



GraceNet

Knoxville, TN

October 2014

Beyond Our Walls

We have a vision at Grace to connect people to Jesus Christ and help them grow as committed disciples. But this is not confined to our church campus – to our assembly of believers. We want to see people become followers of Jesus Christ both near and far even if they will have no close connection with Grace.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Loudon was our first foray into helping another church take root. Some of the very best members of Grace lived in Tellico Village. Many of them were leaders at Grace and all of them were very active in the mission of our church. It was with mixed emotions that we encouraged them to help form this new church as many of them were already eager to do. Boy did we miss them! Still what joy it was to see this church explode with growth under the pastorate of Jim Kirk. Today they have a beautiful facility and a vibrant ministry led by two pastors: Brian Truog and Mark Rhoads.

The Point of Knoxville was our next adventure in reaching out beyond our walls. We were incredibly blessed from the outset when the choice was made by our District to send Pastor Matt Peeples to plant this church. Again we sent good people and raised money and marveled that after a year from its launch on August 22, 2010 it became the fast growing church in our Mid-South District.

Under Pastor Matt's dynamic leadership the church continues to grow. Once again we are simultaneously sad and joyful to see wonderful members leave Grace to find a home and service at The Point. We know this was God's plan and we rejoice at how many newcomers The Point has reached.

During this time we partnered with Pastor Mark Eisold and the grand plan to plant several churches in and around Lima, Peru. Many mission trips to Peru have endeared our congregation to that country and to this exciting endeavor. Layman Dave Larson is Director of Missions and leads our church as we coordinate what we can do to help. There has been slow and steady progress and great potential as Peruvians are equipped and trained to lead these churches.

Presently we are assisting BridgeCity Church plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee as they attempt to form a bi-racial congregation with an emphasis on reaching African Americans. Tireless worker, Pastor Josh Woodrow spearheads this church planting effort. Unfortunately, we are only helping by giving money. We will be thinking of other ways to assist this fledgling church.

Who knows what the future holds. But Grace will never be a naval gazing congregation or be content to let it be all about ourselves. It is my prayer that God's Kingdom would grow everywhere and that we may share a role in its spread.

~ Pastor Rich

Go
THEREFORE AND MAKE
DISCIPLES OF ALL
nations...

MATTHEW 28:19, NRSV



What is the LWML?

Sunday, October 5, is LWML Sunday and some of you may be wondering “What is the LWML?”. The LWML is The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League. It is the official women’s auxiliary of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. The LWML was founded in 1942 at the National level. However, the LWML was active at local levels since the 1850’s. It wasn’t until the 1920’s that members of congregational societies began to coordinate by uniting at state and regional leagues. The Grace society was founded at the establishment of Grace Lutheran Church.

Grace LWML is a member of the East Tennessee Zone and the Mid-South District. There are several members of Grace LWML that hold a position for the Zone or District. For the East Tennessee Zone Sandra Arnold, Vice President; Lois Robinson, Treasurer; and Sandie Harjala, Chair of Structure Committee. Nancy Duthey is on the Nominating Committee for the Mid-South District.

Every woman who is a member of Grace Lutheran Church is considered a member of the Grace LWML. In order to hold a position on the Board or a delegate to Zone or District meetings, you must have paid a contribution. This contribution helps support the zone and district LWML. The Grace LWML Board consists of President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.

Grace LWML provides several services to Grace Lutheran. Some of these services include hosting the annual Parade of Tables, providing meals or refreshments after memorial services, providing refreshments after installation services, and hosting the Confirmation Dinner for confirmands and their families.

Our mission statement is “The mission of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.”

If you would like to know more about us, come join us for a brunch meeting or ask one of the Board members. The schedule of our meetings is on the LWML Bulletin Board.

~ Sandra Arnold, President, Grace LWML

Our Grace Family

Meet Marlene Landon

Marlene Theilen Landon was born in Springfield, Illinois and is married to Jerry Landon. Her handwriting gives us a clue to the love and devotion she exudes as Katie and Brad, Brad and Angela, and Sam appear in her biography. But nobody understands her as well as her dog, Meadow! Marlene once was employed as a personal shopper/trainer at Talbot’s, which explains her sense of style and taste. Her hobbies include sewing, knitting, crocheting, and travel, and you can rest assured, she will order Key Lime Pie or roast beef if they are listed on the menu as she visits “far away places.” Marlene feels that her first brain/spine surgery certainly changed her life, but it is certain they did not alter her positive and spiritual outlook in life. A very rare talent? She is able to create patterns for clothes just from seeing the actual design in a picture. How far would that ability take her no one truly knows, but it is most marketable! Like the author of “Eat, Pray and Love,” Marlene would love to live in Italy for a year, savoring all the culture and fantastic environment there. Marlene strives to use each day as a chance for new challenges if they arrive. We may learn a good deal from her!



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Articles for GraceNet are due by the 1st of each month for the following month’s edition.

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If you have a special event you would like to have publicized in GraceNet, please submit the information to

Debbie Booher by the 1st of each month for publication in the following month’s newsletter.

The Psalms in The Reformation

We always hear about Romans 1:17 as the verse key to the discovery of the Gospel during the Reformation begun in 1517: “*The righteous shall live by faith.*” There is another verse that was at least as important; but, we have probably never heard it mentioned in connection with the Reformation. It is Psalm 71:2: “*In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me, and save me!*”

Martin Luther had been taught that God is righteous and righteousness is what we must do to appease God. But, Psalm 71:2 says God saves me by His righteousness. When Luther came to understand the righteousness of God as coming from God to us because of Jesus, rather than righteous things we attempt in order to please God, he called it his tower experience. (Luther's study was in a corner tower built into the cloister in Wittenberg, which was later given to him for his family's dwelling. Luther's house still exists, but, the corner tower was removed during a remodel many years ago.)

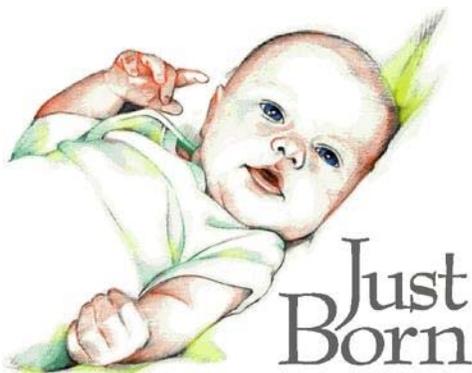
People of Luther's day believed the Psalms were about Christ. Jesus prayed them. Look at the accounts of the crucifixion. Again and again, Jesus and the four evangelists quote the Psalms to show what was happening to Jesus was predicted beforehand. For example, “*For my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.*” (Psalm 69:21), “*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?*” (Psalm 22:1), “*Into your hand I commit my spirit.*” (Psalm 31:5), and “*He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken.*” (Psalm 34:20)

Someone said the Psalms would never have come to us through Greeks or Romans. In those cultures the gods were aloof from the world, although they might come down and visit briefly, only to leave again. Even then, they never really got involved with people. But, in the Psalms God shares the pain of His people and suffers with them. “*As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.*” (Psalms 103:13)

Martin Luther was a professor at Wittenberg University in 1517 when he nailed the 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church. In 1513 he had begun to lecture on the Psalms. He had memorized all 150 Psalms in Latin years earlier. For Luther Psalm 110 taught the doctrine of the Trinity.* Luther said everything he taught can be found in Psalms 32 and 51.

~ Rev. Phil Bohlken

*“The LORD said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool.'” The use of LORD in translations where God's name, Yahweh, appears in the text goes back to a Jewish attempt to avoid misusing God's name by saying, “LORD” whenever the text says, “Yahweh.” “Lord” (three lower case letters) comes from the Hebrew word for “Lord.” In Psalm 110 Yahweh is speaking of David's Lord, or Jesus. So, it means, “Yahweh said to Jesus...” In that we see two persons of the Trinity.



Jack Karl Bushuiakovish

*Proud Parents:
Pastor Mark and Betsy
Bushuiakovish*

What's New in the Library for Fall

New On DVD

Recently added to the library's collection is a series of movies about Old Testament patriarchs and leaders from a series entitled The Bible Collection. These movies were produced by Warner Home Entertainment and star such Hollywood actors/actresses as Richard Harris, Barbara Hershey, Matthew Modine, Ben Kingsley, Martin Landau, Lesley Ann Warren, Dennis Hopper and Diana Rigg. Included in the series are Abraham (DVD Fic Bib), Jacob (DVD Fic Bib), Joseph (DVD Fic Bib), Moses (DVD Fic Bib), and Samson and Delilah (DVD Fic Bib).

Based on the best-selling story of Colton Burpo's journey to heaven during his near-death experience is Heaven Is For Real (B-R/DVD Fic Hea). This incredible story is available on Blu-Ray/DVD.

For children is Adventures in Boogbooga Land—The Booga Bolta: The Parable of the Lost Sheep (DVD J Adv). With forgiveness and repentance as the theme, the four episodes on this disc follow the story-lines of the biblical parables of "The Lost Sheep", "The Unmerciful Servant", "The Prodigal Son," and "The Pharisee and the Tax Collector."

New Non-Fiction

Killing Jesus: A History by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard (232.92 O'Re): These authors collaborate to present the historical background to the Roman oppressions on the Jews prior to and during Jesus's life on earth. Gain insight into the brutality, disdain and political climate that existed in Jerusalem at the time when Jesus was crucified.

A Simple Way to Pray by Martin Luther 248.3 Lut): When Luther's barber, Peter Beskendorf, asked him how he should pray, Luther responded by writing this brief treatise, beautifully translated by Rev. Matthew C. Harrison, president of the LCMS.

New Fiction

Lord Foulgrin's Letters by Randy Alcorn (Fic Alc): Touted by James Kennedy as the most unusual and important inquiry into the demon world since C.S. Lewis's The Screwtape Letters (Fic Lew), Alcorn drives home the point that we are truly living in the midst of spiritual warfare. These letters will send their reader to the only place for answers—the study of God's word.

The Healing Quilt by Wanda E. Brunstetter (Fic Bru), book 3 in the Half-Stitched Amish Quilting Club series. Emma and Lamar Yoder Miller move to Sarasota, Florida, where they have purchased a home and soon begin offering quilting classes. Wounded and hurting people find their way to Emma's class where their hurts find ways to heal.

The Amish Blacksmith

by Mindy Starns Clark and Susan Meissner (Fic Cla): book 2 in The Men of Lancaster County series. Priscilla Kinsinger returns to Lancaster County as an adult years after her mother's tragic death, an accident for which she has carried the blame since she was a teenager. Jake Miller, the apprentice blacksmith, finds himself drawn to her hoping to "fix" her just like he fixes troubled horses.

The Daughters of Caleb Bender series by Dale Cramer (Fic Cra): This series has been donated to our Amish collection. The Bender family must leave their home in Ohio to seek asylum in the wilds of Mexico. Truly strangers in a strange land amid people who speak an unknown language puts them in danger and significantly tests their faith. Titles are Paradise Valley, The Captive Heart, and Though Mountains Fall. These stories were inspired by actual events. A special thank you to Carol Voorhees and Jan Wuornos for their donations.

Nowhere to Turn by Lynette Eason (Fic Eas): book 2 in the Hidden Identity series. Dani Harding finally leaves her abusive husband, but he is found dead the same day. She believes she is finally free, but is seriously mistaken. He took something of value from someone who wants it back and thinks that Dani has it. So she and her son are on the run.

The Lad and the Officer by Mary Ellis (Fic Ell): Book 2 in the Civil War Heroines series. Madeline Howard, a nurse during the Civil War, finds herself caught between Confederate Col. Elliott Haywood and General James Downing, a Union Army commander. When she overhears a plan for a Confederate attack on Union forces, she must decide whether to betray the trust of her Southern family or save the life of her beloved James.

Heaven Sent Rain by Lauraine Snelling (Fic Sne): Dinah Taylor's luxurious and ordered life is turned upside-down by a 7-year-old boy named Jonah and his scruffy dog. When Jonah's dog is badly injured and she comes to his aid, her life is further complicated by Garret, the vet who tends to the dog.

Find these and other items new to the library on display on the cart throughout the month. Check them out and enjoy.

~ Mary Schultz



From Pastor Justin: This is Part 1 of an article written by John Blake, CNN, and published on August 27, 2010. The article will conclude with Part 2 in next month's GraceNet.

More Teens Becoming "Fake" Christians

(CNN) -- If you're the parent of a Christian teenager, Kenda Creasy Dean has this warning:

Your child is following a "mutant" form of Christianity, and you may be responsible.

Dean says more American teenagers are embracing what she calls "moralistic therapeutic deism." Translation: It's a watered-down faith that portrays God as a "divine therapist" whose chief goal is to boost people's self-esteem.

Dean is a minister, a professor at Princeton Theological Seminary and the author of "Almost Christian," a new book that argues that many parents and pastors are unwittingly passing on this self-serving strain of Christianity.

She says this "imposter" faith is one reason teenagers abandon churches.

"If this is the God they're seeing in church, they are right to leave us in the dust," Dean says. "Churches don't give them enough to be passionate about."

What traits passionate teens share

Dean drew her conclusions from what she calls one of the most depressing summers of her life. She interviewed teens about their faith after helping conduct research for a controversial study called the National Study of Youth and Religion.

They have a lot to say. They can talk about money, sex and their family relationships with nuance. --Kenda Creasy Dean, author

The study, which included in-depth interviews with at least 3,300 American teenagers between 13 and 17, found that most American teens who called themselves Christian were indifferent and inarticulate about their faith.

The study included Christians of all stripes -- from Catholics to Protestants of both conservative and liberal denominations. Though three out of four American teenagers claim to be Christian, fewer than half practice their faith, only half deem it important, and most can't talk coherently about their beliefs, the study found.

Many teenagers thought that God simply wanted them to feel good and do good -- what the study's researchers called "moralistic therapeutic deism."

Some critics told Dean that most teenagers can't talk coherently about any deep subject, but Dean says abundant research shows that's not true.

"They have a lot to say," Dean says. "They can talk about money, sex and their family relationships with nuance. Most people who work with teenagers know that they are not naturally inarticulate."

In "[Almost Christian](#)," Dean talks to the teens who are articulate about their faith. Most come from Mormon and evangelical churches, which tend to do a better job of instilling religious passion in teens, she says.

No matter their background, Dean says committed Christian teens share four traits: They have a personal story about God they can share, a deep connection to a faith community, a sense of purpose and a sense of hope about their future.

"There are countless studies that show that religious teenagers do better in school, have better relationships with their parents and engage in less high-risk behavior," she says. "They do a lot of things that parents pray for."

Dean, a United Methodist Church minister who says parents are the most important influence on their children's faith, places the ultimate blame for teens' religious apathy on adults.

Some adults don't expect much from youth pastors. They simply want them to keep their children off drugs and away from premarital sex.

Others practice a "gospel of niceness," where faith is simply doing good and not ruffling feathers. The Christian call to take risks, witness and sacrifice for others is muted, she says.

"If teenagers lack an articulate faith, it may be because the faith we show them is too spineless to merit much in the way of conversation," wrote Dean, a professor of youth and church culture at Princeton Theological Seminary.

More teens may be drifting away from conventional Christianity. But their desire to help others has not diminished, another author says.

Barbara A. Lewis, author of "The Teen Guide to Global Action," says Dean is right -- more teens are embracing a nebulous belief in God.

Yet there's been an "explosion" in youth service since 1995 that Lewis attributes to more schools emphasizing community service.

“Fake Christians” (Continued)

Teens that are less religious aren't automatically less compassionate, she says.

"I see an increase in youth passion to make the world a better place," she says. "I see young people reaching out to solve problems. They're not waiting for adults."

What religious teens say about their peers

We think that they want cake, but they actually want steak and potatoes, and we keep giving them cake.
--Elizabeth Corrie, Emory University professor

Elizabeth Corrie meets some of these idealistic teens every summer. She has taken on the book's central challenge: instilling religious passion in teens.

Corrie, who once taught high school religion, now directs a program called [YTI](#) -- the Youth Theological Initiative at Emory University in Georgia.

YTI operates like a theological boot camp for teens. At least 36 rising high school juniors and seniors from across the country gather for three weeks of Christian training. They

worship together, take pilgrimages to varying religious communities and participate in community projects.

Corrie says she sees no shortage of teenagers who want to be inspired and make the world better. But the Christianity some are taught doesn't inspire them "to change anything that's broken in the world."

Teens want to be challenged; they want their tough questions taken on, she says.

"We think that they want cake, but they actually want steak and potatoes, and we keep giving them cake," Corrie says.

David Wheaton, an Atlanta high school senior, says many of his peers aren't excited about Christianity because they don't see the payoff.

"If they can't see benefits immediately, they stay away from it," Wheaton says. "They don't want to make sacrifices."

(To be continued in the November GraceNet .

Healthline is a 30-minute Medical Education television show hosted by Grace's very own Sheila Wittke

AIR TIME: Sunday afternoons at 6:30 p.m.

STATIONS:

CTV COMCAST Cable Channel 12 (Knoxville)

CTV CHARTER + WOW Channel 6 (Farragut)

AT&T U-Verse Channel 99



OCTOBER 2014 SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND GUESTS

October 5 - Preventive Measures for Breast Cancer - Dr. John L. Bell

October 12 - Laparoscopic Colon Resection - Dr. Kristopher B. Williams

October 19 - Plantar Fasciitis of the Foot - Dr. Christine Seaworth

October 26 - Renal Denervation to Reduce High Blood Pressure - Dr. Joshua Todd

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. All women are encouraged to watch **Healthline** on October 5 for the program with Dr. Bell.



REFORMATION Sunday

October 26, 2014

Sola Gratia

Grace Alone

Sola Fide

Faith Alone

Sola Scriptura

Scripture Alone

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Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. (Traditional) and
9:30 a.m. (Blended)/11:00 a.m. (Contemporary)
Wednesday Worship: 6:30 p.m. (Blended)
Sunday School & Bible Classes @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:

