

Voice of Grace

We are called to proclaim the Word and celebrate the sacraments. We gather in Christian community for nurture and support. We are sent out in service to others.

A Monthly Newsletter

May 2011

Spring Colors Finally Make an Appearance



THE SIGNATURE OF SPRING

by Loise Pinkerton Fritz

As I stand by my window and breath the fresh air,
I notice spring's signature penned everywhere:
The snow's disappearing beneath greening grass,
While buds and green sprouts are emerging at last.
New plumage embellishes birds on the wing,
And a fresh note of joy sparks each song that they sing.

An early spring shower pours droplets of white,
As a wintering cloud slowly makes its last flight.
In wakening woods I can hear peepers sing;
Redundant their song, yet as new as each spring.
As I stand by my window and breath God's fresh air,
I rejoice in spring's signature penned everywhere.

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.



Adult Forum & Sunday School 9:15 a.m.



Palm Sunday Community Procession

Grace Lutheran Supports Food Bank

Floyd Thompson, fellowship chairman, announced that food donations are regularly needed for the hungry in Port Townsend and the surrounding area. Although Grace Lutheran has been very generous in donating food supplies to the food bank, the success of the program depends on regular donations. To help achieve the goal of regular donations, grocery bags are available that will help members bring in their food donations. Each bag is marked with a special Grace Lutheran logo. Empty bags are located in the front of the narthex. Take a bag or two home, fill them and bring them back to church. Then take another bag or two. This system will make it easier to get your donations to those in need. GLC



Council Highlights *by Linda Cooley*

The council discussed a letter from the City of Port Townsend regarding city owned property adjacent to the church land. It was decided that a letter would be sent to the city council expressing our interest in the process. The membership will monitor the proceedings without comment at this time.

The council approved the recommendation of the nominating committee to not fill the positions of Minister of Evangelism, Minister of Education and Youth and the Youth Representative, thus reducing the size of the council temporarily. The duties for these positions will be performed by volunteers throughout the congregation but will not be a part of the church council.

The council decided that the Gideons will not be invited to make a presentation at Grace.

The semi-annual congregational meeting will be June 26, 2011.

Funds were received for two memorials presided over by Pastor Coe for non-church members. A portion of the funds will be used for reimbursement of the cost of printing the bulletins, and the balance will go into the Pastor's Emergency Fund. GLC

*"To be a Christian means to forgive
the inexcusable because God has forgiven
the inexcusable in you."
- C. S. Lewis*

News from Uganda

by Kenneth Kasule

(Editor's note: Kenneth Kasule shared news about the progress of the HIV Aids orphans being helped by the Grace Lutheran congregation. The project provides tuition and other vital expenses to young men and women who have no other way to secure an education and gain a better life. To help Kenneth communicate with us, we mailed a digital camera so that he would be able to take photos that would reproduce well in the Voice of Grace. The following photos are the first we've received from his new camera.)

I am glad to report that Namyalo Sharifah and her friend Vivian Nanfuka are now enrolled in their new school, St. Joseph of Nazareth. You can see them in their new setting. "Namyalo



Namyalo Sharifah and Vivian Nanfuka

is very happy with her new school and for sure this is a good school. She is now with her friend Vivien in the same school; these two are my big lions. I visited them two weeks ago because I did not manage to attend their official visiting day. This time I visited, I was taken to meet with her class teacher, a



St. Joseph of Nazareth campus

woman who is very happy with Sharifah. They recommended her behaviors as very good and she surprised every one academically and has already attracted the attention of every one in her class including her teachers. When they saw a little girl coming from a deep village school, and when they looked at her senior four result slip (she passed in a 1st division), they perhaps thought someone else may have written exams for her, but they have experienced her already in the mid-term examinations when she became the number one on her entire class score card." GLC

Voice of Grace: World Tour



David and Linda Gaenicke, have returned from their five-week tour of Greece and Germany. While in Greece they enjoyed touring the ruins, soaking up history and experiencing the people and food. In Germany they reconnected with old friends and spoke nothing but German.

You will note that in the photo, David is holding a copy of the *Voice of Grace*. David is the first this year to have his picture taken, while on vacation, with his copy of our church newsletter. This article is a call to restart the World Tour concept of the *Voice of Grace*. When you travel on vacation, take a copy of the newsletter with you and have your photo taken with an identifiable scene in the background. Your photo will appear in the next issue, giving us all a look at how far our *Voice of Grace* has been able to travel as well as where it has been. Look to future issues for the travels of the *Voice of Grace*. GLC

Concert and Plant Sale Benefit Scheduled

by Lisa Lanza

Please mark you calendars for our annual Memorial Weekend Concert and Plant Sale to benefit the Uganda AIDS orphans. The concert will be on Sunday, May 29, 4:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church. The Plant Sale will be on Saturday, June 4, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the home of Mark and Sharon Dembro, 393 Blossom Lane, Port Townsend.

This year's concert brings some new talent as well as familiar faces to the stage, featuring more students and young



Madelyn Kowalski and Lisa Lanza accepting accolades following a recent performance.

adults, all offering a high level of musicianship and enthusiasm. Our featured student performers ranging from middle school through college are cellist Madelyn Kowalski playing Boccherini's Cello Concerto in B flat, regional state solo 1st place finalist violinist Rinnah Becker, Port Angeles Orchestra Concerto winner violinist Mariana Gittens with pianist Beatus Meier playing selected movements from the Franck Sonata for

Violin and Piano, and soprano Anne Marie Gibson (voice major at WSU). There will be a few musicians whom you will recognize, as they have played special music for our worship services: William Fitzhugh playing Ravel and flautist Erica Lewis. Also, we are honored to have the Port Townsend Men's Ensemble offering some light hearted songs you will remember

Reserve The Date

Concert: Sunday, May 29, 4:00 p.m.
Plant Sale: Saturday, June 4, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

from Al Jolson to the present.

This late afternoon concert promises to bring joy and "heart health" to all as we support our dear friends in Uganda. For more info contact our pianist Lisa Lanza at 301-2400 or llanza@olyopen.com. We hope to see you at either or both events!

New Members: Teresa & Claus Janssen

by Sue Peterson

Teresa grew up in Seattle and Claus in Sandusky, Ohio. They met over dinner in a youth hostel after Claus missed a ferry boat. Since 1979, they have missed many boats and always try to find the positive side of the situation. Teresa is a teacher and Claus a physician. They spent their first year of marriage working in a refugee camp in the Philippines. Since



that time they have increased their family size with four children: Stina, age 23, Nico, 20, Lukas, 18 and Britta, 16. In 1993 they moved from Portland where Claus had done his medical training. Port Townsend offered a few of the things for which they were looking: One, it had a hospital! Two, it was close to Teresa's family on the Olympic Peninsula *without* the necessity of riding a ferry! They love to hike and boat which this area offers. Their favorite hiking is in the Olympics – the High Divide Loop and Mt. Townsend. They still have the canoe which was their first joint purchase and *use* it. They also enjoy backyard volleyball and traveling. Teresa commented that their most memorable travel was the year they moved the family to Ecuador to do volunteer work. "Nothing turned out as planned," she said, "but sometimes that can lead to the best experiences." GLC

Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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Tangled Blue

Coming to Port Townsend

Friday, May 6, 2011

You are cordially invited to share in a family evening concert of Christian music by Tangled Blue. Aimee and Joel Pakan will be touring the Pacific Northwest, and we have invited them to do a concert that would appeal to all churches. Because of the anticipated attendance, Pastor Bill Wolfe of New Life Church in Port Townsend has offered the use of their church for this concert, which is sponsored by Grace Lutheran and New Life Church.

Please join with your brothers and sisters in Christ on Friday, May 6, at New Life Church on Hastings Ave. Potluck appetizers will be served from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., so bring your



favorite appetizer along to share. The concert will start at 7:00 p.m. and last approximately two hours. A thank offering will be taken to help fund their travel expenses.

Okay, so what does Tangled Blue sound like?

It is a unique sound that incorporates Latin and electronic percussion as well as acoustic and electric guitars. This music was created largely in front of audiences, so it is designed to engage the listener. Hearing these troubadours in concert with their infectious melodies is an experience the listener won't soon forget. Tangled Blue performs throughout the U.S. at churches, coffee shops, colleges, youth gatherings and festivals.

If you have any questions, contact Jim Espenson at 385-7551. For a sample of the group's music, visit their Web site: tangledblue.com. GLC

Reminder!
Semi-annual
congregational meeting
Sunday, June 26
following worship



Reserve your seat. The movie starts at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 13. Grace Cinema will be featuring *The Terminal*, starring Tom Hanks. As usual, popcorn and soft drinks will be available.

Come early, get your refreshments and settle down for an evening of fun watching *The Terminal* on the big screen with surround sound.

The setting is the JFK International Airport. The man without a country is Viktor Navorski (Tom Hanks), just arriving in America from the fictional Krakozia, a Balkan country. Unfortunately, as he arrives at customs, he is denied entrance

The Terminal



Directed by:
Stephen Spielberg

Starring:
Tom Hanks
Stanley Tucci
Eddie Jones
Catherine Zeta-Jones



into America. (He cannot leave the airport!) According to Frank Dixon (Stanley Tucci), a customs official, a military coup has bound Krakozia in a vice - nobody can go or leave from that country. This means that Narvoski has no valid passport and can only hang about the lounge and wait for the coup to be lifted - he is persona non grata. Dixon hopes Narvoski will just walk out so that INS can take care of him. The Balkan man, however, speaking only a little English and confused about his situation, returns luggage carts to get quarter refunds, applies for a job with every store, sleeps in a lounge that is closed for renovation, flirts with flight attendant Amelia (Catherine Zeta-Jones), makes friends with a janitor, Gupta (Kumar Pallana), who suspects the Balkan is a spy, and a lovestruck food services carrier (Diego Luna), who hopes Narvoski can help him win the affections of a lovely INS official (Zoe Saldana). The film is very loosely based on a true story.

For additional details, contact Jim Hladecek. GLC



From Our Pastor: *“Matthias Grunewald Resurrection”*

Resurrection – I keep coming back to resurrection this Easter season – and what could be better to come back to. What does Jesus’ resurrection mean for us. The resurrection is dramatic proof of all that Jesus teaches. Jesus predicts his death and resurrection multiple times; then, it all happens just as he predicted. Because this most important fact is true, we can also depend on the rest of what Jesus taught us. The power of resurrection ripples through all we do and say. We believe that our earthly death is not the end of our life. After our death we will be raised by the power of God to new life – resurrection life. That old threat of death making everything meaningless no longer has any power over us. Rather, everything and everyone has meaning, eternal meaning. Resurrection means that we will be reunited with loved ones who have gone before us and will come after us in faith. The pain that we know at the loss of a loved one is temporary and we will be with them again. Resurrection means that a day will come when our sinful nature will be finally and permanently removed and our God-filled spiritual nature will rule our lives. Won’t that be wonderful!

Of course, we don’t know all the details of resurrection, but what we do know is that Jesus was raised from the dead on Easter morning and because of that we too will be raised. We know that this is God’s will for our lives. Finally, most importantly and most wonderfully, we know that if it is God’s will for us it will be good – good indeed.

*God Bless,
 Pastor Coe*



From Our President: *“Begin With The End in Mind Habit 2”*



I would like to share some of my thoughts about the *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, by Stephen R. Covey, and how I like to apply these habits to my spiritual life.

My last article was about being proactive. In this article, I would like to explain the second habit, “Begin with the end in mind.”

Begin with the end in mind is based on the principle that all things are created twice. There’s a mental (first) creation and a physical (second) creation to all things.

Take the construction of a home, for example: You create it in every detail before you ever hammer the first nail into place. You get a very clear idea of what kind of house you want including everything you need to make this the perfect home. Even the most talented architect would have a mental creation of the home prior to the physical creation.

I believe that we can do the same thing with our faith life. Our mental creation would be the desire to have a relationship with Christ. The physical creation would be how we want to live within that relationship and how we can achieve that goal. Then, with our mental and physical creations in place, we can begin to do those things that will bring us closer to Christ in our daily lives.

In my last article I wrote about the “Circle of Influence,” in which we find those things that impact our lives the most. Whatever is at the center of your life will be the source of your security, guidance, wisdom and power. If we are Christ centered, that is where we gain our sense of worth, our identity, and our emotional anchor.

A personal mission statement is a very effective way to begin a spiritual relationship. Following is just a sample of things that could be in a personal mission statement: Determine what the priorities are in your life, seek divine help, listen twice as much as you speak, and decide what you value. The mission statement is usually short and to the point. By reviewing your statement periodically, you can use it as a barometer to see if you are still on track.

According to author Stephen R. Covey, “It doesn’t begin and end with the writing of a personal mission statement. It is, rather, the ongoing process of keeping your vision and values before you and aligning your life to be congruent with those most important things.”

*Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,
 casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you. - 1 Peter 5:6, 7*

Yours in Christ,

James K. Espens



Church Property Issue

The city owns a large piece of property adjacent to the church and the parsonage. The city-owned property is outlined in yellow on the map and is referred to as the Cherry St. property. There is a great need for affordable housing in Jefferson County and the city has been working with many groups to find ways to encourage the construction of additional affordable housing units. The city officials have identified three properties that they are considering declaring surplus to city needs and making available for construction of such housing; one of those properties is the Cherry St. property. The Port Townsend City Council has held public hearings regarding this proposal

but has not made any final determinations as yet. Additional public comment will be taken at a council meeting on May 2 at 6:30 p.m. The city is willing to work with the church and the neighbors to address our needs and interests as long as the city can continue to meet its goals as well. Some of the options that may be considered are sale of a piece of the city property, lot-line adjustments, property swaps among other options. The city manager will be meeting with representatives from the Grace Lutheran Church Council in the near future to discuss alternatives. If you have questions or for more information feel free to call the church office. **GLC**

Church Council

President: Jim Espenson
espenson@cablespeed.com

Vice President: Roberta Bymers

Secretary: Linda Cooley

Ministers:

Resources (Treasurer): Roger Mills

Facilities: Dave Peterson

Worship/Music: David Gaenicke

Stewardship: Mark Dembro

Evangelism: Joan Bender

Education & Youth: Kathy Gibson

Community Concerns & Social Ministry: Bob Threlkeld

Congregational Concerns & Fellowship: Floyd Thompson

Youth Representative: Brian Snelgrove

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Choir Director: June Mills

Sunday School Superintendent: Linda Wolff

Editor, Voice of Grace and Church website:

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