



Grace Notes

Springs of Grace Lutheran Church

An Update on Finances...

I was hoping to avoid having this conversation with you all. As you know, this has been a rough year in terms of finances on an individual basis. The stock market caused a lot of people to lose a lot of money. This changes lifestyles, spending habits, and unfortunately, church giving. Like many other churches in the ELCA, we are now seeing the repercussions of the bad economy.

Let me start off by giving you all an up to date picture of our finances. For 2008, Springs of Grace had a larger budget and more contributions than it ever has. This was accomplished with less members than what the congregation has had in the past. For that, you all deserve credit and thanks. We have been able to do more here at the church because you all have been more generous, and the work we do here has been carried out into the community. As a result, we have seen the congregation get more active, the average worship attendance continues to rise, and we are gaining new members. All of that is a positive, and I cannot stress that enough.

Recently, Ron and John spent many hours here at the church upgrading the software we use for keeping track of the finances. We now have a system in place to make sure that we always have a backup, and that more of our information can be stored digitally. However, the time needed to do this resulted in our quarterly statements not being printed. I understand that John hopes to have the mid-year statements printed and to you soon.

As a result of finally getting all this information together, we have been able to portray a more accurate picture of where our finances are. Our giving for the last few months is as follows:

February: \$6302

March: \$6119+ (5 Sunday Month including Easter. March 29 data not available at time of newsletter printing.)

April: \$6773

May: \$6817 (5 Sunday Month)

June: \$6627

Currently, we are running about \$4300 per month behind. At this rate, the Mission Partner funds that we have will run out in February of 2010. That is only 8 months away. After that, if the congregation chooses, the building funds that we have invested will last another 2 years, until February 2012. Both of these figures assume no change in giving or expenses.

So where does that leave us? Well, we have a lot of work to do. This is a prime time to start evangelizing and bringing in new people. Who is responsible for that? All of us. If you are able to up your yearly pledge, that is a blessing that the church appreciates. For those of you that already give more, thank you. If you have questions, I encourage you to talk openly with Ron and John about the church finances. They will be more than happy to help you out.

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July 1, 2009

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In our Prayers

- Doris and her mom , Mary Netta
- St. John's Lutheran Church
- Joseph
- Irene (Jane's mom)
- Norm and Jane
- The Varner Family
- Michael (In Iraq)
- All our members who are traveling

July 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Confirmation Camp	13	14	15	16	17	18 Santa Land Trip
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Apple Pie Bake Off
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Those Who Serve—Blanks mean that no one was signed up for that task for the day.

Date	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26
Refreshments	Gail Brown Kay Otten	Faulks Family	Lewis Family	Donaldson Family
Ushers				
Greeter	Mary Schaeffer	Bobby Torrence	Gail Brown	Evelyn Swain
Communion Assistant	Gere Ablett	Bob Faulks	Bob Faulks	Kay Otten
Counters	John Fancher	Evelyn Swain	Gail Hackett	Diane Ablett
Altar Guild	Bobby Torrence Marianne Van Wagoner	Jane Lewis Tara Kallam	Bobby Torrence Marianne Van Wagoner	Alice Smith Diane Ablett
Lector	Mary Schaeffer	Evelyn Swain	Gail Hackett	Diane Ablett
Nursery	Christine Donaldson	Marianne Van Wagoner	Carrie Merrell	
Acolyte	Taylor Crawley	Robert Faulks	Taylor Crawley	Hunter Crawley
Crucifer	Jessie Faulks	Hunter Crawley	Robert Faulks	Robert Faulks



**Springs of Grace
Lutheran Church**

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And by appointment

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Church Council:

Todd Kallam, President

John Fancher, Vice President

Evelyn Swain, Secretary

Ron Crawley, Treasurer

Diane Ablett, Chair-Wor. & Music

Bob Faulks, Chair-Property

Richard Donaldson, Chair-Education

Mary Lou Saville, Chair-Evangelism

Marjorie Berkeley

July Birthdays

Alice Smith—2
Summer Abernathy—
4
Sanford—14
Eunice Jones—22
Nellie Varner—31

Anniversaries

Crawleys—28th
Smiths—31st

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JULY FLOWER LIST:

July 5: Smith
July 12: Hackett
July 19: Women's Group
July 26: Roof

June Council Meeting Notes

- VBS was a success with 15/kids per day average. This is up slightly from last year.
- John reported on the current state of finances. We are running \$4300/month behind.
- Next council meeting in August, no meeting in July.

Giving and Attendance

June 7:	59	\$2389
June 14:	49	\$1887
June 21:	47	\$1361
June 28:	41	\$990