

GOOD NEWS FROM GRACE

April 30 & May 1, 2016

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday – 5:00 pm **Sunday** - 8:30 & 10:45 am

OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY go out to the family of Tanya Overhaug who died April 22. Tanya was the wife of Rick Overhaug, and sister-in-law of Al Overhaug. May they be comforted with the hope of eternal life. The Overhaug family is thankful for all the prayers for Tanya.

WELCOME PASTOR NANCY RICHMOND

Pastor Nancy Richmond will be presiding at the Sunday services this Sunday, May 1 and next Sunday 8. Pastor Cannady will preside at the Saturday service.

THANK YOU—The Wilderness Group of Cameron Olson, Sam vonSchrader, James Zastrow, Jackie Wick, Kaylie Svacina, Abby Norman and Whitney Osero and their families would like to thank all who attended the Mother Daughter Banquet last weekend. It was a great success and a wonderful night of fellowship. A special thank you to those who shared their wedding dresses and stories for the fashion show. Dawn Baus from Scarlett Garden donated the centerpieces and Storm from Great Lakes Foods gave us great prices to keep the meal at a reasonable cost. Please thank them when you frequent their businesses!

AUGSBURG CHOIR CONCERT COMING – May 7 - NEED HOST FAMILIES

The Augsburg Choir will be coming to Grace Lutheran on May 7/8. Hannah Schmit, member of Grace, and daughter of Dave & Cathy Schmit is a member of the choir. There will be a concert on Saturday, May 7 at 7:00 pm and the choir will participate in both worship services on May 8. **Host families are needed to house students/members of the choir.** Students must be housed in groups of two or more. Host families will need to provide: transportation to and from the concert, and breakfast the morning following the concert. Sign-up sheets are in the Gathering Area. You may also call the office at (715) 453-4066 if you would like to volunteer to host two more students.

PASTOR MARK'S SABBATICAL BLOG – www.gracelutherantomahawk.org

Pastor Mark is on sabbatical from April 16-May14. His focus is "Faith Formation in the 21st Century". See his pictures, stories, books he reading, and seminars he is attending. This is an interactive blog and sabbatical. Your thoughts, comments, and involvement are desired. We live in a time of much upheaval, fear, change, and uncertainty. The summaries, links, and thoughts on this ***Sabbatical Blog*** will connect you with people, places and experiences in which Pastor Mark is discovering deep faith, rich community, and great witness and service. Please view the page "**Galatians – 2016 summer study**" as an immediate way to form deep faith and rich community.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

This year's **National Day of Prayer** is Thursday, May 5. Grace will be participating with other congregations in the Tomahawk area in leading several different events on that day. Please consider participating in one or more of the following activities:

- National Day of Prayer **kick-off** on the lawn of the City Hall at 9:30 a.m. Those gathered will pray for our community in general, including residents, visitors, businesses, and government. From there, individual congregations will be on site at various locations for more specific prayers for the businesses and residents.
- Grace's National Day of Prayer **focus area** is the North 4th Street area. We will gather at Veterans Memorial Park at 11:00 a.m. and proceed from there across the bridge as far as Mohawk Drive as we bless the area. Depending on the weather and the wishes of the participants, we may walk or drive.
- Community-wide **National Day of Prayer Worship** will take place beginning at 6:30pm in the cafeteria at the High School. Participating congregations will help lead this prayer based worship. Our time together will include inspirational videos, praise songs led by the Vineyard worship team, large group prayers, small group prayers, and time for individual prayers. This will be a cross-generational event and **all people** are encouraged to attend.

What an honor and privilege to be able to join with our fellow Christians in the Tomahawk area in prayer. Never doubt the power of prayer! Please join us! This is a specific way that the people of Grace can put into action our ELCA's tagline of "God's work. Our hands." For this day, our hand will be folded in prayer! Please contact Wendy Black for specific questions, or to volunteer to be part of our leadership team.

CUSTODIAN JOB POSTING—Grace is seeking a custodian to work approximately **16 hours per week** at the rate of \$10 per hour. You can pick up an application and job description at the church office or download them from the church web site. Deadline to apply is May 13.

HELP WITH CUSTODIAL WORK—Our current custodian Darlene Anderson had to give up her position for health reasons. Please consider helping with custodial tasks until a replacement can be found. Willing volunteers may contact Brian Schmidt at (715) 612-3838 or email him at nokomisschmidt@gmail.com.

LAST SUMMER'S ACTS BIBLE STUDY GROUPS - Please let us know who you are! We are making plans for a new Bible study this summer, but we want to expand the fun! Sign-up on the sheet in the Gathering Space and include everyone who was in your group. **PLUS** if you weren't part of a group, but would like to join one this year, please add your name to the "new" column. Or you may call the church office. We will be sharing more information with everyone soon. Thanks!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION – MAY 15

Come, join in the fun as we wrap up the 2015-2016 Sunday School year, all are invited to attend our “Year in Review” celebration during the Sunday School hour. There will be children for activities, snacks, and prize drawings to celebrate yet another year of growing and living in the Word.

RUTH CIRCLE is again assembling Fabric Kits for Lutheran World Relief. This year the requirements are: three yard pieces of cotton fabric or cotton blend fabric, and 250-300 yards of matching thread. Your contributions would be greatly appreciated. Please leave them in the labeled box outside the office door.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME—Grace Lutheran formally welcomes new members twice a year. Our next new member welcome will be in May. Our Welcome Dinner will be May 1st. Are you interested in becoming a member or learning more about Grace? Do you have questions about what joining? Pastor Mark or Pastoral Assistant Wendy Black will happy to meet with you/your family one on one at your home or at church. Please call the church office, (715) 453-4066.

HOST FAMILIES FOR THS GERMAN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Our Tomahawk High School German Partnership Program is looking for two open, friendly families to host students from our partner school in Ladenburg, Germany for the 2016/17 school year. The two boys from Carl-Benz Gymnasium come with high recommendations from their English teacher, and they are hopeful to get the opportunity to come to Tomahawk for a year and experience life in an American family and at an American High School. Hosting a student for a year is an incredible opportunity to learn about another culture and to build life long bonds. You need not have children in high school or in German to host. If you are interested in further information please contact Tomahawk High School’s GAPP Coordinator and German teacher, Allison Shantz at shantza@myhatchets.org or at (715)453-2106 ex- 280.

APRIL SPECIAL OFFERING – 2016 LEKUBU VISIT

Just 100 days to go! See the special insert on how you can help during this visit.

In approximately 100 days, 13 of our friends from Lekubu Parish in South Africa will be arriving in Tomahawk. They will be part of a larger group of 56 who will be spending **June 26-July 10 (note this date change)** in congregations thru out the Wisconsin River Valley Conference. The South Africans, despite their challenging economic situation, will pay for their own travel from the villages to Johannesburg and their round trip flight to the United States and back. They will also pay for their personal purchases while they are here. As a host congregation we are responsible for their travel and orientation days while they are in the United States. We are also responsible for purchasing group health care insurance thru the ELCA. These expenses are divided according to the number of guests we will be receiving. For 13 guests we can estimate these costs to be about \$3,000. Such expenses are not included in our yearly church budget.

We ask you to prayerfully consider our relationship with Lekubu and the fact that this is a congregation to congregation exchange so we are all involved as members of Grace. The special offering in April has been designated to help offset these expenses. Please contribute as you are able. Thank You.

The South African Visit planning committee.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER— God’s grace provides the basis for all Christian stewardship. The grace given to us from our heavenly Father Who freely sent His Son should be our motivation to respond with an “*abundance of joy*” and “*in a wealth of generosity*” (2 Corinthians 8:1-2). It wasn’t an overabundance of money or possessions that caused the Macedonians to give so sacrificially. No, it was God’s grace that led them to beg earnestly to be allowed to contribute to the church in Jerusalem (2 Corinthians 8:1-2).

Our Financial Picture 2016	Needed for Monthly Budget	March 2016 Receipts
General Fund	30,858.21	31,613.01
Building Fund	5,977.89	4,518.00
Total	36,836.10	36,131.01

Weekly Financial News
General Fund: \$3,468.74
Noisy Collection: \$39.42
Attendance: 252

Year – To - Date	Needed for Monthly Budget	2016
General Fund	92,574.62	84,623.85
Building Fund	17,933.67	15,011.35
Total	110,508.29	99,635.20

For more information or details on the Financial Report, please contact Sherry Clements, Financial Reporter.

DIRECTORIES—If you had a portrait taken or submitted one for the Directory you are entitled to a free directory. We have a quite a few that have never been picked up. If you did not receive your directory, please look for your copy in Copier Room. They will be available for pick up until May 15. If they are not picked by then we will assume you do not need your copy

AMAZING TREASURES - Jewelry / Tackle Collection/Sale – Continues this weekend!

The congregational and wilderness groups have teamed up and will be doing a fun, new fundraiser this year which will help offset the cost of the bus to Montana in July. Come and shop all the treasures following worship services, this weekend, April 30-May 1, and will continue through May 8. Come and see what we have at incredibly low prices. There are sure to be some amazing treasures for everyone! Thanks for your support! **BEN'S BLOOMERS/CERNY'S GIFT CARDS** will be available after 5:00 pm service on Saturday and between services on Sunday. During the week you can purchase them in the church office. This fundraiser will benefit the youth, parents, and chaperones taking part in the Wilderness Trip in July.

SILENT QUILT AUCTION

The 90" x 96" quilt in the Gathering Space has been "finished" by the Tuesday morning quilters. The material was donated by the family of Doris Collins. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of an automatic door opener at Grace Lutheran. Please write your bid on the sheet provided. Bidding will close on May 15.

RIDE TO CHURCH—A resident of Milestone Senior Housing is looking for a ride to church (Grace) on either Saturday or Sunday. This resident is ambulatory and does not use a wheel chair. If you can help, please call Julie Thompson at (715) 224-3747.

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