastoral counseling asks the same question. People come to counseling seeking a change in their life situation, but unless a person engages with their whole being toward growth, their search is less than fulfilling.

We can make changes in our personal lives and in our relationships, at home and at work. Yet, the greater vision is one for a New Life in Faith, to grow and transform ourselves as individuals and our relational connections at home, at church, at work, in our nation and in our world.

Growth is optional, even as we encounter change every day of our lives. We can make the choice to take action in transforming our lives! “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:2)

Grace Youngsters Ring True at Bell Festival

This year, nine members of the Grace Children's Bell Ensemble participated in the Young Ringers Bell Festival February 2, held annually at Santa Maria del Popolo School in Mundelein, IL. Led by Tim Waugh, composer, director and 40-year veteran of hand bells and hand chimes, youngsters from various Chicagoland bell choirs joined together to participate in a day of workshops, fellowship and a final concert. Before a crowd of proud parents and bell choir directors in the school's gymnasium, over 100 children and teens performed in solo groups and en masse, producing a glorious sound that only hundreds of hand bells and chimes can make. Ranging from traditional pieces to funky jazz numbers that one might not readily associate with hand bells, the concert clearly demonstrated the talents and hard work of the festival participants and their individual directors. "This was a fun day," said Marc Ceruti, who recently joined Grace's Children's Bell Ensemble. "The director [Tim Waugh] made it really interesting, and he knew how to improvise with us to get the best sound." Accompanying the Grace ringers (including Ben and Nick Ameiss, Marc Ceruti, Mallory Clark, Luke Hashimi, Kristen and Michelle Riedinger, Kelly Shugh and Rachel Sterchi) were adult chaperones Cheryl Ameiss, Amy Hashimi, Lynne Shugh and Director Angela Sterchi, who, along with Assistant Director Cheryl Ameiss, prepared the children for weeks before the festival. Thank you to all for making this day another shining success!



Grace young ringers join other children's bell choirs at the annual Young Ringers Festival in Mundelein, IL, February 2.

Kids K-7th Invited to Join Children's Musical

With great anticipation, young Grace singers recently learned what their annual children's musical will be. "Elijah!," presented May 10 at the 5:30 p.m. worship service and May 11 (Mother's Day) at the 11:00 service, tells the story of God's faithful prophet. Children aged kindergarten through 7th grade are welcome to join this fun, spirited musical, featuring both speaking and choral parts. This year, our **"Lock-in" is March 7-8**, with a kick-off rehearsal that Friday night, but mostly it's about FUN, including games, movies, pizza, crafts, volleyball and our famous "monkey bread" for breakfast. Only Junior Singers (grades 4-7) can spend the night, but it's a wonderfully crazy night for all, and everyone interested in participating in the musical should plan to join us that evening, right from the start! Contact Lynn Leitzen at 630-355-1748, ext. 249, to join "Elijah!" or for more information.

Linking Up to Grace

Yesterday was "Prayer for the Children" day in our Lenten study book, "Unbinding Your Heart." As I was reading, I got a wonderful image of all of our Grace people paging slowly through our picture directory, praying for all of our children and for their families, then getting in their cars and driving to their neighborhood schools, praying for the children there and meeting other Grace people doing the same. Wouldn't that be wonderful? And then we would go out for coffee together and share our dreams of our church, community and world, and pray together that all the children of the world would know God's love and peace in their lives.

Last month, I wrote in my column about what difference Jesus makes in my life and how his life, death and resurrection illustrate to all of us "how outreach (in his name) transforms" us and our world. And I was then blessed to be able to preach about it on the last Sunday in January. Have you been thinking about this? What does Jesus save you from? What does Jesus save you for? What difference does Jesus make for

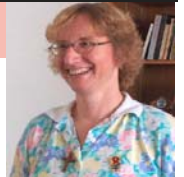
our children? For our grandparents? These kinds of questions shape the way we view our everyday life, the way we remember our past and the way we envision our future. In our Disciple IV class recently, we talked about being born again, about sight and insight for life, and how the way we live and talk with others shows them that we are Christians, and that it matters. Our confirmation students and their families think about this as they answer questions in their workbook such as, "If friends came into your house, what would they see that shows them you are a Christian?" What do you do, how do you live, that shows others you are a Christian? In our everyday habits, like prayer before meals or bed, prayer for others, NOT honking while waiting for a light, being kind to a cashier, pulling over for an ambulance, shoveling the neighbor's sidewalk, praying with a stressed co-worker, calling up a sick friend, volunteering at Hesus House or as a school tutor, reading a psalm or Bible story before bed... What do you do to live as a Christian?

In our Sisters study on the fruits of the

Spirit, we have just finished considering the three foundational fruits—love, joy and peace—and how these core attitudes that shape and ground our every experience in life flow from God to us and fill us to be able to approach, endure and overcome even the worst of experiences in our lives. As Christ showed us, it is our relationship to God, our sure knowledge of his presence in our world, and his love and concern for us in our daily lives that fills us with love, joy and peace to share with others. As we shop for groceries, play with our children, endure yet another surgery, say goodbye to a dying parent, God is with us! This was our Christmas message, and it will be our Easter message: for this time and for all of time, God is with us! We are loved, and we have this love for life everlasting!

Thanks be to our Christ, who shows us the Way, the Truth and this Life! May his peace be with all of us, and our world,

Rw Lisa E. Selomen



“Cin” Sunday Raises Over \$1,100!

Grace United Methodist Women raised \$1,168 selling their homemade cinnamon rolls on “Cin” Sunday January 27. Free will donations from our congregation will benefit Grace’s Side-by-Side youth mission trip. Many thanks to all who donated toward the rolls, and a special thank you to our youth, who helped frost and transport them from the kitchen to the Activity Center!

Congratulations, New ChristCare Group Leaders!



ChristCare
Group Ministry

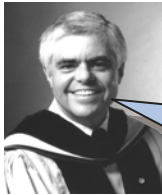
On January 27, Sue Fein, Christine Freeman, Matt Hambright, Leslie Rogers, Sherry Schmidt, and Deb Stamm were commissioned as ChristCare Group Leaders. By assuming trained leadership of ChristCare ministry’s “Circles of Care with Christ at the Center,” these six people have made the decision to become more committed disciples of Christ. Congratulations, and thank you!

Thank You, Movers and Remodelers!

Maintenance Supervisor Paul Grysh extends his thanks to the following people, who helped clean out and remodel Room 223 and the Activity Center Lounge: Frank Fiore, Juan Garcia, Chris Isit, Ryan Kirk, Elizabeth McSherry, Joe Sawa, and John Wagner. Paul also thanks Winnie Graver for

helping him put together the band shells for the Grace Foundation Dinner.

Margaret Harrison would like to thank Bob and Marlene Atkins, Mike Doll, Paul Grysh, John and Angela McCurdy, Joe Schofield, Dale Scholtens and Charlie Volz for helping to relocate the Resource Room to the lower level.



Visit my blog!
Send me a
comment!

Pastor Bob Has a Blog!

Log on to our website at www.peopleofgrace.org, and click on Pastor’s Bob photo on the home page. That will take you to his online blog, on which he has information regarding our *Unbind!* Lenten series, prayer group guidelines, his personal profile and opportunities for commentary (all comments are screened and approved before appearing on the blog).

Deadline for March Grace Notes news is Monday, Feb. 25

Grace Notes is published for the members and friends of Grace United Methodist Church. To submit news, please contact Barb Ceruti, Communications Director, at 630-355-1748, ext. 240, or e-mail gumcnotes@peopleofgrace.org

Grace United Methodist Church

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GRACE PERSONALS

Sympathies to the Friends & Families of...

Mattie Canady, grandmother of Angela McCurdy

Grace Fry, mother of Janet Kilty

Evelyn Hower, mother of Barbara Hower

Kenny Howerter, father of Traci Nelson

Elaine Jungnickel, wife of Eric Jungnickel

Anne Lord, mother of Sue Schofield

Mary Matter, sister of Phyllis Harbach

Ronald McDonald, father of Diane Kanney

Jack Young, friend of Bill and Margaret Blake

Celebrations

Anthony James, son of Paul and Nikki Maroni and grandson of Vic and Sharon Maroni, was born on January 24

Ayla Louise, daughter of Mark and Nancy McBride and granddaughter of Gary and Melody Reese, was born on January 24

Jonathan Hutchison, son of Bob and Claudia Hutchison, attained the honor of Eagle Scout on January 27

Letters of Thanks

Dear Grace Church Family,

Many thanks to Pastor Don for visiting me in the hospital and to Pastor Bill for the hospital visit and also for serving Doug and me communion at home on Christmas Eve. The “Get Well” cards from my church family certainly brightened the long days.

Blessings to all,

Mary Lou Neumann

To Our Grace Family,

We are so grateful that an opportunity to donate bone marrow was offered at Grace. Thank you to Pastor Atkins for initiating the idea and to Pam Riley for coordinating the drive. And a HUGE thank you to those who participated by giving DNA samples and monetary donations. We are so blessed to be a part of this loving and caring church family.

Witnessing God’s love,

Bill and Nancy Huber



Church Council Update by John Bodine



In totaling our actual receipts from 2007

(\$1,525,185), we have approved a 2008 budget for Grace UMC. Pledges have been a little slower coming in this year than last. The Stewardship/Finance Committee is following up with as yet uncommitted Grace members by phone to confirm their intentions to support Grace this year. We may have an appeal for supporting specific objectives, including Missions, paying off the remaining balance on the Building Campaign, or several capital improvements. Your funding enables Grace to amplify contributions through the talents and efforts of our members. This is very powerful.

Financial support facilitates Grace operations on a daily basis, but it's also critical for you to be involved, engaged, and contributing in ways that help both you and

Grace to grow. Is there something for everyone at Grace? It would certainly appear that way, if you made your way around the refurbished Activity Center on "H.O.T." (How Outreach Transforms) Sunday February 3. Mission trips to Kenya and Russia, support for the homeless, support for the needy in our community, Fair Trade Coffee, Habitat for Humanity...the list goes on, demonstrating how engaged Grace members are in making a difference. The NOW (Nurture-Outreach-Witness) Council has done a great job of shaping and articulating goals and accomplishments for each program. Get a copy of our bright orange "H.O.T." book, look it over, and see which missions best fit your calling. Then, bring your skills, experience and—most of all—your passion to bear.

We continue our Sunday "Listening Post" process, with Church Council members

outside the Activity Center once a month just prior to Church Council meetings. The recent topic of "ideas for the Men's Ministry at Grace" drew some interesting discussion, with several men recognizing opportunities to get more involved. The next Listening Post will be on Sunday, **February 24**, with the question of **"How do we attract new members to Grace?"** This is an important topic for Grace, as we've worked to renew ourselves in our facility, worship and programs over the last few years. Are we comfortable inviting our friends, neighbors or new acquaintances to join us at Grace? If not, what can we do about that? What motivates you to share yourself, your church, your faith? Unbind your heart—we'd like your input!

As always, remember your name tags, and don't forget to greet someone you don't know each Sunday – make a new friend!



Kenya Korner from Annette Swanson

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) continues to work with Church World Service and The Methodist Church in Kenya by distributing food and supplies to the thousands of people affected by the continuing post-election violence in Kenya.

Various church compounds, police stations, and schools have become safe havens to more than 300,000 Kenyans who have become internally displaced. Several homes have been completely destroyed, and hundreds of people have died. The most affected areas are Nairobi, Rift Valley, Nyanza, Western and Coast provinces.

Below are excerpts from Jerri Savuto, a

United Methodist missionary stationed at the Maua Methodist Hospital, who recently traveled with other missionaries to a displaced persons camp in Nairobi:

"We drove across Nairobi to a camp that was located at the Karura Community Church...There were so many young Kenyan volunteers working at the camp...There were many tents set up with five persons per tent...There was a make-shift school with classes for all grades being taught by volunteers from Kenyatta University who have not been able to start back to university. Local mission hospitals had donated medical supplies and even admitted three persons from the camp with no charge. We were so amazed to hear how the Kenyan people had helped the camp...We had the opportunity to talk

with Raphael, the man who helped bring all the people to this camp. Raphael is a Kikuyu who has lived in Timbaroa since 1972...In Timbaroa the violence began the day it was announced that President Kibaki had won the election...Raphael said everyone was filled with fear. He realized he needed to do something...[After procuring gasoline and the truck of a friend, Pastor Joseph of Karura Community Church], Raphael loaded 53 people in the truck, mostly women and children, and drove to Nakuru. There he met up with Pastor Joseph, and he and Raphael hired three more trucks and went back to pick up more Kikuyu people in Timbaroa...Raphael also picked up others who were fleeing the Kalenjins and Luos. There were 272

displaced people who arrived in Nairobi at Pastor Joseph's home...Most people literally had only the clothes on their backs.

Quickly they moved to the Community Church grounds and the camp began...We asked Raphael what he would do in the future. He suddenly looked far away. He struggled with his words. He didn't know...

250,000-500,000 displaced people have lost loved ones, their homes, their livestock and, perhaps most devastating of all, their friends and neighbors whom they trusted. Where can they go? How can we heal this nation? How can we rebuild Kenya? Raphael gave us the answer: 'If the politicians can make peace, so can we!' Oh God, let it be!"

If you would like to do-



A Kenyan baby gets a bath at a displaced persons camp at Karuru Community Church.

nate to help thousands of displaced persons, you can wire funds to:

Acct. Name: Methodist Church in Kenya—Projects
Bank: Barclays Bank of Kenya LTD
Branch: Queens Way House Branch, P.O. Box 30011, Nairobi
Swift No.: BARCKENX
Acct. No.: 03-094-2110901

Please e-mail the Presiding Bishop at: mckconf@wanachi.com and state the amount wired, the date, name of donor, and that the funds are for "Relief for Displaced Persons."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church announcements also appear weekly in "Grace in Mission," our Sat./Sunday bulletin insert, and online at www.peopleofgrace.org

Lenten Activities (see page 1)

Temple Builders Welcome You!

What's 36 years old and great for your body, mind and spirit? Grace's Temple Builders women's exercise group! Join us MWF mornings, 9:00-10:00 a.m., in the Activity Center. There is no fee, but a \$1 donation per week is suggested. Contact Char Gregory at 630-769-6166.

Women's Circles This Week

All women are welcome to join **Martha-Esther**, a fun, friendly group of women. We will meet on Tuesday, **February 19**, 9:15-11:15 a.m., in the Fireside Room. We will be discussing Growing Toward Spiritual Maturity. Please bring stamps to donate for mothers in prison. Reserve free childcare with Leslie Stapleton (630-961-9304)...**Priscilla Circle** will meet Tuesday, **February 19**, 7:00 p.m., in the Fireside Room. Sandy Leedy will be leading our Pillow Project; please bring scissors and a yard of fleece...**Sarah Circle** meets Tuesday, **February 19**, 9:15 a.m., in the home of JoAnn Stuart. Our program, "Educational Experiences in India," will be presented by Dr. Asmat Jafry...**Ruth Circle** meets on Wednesday, **February 20**, 9:15 a.m. We will have brunch out and a book exchange. Please bring a gift for Aurora Child Development; contact Mary Lou Eldredge at 630-961-0679 for brunch location.

Lunch for a Great Cause

Ecumenical Adult Care of Naperville is hosting a luncheon fundraiser on Friday, **February 22**, at Outback Steakhouse in Naperville (Ogden and Rt. 59). For \$15, enjoy sirloin steak, mashed potatoes, chopped salad, bread, beverage, and cheesecake! 100% of all proceeds benefit EAC. For ticket reservations, contact EAC at 630-357-8166.

Yoga Sessions Continue

Today more than ever, people are discovering the holistic benefits of healing yoga. Rev. Adrienne Ann Ilseman is leading two restorative yoga sessions with anointing oils, one on Tuesday, **February 19**, 7:00-8:30 p.m. (\$15) and another on Thursday, **February 21**, 6:30-7:30 a.m. (\$10). She will begin two four-week yoga series (\$32) on Tuesdays, **Feb. 26-March 18**, 7:00-

8:00 p.m., and Thursdays, **Feb. 28-March 20**, 6:30-7:30 a.m. All sessions are in the Chapel. Contact Rev. Carol Madalin at 630-355-1748, ext. 246, to register.

Book Club

Grace Book Club meets again on Tuesday, **February 26**, 12:45 p.m., in the home of JoAnn Stuart. We will be discussing Eventide, by Kent Haruf.

PATH Seeks Mentor Trainees

Grace's PATH committee is seeking people to train as mentors to the family in transitional housing that Grace sponsors. Bridge Communities is offering mentor training sessions on Saturday, **March 1**, and Sat., **March 15**, 8:45 a.m.-4:00 p.m., at 1st Presbyterian Church in Glen Ellyn. Please register online at www.bridgecommunities.org and let Pastor Lisa know that you have done so. You will be paired with current mentors on our PATH committee to build a relationship with our current client.

Grace Hosts NIC-UMC Day of Adult and Children's Workshops

On Saturday, **March 1**, 9:00a.m.-3:00p.m., Grace will host "Planting a Passion for God in the Lives We Touch," a day of workshops for adults—and one for children, too—sponsored by the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church. The children's (grades 1-4) day-long workshop features lunch, children's activities, discussion time and a play presented by Bridgework Theater of Goshen, IN, that is not only entertaining, but a learning experience, too, showing how to resolve conflicts during a time of life when bullying begins to emerge. **This play will also be performed at Grace on Sunday, March 2, at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall!** Adult workshop choices focus on such topics as reaching and teaching children, safety for older adults, intergenerational Christian service, Cybersafety, developing youth programs, and more. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Arlene Christopherson, and there will also be a presentation about the historical Marcy-Newberry Association. Pre-registration fee is \$15 or \$20 at the door. For registration information, contact Margaret Harrison at 630-355-1748, ext. 241.

Career Transition Workshop Begins March 1

Grace's Fellowship of Christian Men is sponsoring another eight-week Career Transition Workshop on Saturdays **March 1-April 19**, 8:00-10:00 a.m., at Grace. CTW offers practical, useful information integrated with Scriptural insight for job seekers and career decision makers of all ages, even those just entering the job market! Led by career consultant Dr. Robert Parker, CTW uses a tested curriculum developed by professional career consultant and executive coach Dave Cox. Registration brochures are in the church office or Activity Center. Contact Dr. Parker at 630-717-6050 or rparker@enablingsi.com.

UMW Lenten Bible Study

You are welcome to join United Methodist Women's ongoing Lenten Bible Study, "God's Mission/God's Song." Our next study is Tuesday, **March 4**, 9:15 a.m., with our General Meeting and Luncheon to follow. The following week, **March 11**, we will meet at 9:30 a.m. for the study only. Contact Lillian Volz at 815-609-2567 for more information; reserve childcare with Margaret Harrison (630-355-1748).

Penn State Glee Club Coming to Grace!

The renowned Penn State Men's Glee Club is on tour in its 119th season and will be at Grace UMC on Sunday, **March 9**, singing in our 9:30 and 11:00 services. Don't miss this very special treat!

Over 50 Fellowship Taps Into Fun!

Grace's Over 50 Fellowship will lunch again on Thursday, **March 13**, 12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our program features Irish Dancers! Cost is \$5, payable at the door. Please RSVP in the church office by noon on March 11.

Annual Hamball Luncheon April 11!

Grace United Methodist Women present their famous Hamball Buffet Luncheon again on Friday, **April 11**, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Luncheon features delicious hamballs (of course), German potato salad, cold salad assortment, variety of pies, rolls and beverage. Tickets are \$8.50; call the church office at 630-355-1748 for tickets. Table reservations can be made for five or more. Luncheon is open to the public.



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

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Under the Acacia Tree

**A night for families to celebrate and enjoy
 African cuisine, music, singing, stories and more!**

Sat., April 19, 6pm

At Grace United Methodist Church

*A special offering will be taken in support of the building
 of water wells in Darfur and to bring hope and healing
 through Methodist missions in Kenya*

Youth Happenin's

*Permission slips/information for all youth events can be found
 in the white shelves outside the Youth Office*

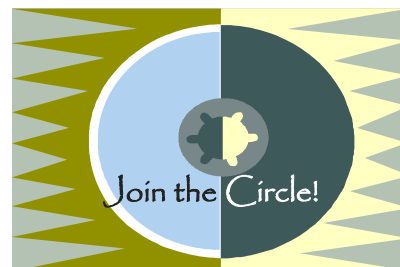
All Youth Fun Night! Friday, **February 22**, join us in Room 234 from 7-10pm for FUN! (Wii, foosball, ping pong, board games...please bring a snack to share; beverages provided).

Let's See Newsboys! YF is taking a road trip **February 24** to see Newsboys at North Central College! Join us—let's rock!

Summer Mission Trips There are two! One is our Side-by-Side format (8th grade up through adults), and the other is a junior high trip (must be 12 by the end of July). Stay tuned!

"Cuisine for a Cause" Naperville CARES needs youth servers at its annual hunger fundraiser on **April 26**. Contact Amy Williams at 630-369-0713 if you can help.

Farewell, Mrs. J! You are dancing with Jesus!



**Otherwise,
 it's just
 square.**

*Join us Saturday evenings,
 5:30 pm, in the Activity
 Center for an informal,
 intimate circle of worship*