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**The Newsletter  
for members of  
Grace Lutheran Church  
422 Valhi Blvd.  
Houma, LA 70360  
Pastor Rich Rudnik**

Phone: 985-879-1865

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July, 2011



## The Pipeliner

If you are interested in helping with future editions, please contact Pr Rich, Donna in the office, or Gordon Fitzgerald. This is your newsletter and we need your help to make it a success. Also, if you would like to receive it by e-mail, please let us know.



## Pastor's Corner

### Laundry Life

Life changed...a lot. I know a lot of people would say that's obvious. I just got married. I now have a loving wife who is forever a part of my reality. My wife has two sons who are now technically my "stepsons," although they are nearly grown so I have difficulty thinking of them that way. I've moved into a new house inhabited by my new family. All this is change, but it didn't really hit me full force until I walked into my new laundry room this morning.

Laundry used to be something I did when I needed to. It took two, maybe three washer loads and it was done for the week. I had only my clothes to be concerned about. It was simple. In a household of four people (two of which are teenagers) and four dogs, laundry apparently is a never ending process and not the most organized of undertakings. This morning as I found myself searching through a gigantic pile of clean clothes searching for the day's attire it really hit me; life changed. The old way of doing things is gone. I have a new life.

Paul writes in Romans, "*We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*"

Our old life apart from Christ's kingdom was fairly easy and simple. You do whatever you want to do. You feed your sinful desires. You really only have to be concerned about your own life, your own fulfillment, your own pleasure. Sure, you may have to obey the law and be nice to people enough to get along, but in the end you only have to answer to yourself.

Life in the Kingdom of Heaven is a lot more complicated. When our old, sinful Adam was drowned in the waters of Holy Baptism, we arose as a beloved child and willing subject of God. Our new life has a Lord over it and that Lord is opposed to the sinful nature which still battles for control of our lives. It's a lot of work to follow our Lord and Savior. It is an often chaotic process that is never ending in this earthly life.

A parallel can be drawn to my new laundry experience. I now have to pick and choose which of the pile of clothes is mine. In our new life in Christ we are daily faced with a pile of choices and must seek out the Christian path; the path our Lord Jesus would have us follow. Finding my clothes isn't easy and it's sometimes frustrating, but it is part of what I do in my new life in a family—a life that is a great and abundant blessing! Following Christ is difficult, often frustrating and sometimes requires pain and sacrifice, but it is part and parcel of the greatest and abundant blessing of peace and eternal life with God through Jesus' blood.

Don't seek the easy and sinful way of the world because it is a lie; you eventually do have to

answer to someone other than yourself. You must answer to the Lord who has called you out of the world and into the Kingdom of heaven—the Lord who gives you new life.

At the risk of pushing this analogy too far, there is another parallel to my laundry experience. In my old life, I was responsible for washing my clothes. In my new married life my wife is a bit obsessive about the laundry so I don't get to do it. I can't wash my own clothes. In my new life everything is washed for me. In my standing before God I cannot wash my own sin-stained hands for they are part of a fallen and sinful world. God had to do the washing for me and has done so through the blood of Jesus.

God says through His prophet Isaiah, *"Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."* (Isaiah 1:18-20)

God has called us to faith and in doing so has invited us to live the more difficult life of bearing our

cross with our sins washed clean in Jesus. Our task is to daily pick up our cross, live under our Lord and Savior, sort through the pile of choices and choose those that belong to the righteous life we have been given. Strive to choose the life of being in God's family—His children in the kingdom of heaven. Know your life changed in your baptism, and that baptism into Jesus washes away your sin every day. Each morning remember—life changed. Yours is not your own. Your life is in Jesus.

### **Sunday Morning Worship & Fellowship**

Just a reminder to leave the sanctuary, fellowship hall and kitchen clean on Sunday mornings - or any other time you may use them. Make sure bulletins are picked up, pew envelopes and pencils are in place, fellowship hall tables are wiped off and any food around the chairs is picked up. Please, do not leave dirty dishes in the kitchen sinks. The ECC is inspected by the state and health departments on a regular basis and the kitchen area is one part of these inspections. Thank you for your cooperation.

***Special note: You are responsible for leftovers you place in the refrigerator. Make it a point to***

***check on them the next time you are in the kitchen and if they're still there, throw them away. Too many times food (and drinks) are left in the refrigerator and they spoil. Let's all work together on keeping our church facility in good order.***

### **Biscuit Makers**

July 3 - Billie Bohannon

July 17 - Connor & Hannah Cuneo

July 31 - Michael & Victoria Thalheim

### **Confirmation Sunday**

*God's blessings to our newest confirmand, Adeline (Addie) Perryman. She is the daughter of Michael and Ann Perryman. Addie was baptized at Grace March 1, 1998 and her sponsors are Carmen Cunningham, Donna Pugh & Linda Shaw. Addie was confirmed at Grace on Sunday, June 19th. May Addie continue to grow in the Word as she serves our Lord with us at Grace.*

### **WORSHIP SERVICE DVDs AVAILABLE**

Sunday services are recorded and put on DVD. If you or someone you know would like to receive these, please contact the church office. Extra DVDs are placed on top of the congregational mailbox cabinet and are free for the taking. DVDs are usually available for pick up by Tuesday.

***Thank you to the elders and veterans who lead our Armed Forces worship service last month. May God bless you all.***

## **Prayer Listings in Bulletin**

June 30th marked the end of the quarter and we are attempting to clean up the prayer request list in the bulletin. If you wish a request to remain in the bulletin, please let the office know via email to [secretary@gracehouma.org](mailto:secretary@gracehouma.org) or by dropping a note at the church office or by calling (985) 879-1865. On behalf of all those who benefit from your faithful prayers, thank you and thanks be to God.

### **Setting the Table**

How does it get there?

Each Sunday at Grace we enjoy a foretaste of the heavenly feast to come in eternity with Christ through our celebration of the Lord's Supper. I pray none of us take this wonderful gift of Christ's body and blood given for the forgiveness of sins lightly, but come to the table filled with repentance, thanks and praise.

Yet there is an aspect of the Lord's Supper most of us do take for granted - the fact it is sitting there on the altar waiting for us. How does it get there? The Altar Guild makes sure the Eucharist is prepared for our joyful feast and that our place of worship is in order. But there are too few hands for this work. We are down to only three rotating pairs for Altar Guild service. They joyfully render this service, but the frequency is becoming burdensome. We need more help.

Please help set our table. Volunteer to serve on the Altar Guild. We need you. Help prepare the house for the

feast Jesus Christ commands in which the greatest of all gifts is given.

Call Ann Perryman at (985) 876-5099 or email:

[ann\\_perryman2155@comcast.net](mailto:ann_perryman2155@comcast.net).

### **ECC PAPER PRODUCTS DONATIONS**

Please consider a donation of one or more of the following items:

Baby wipes, paper towels, kitchen-size paper cups, bath-size paper cups, Kleenex and napkins.

Thank you for leaving your donations in the blue box in the narthex.

### **FOOD BANK SUNDAY**

**Thank you** to everyone who participated with Food Bank Sunday last month. \$90.00 in cash and groceries were donated. Our next collection will be Sunday, July 3, 2011.

### **Member Boxes**

Please remember to check your member box while at church. If you don't see your name on the list, please contact Donna or Gordon by calling the church office at 879-1865 or sending an email to:

[secretary@gracehouma.org](mailto:secretary@gracehouma.org)

### **Prayer for Christian Missionaries**

Almighty Jesus, Lord of the harvest, the fields are plentiful, but the workers are few. Send forth Your Spirit of truth into the hearts of Your people, that we would be moved to shout Your name from the mountaintops and valley floors. Guard those who have left home and nation to work the distant fields.

Guard them against persecution, keep them in the true Word, and prosper their work, through Your holy name. Amen.

***Don't forget...Fall Festival Meeting Wednesday, July 20th at 7:15 p.m. (right after Prayer & Praise) in the fellowship hall.***

***Thank you to Ann Perryman, Cindy Deane and Rana DaSilva for covering the office for me while I'm out of town last month. God bless, Donna***

### **Mission Guild**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Fathers Day candy giveaway.

Congratulations to Grace's confirmand, Miss Adeline (Addie) Perryman. Addie was confirmed on

**A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"**

**His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"**

**The son replied, "I do know!"**

**"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"**

**"That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'**

June 19<sup>th</sup>. Our LWML/Mission Guild provided her with a lovely stole as a momento.

MITES: Mites are collected the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, however you can put your offerings in the large mite box in the back of the church, any time and we are thankful.

For those who want an update, all Mite monies are forwarded to LWML for mission projects, and all monies collected for baked goods, dish cloths, etc. are used for local projects.

Baked goods are offered the second Sunday of each month also. Thank you to all of the "bakers and partakers" of our goodies. Dish cloths are available for a \$2.00 donation each; and Christian key rings for \$6.00. We also have covers for our Portals of Prayer/Devotion booklets for \$5.00 each, plus other assorted items. (A special thank you to Susan Songe for providing her time and talents to make these possible). See Joelle, Jerrie or Donna if there is anything you wish to purchase.

Thanks to Joe Deane for the great sermon and Cindy Deane for the delicious cake they provided that helped make our Military Memorial service so great.

All ladies of Grace are invited to

join us at our next quarterly meeting, which will be September 25, 2011 - immediately following service, in the Conference Room.

Blessings,  
Joelle Gerken

### **Stewardship**

As Christians we are blessed even more than living in a free country. Because of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross we have been redeemed to live as His free and joyous people. That freedom from sin, death and the devil is not something to be taken for granted. The cost for that freedom is way too high to become nonchalant or indifferent about it. As God's redeemed stewards, in cooperation with and encouragement from fellow redeemed stewards, we freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes. Two verses from one of our popular hymns say it so well:

***“Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.***

***Take my love, my Lord, I pour at***

***Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be ever,  
only, all, for Thee.”***

So, as we celebrate our nation's freedom and independence we can do so with joy while always remembering that freedom is not free and brings with it responsibility to stand up as Americans and Christians to help move our country to higher moral ground. Let our prayer this July 4<sup>th</sup> and for all days be like the words of this great Christian hymn:

***“God bless our native land! Firm  
may she always stand through  
storm and night!***

***When the wild tempests rave,  
Ruler of wind and wave,  
Do Thou our country save by Thy  
great might.***

***For her our prayer shall rise to  
God above the skies; on Him we  
wait.***

***Thou who art ever nigh, guiding  
with watchful eye,***

***To Thee aloud we cry, God save  
the State!”***

When we stand up for Jesus and for our country we remember that standing up lifts our whole being—mind, body, spirit, time, talents and, yes, also our pocketbooks—so that in all circumstances we can be ***maturing stewards who do the right things for the right***



Building One Body in Christ Through Worship, Witness,  
Stewardship, Service, Love Teaching and Fellowship

**Sunday**

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

**Wed**



**Grace Lutheran Church**

**Early Childhood Center**

422 Valhi Boulevard

Houma, LA. 70360

985-879-1865 / 1833 (F)

[secretary@gracehouma.org](mailto:secretary@gracehouma.org)

[www.gracehouma.org](http://www.gracehouma.org)

<http://www.bible-reading.com/bible>

BD= Birthday BA=Baptismal Anniversary

W=Wedding Anniversary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<b>Pentecost III 3</b> <b>Worship 9am/Food Bank</b> <b>Youth Biscuits follow</b> <b>SS for all ages 10:45am</b>  Dennis Armstrong BD <i>Colossians 3-4</i>	<b>Independence Day 4</b>  <b>Office &amp; ECC Closed</b>  Rachel Reaves BD Larry Cavalier BA <i>Leviticus 19-21</i>	<b>5</b>  SMEC Worship Service 5:30pm (sanc.)  Jennifer Kinsella BD Karly Kyzar BD <i>II Kings 16-20</i>	<b>Bible Study</b> <b>Potluck Fellowship</b> <b>Prayer &amp; Praise</b>  Kirk <i>Psalms</i>
<b>Pentecost IV 10</b> <b>Worship 9am/Mite Boxes</b> <b>MG Baked Goods follow</b> <b>Youth Group Mtg.</b> <b>SS for all ages 10:45am</b>  <i>I Thessalonians 1-3</i>	<b>11</b>  <i>Leviticus 22-24</i>	<b>12</b>  SMEC Worship Service 5:30pm (sanc.) <b>BOD Meeting 7pm</b>  Ricky Reaves, Jr. BA <i>II Kings 21-25</i>	<b>Bible Study</b> <b>Potluck Fellowship</b> <b>Prayer &amp; Praise</b>  Lola Rache Kristan <i>Psalms</i>
<b>Pentecost V 17</b> <b>Worship 9am</b> <b>Youth Biscuits follow</b> <b>SS for all ages 10:45am</b>  Marilyn Prosser BD <i>I Thessalonians 4-5</i>	<b>18</b>  <i>Leviticus 25-27</i>	<b>19</b>  SMEC Worship Service 5:30pm (sanc.) <b>ECC Parent Mtg. 6:30pm</b> <b>Fellowship Hall</b>  <i>I Chronicles 1-4</i>	<b>Bible Study</b> <b>Potluck Fellowship</b> <b>Prayer &amp; Praise</b> <b>Fall Festival</b>  Sondra Debbie <i>Psalms</i>
<b>Pentecost VI 24</b> <b>Worship 9am</b> <b>FF Muffins/SS follows</b>	<b>St. James the Elder, 25</b> <b>Apostle</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
<b>←</b>			
<b>Pentecost VII 31</b> <b>Worship 9am/Youth Biscuits</b> <b>SS for all ages 10:45am</b> R. DaSilva & N. Shroyer BD	Jack Hansen BD Nicolas Tucker BA <i>Numbers 1-4</i>	SMEC Worship Service 5:30pm (sanc.) SMEC Vestry Mtg. <i>I Chronicles 5-9</i>	<b>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</b>  Victoria Nathan M. & J. <i>Psalms</i>

# July 2011

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>h and nter l (fax) t.org g -calendar.html</p> <p>6</p>	<p><b>SMEC= St. Matthew's Church</b> <b>SMES=St. Matthew's School</b></p> <p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Ezekiel 31-36</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>Fourth of July Celebration TBA</b> <b>Fireworks 9pm</b> Shelbi Daigle BD Lyle Souther BA Michael Shroyer, Jr. BA</p> <p>Luke 21-22</p>
<p>Study 9:30am Fellowship 6pm Praise 6:45pm</p> <p>Ledet BD ms 87-89</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Brandon Corbitt BD Courtney Lampinen BD Carol Pellegrin BD</p> <p>Proverbs 13</p> <p>14</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Ezekiel 37-42</p>	<p>9</p> <p>ABL Bayou Region 4th July Party 9am-3pm Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Luke 23-24</p>
<p>Study 9:30am Fellowship 6pm Praise 6:45pm</p> <p>Ledet BD I Moore BD Plaisance BA ms 90-92</p> <p>20</p>	<p>Jacey Corbitt BD</p> <p>Proverbs 14-15</p> <p>21</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Ezekiel 43-48</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Connor Cuneo BA</p> <p>John 1-2</p>
<p>Study 9:30am Fellowship 6pm Praise 6:45pm al Mtg. 7:15pm</p> <p>a Corbitt BD Hansen BD ms 93-95</p> <p>27</p>	<p><b>Pipeliners Articles Due</b></p> <p>Proverbs 16</p> <p>28</p>	<p><b>St. Mary Magdalene</b></p> <p>22</p> <p>Dave Akins BD</p> <p>Daniel 1-6</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Brandon Cinnater BD</p> <p>John 3-4</p>
<p>Study 9:30am</p> <p>6 - 8:30 pm</p> <p>Crawford BD Garner BA K. Cape W ms 96-98</p> <p>27</p>	<p>Bryce Naquin BD Wanda Williams BD Lexi Robichaux BA</p> <p>Proverbs 17-18</p> <p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p><b>ECC Summer Camp Ends</b></p> <p>Angela Hall BA</p> <p>Daniel 7-12</p>	<p>30</p> <p>FH Rental 5:30-10:00pm</p> <p><b>Bible Readings for:</b> 7/24 II Thessalonians 7/30 John 5-6 7/31 I Timothy 1-3</p>

***reasons and strive for excellence  
in all we do!"***

**Atonement Lutheran**

*Atonement Lutheran Church & School is excited to invite you to the Ordination/Installation Service of Josh Paul Leigeber Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.*

Atonement Lutheran Church & School Worship Center (also gym)  
6500 Riverside Dr.  
Metairie, LA 70003

following the service there will be a Reception for Pastor Josh and Tiffany in traditional Atonement style.

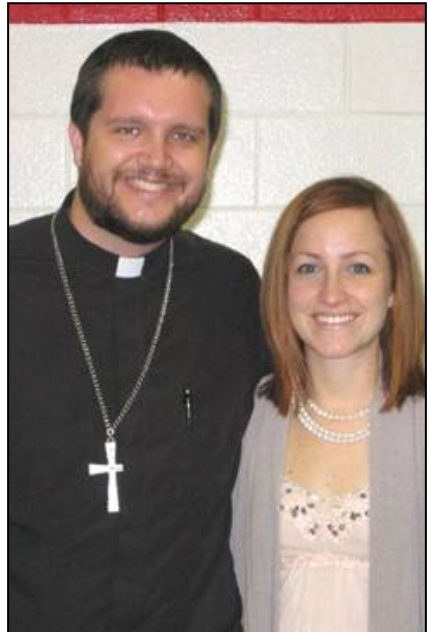
*PRAISE GOD, FROM  
WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW!!!  
Josh & Tiffany Leigeber*

**Prayer For Our Nation**

*Lord God, You are the King of the universe. Guide our leaders and citizens to recognize Your supremacy and to turn to Your wisdom in all decision making. May the laws and practices in our nation follow the truths of Your Word. May they benefit everyone they affect. Give us thankful hearts for the freedoms with which You have blessed us. May we always use them to bring glory to You. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

**News from around Grace**

Praise God...Jenny Jones has volunteered to be this year's VBS Director. The dates for VBS are Sunday, July 24 - Thursday, July 28, 6 - 8:30 p.m. Registration forms will be available this Sunday in the fellowship hall. If



you'd like to volunteer to help with this year's program, please contact Jenny at 709-0014 or the church office at 879-1865. An organizational meeting date and time to be announced.

We've collected \$960 towards the Cima family airfare. We still need to raise \$240 which will be half of the cost. They'll be with us over the Fourth of July week-

end. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

### Theatrical Debut



(Harleigh is the blonde)

Jerrie and Gordon Fitzgerald, proud grandparent (along with former members Shirley & Ralph Use) of that budding Broadway actress Harleigh Dahl, are proud

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

to announce that she has finished her first successful role on the stage. As one spectator said, "in her role as one of the orphans in the River Region Production of "Annie", she had all eyes riveted on her." (OK, could have been one of her family, but true nevertheless.) The production took place June 14-17 in the Destrahan. We are all so proud of her!

Lee Greenwood is probably best known for his patriotic song "***I'm Proud to Be an American.***" Among the lyrics of this song are these two verses:

***"And I'm proud to be an American where at least I know I'm free***

***And I won't forget the men who died who gave that right to me.***

***And I gladly stand up next to you and defend her still today 'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land God bless the USA."***

Around July 4<sup>th</sup> this song will likely be heard many times because it gives credit and thanks to those soldiers who have given their all to preserve our freedom as citizens of the United States of America. "Freed to live" might well be the words that describe our lives as American citizens.




## **Fourth of July Celebration at Grace**

**Our Fourth of July Celebration will be held on July 2nd at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. You may bring a side dish and/or drinks/chips to share. Bring your favorite board game to play after dinner. There will be a fireworks display at the Civic Center around 9:00 pm which can be seen from the church parking lot.**

**You may want to bring a comfy fold out chair to sit on to watch it.**

**The Cimas (our missionaries from Viet Nam) will be there too!**

**Hope you can join us!**



Fall Festival 2011  
Saturday, October 29, 2011  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thank you to everyone who attended our June 22nd meeting.  
Our next meeting will be July 20th after Prayer & Praise. The meetings wrap up by 8:00 p.m.

The following have volunteered for this year's festival:

Fall Festival Chairpersons: Jerrie Fitzgerald & Donna Boger  
Treasurer: Gordon Fitzgerald  
Chairpersons:  
Bands - Mike Cape  
Bingo - Lola Ledet  
Bouncers - Donna Boger  
Charity Liaison - Brigitte Kinsella  
Children's Crafts - Early Childhood Center teachers & parents  
Elder's Shack - GLC Elders  
Evangelism - Pastor Rich  
Games of Skill - GLC Youth Group  
Grounds Layout - Dale Boger, Henry Stegall & Glenn Meyer  
Pizza - Heidi Guidry  
Publicity - Jerrie Fitzgerald  
Raffle - Glenn Meyer & Donna Boger  
Rummage Sale - Michele Wallace  
Silent Auction - Gordon Fitzgerald  
Tents - Glenn Meyer & Gordon Fitzgerald  
Vendors - Jerrie Fitzgerald  
Staffing & Scheduling - Jenny Jones  
Welcome Booth - Connie Oswalt

A volunteer sign up poster is in the fellowship hall  
for your convenience.  
There is a place for everyone at Grace to volunteer.

Proceeds to benefit:  
The Bunk House  
Our local Food Bank  
Project Learn LaTerre  
St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy

### Acolytes

July 3	Ross Reaves
10	Karly Kyzar
17	Annie Reaves
24	Victoria Thalheim
31	Hannah Cuneo

### Ushers

July 3	Jim Kohls/Glenn Meyer/Ricky Reaves/Michael Thalheim
10	Dale Boger/Joe Deane//Richard LaCour
17	<b>Youth Group</b>
24	Dave Akins/Dennis Armstrong/Gordon Fitzgerald/Joey Souther
31	Jim Kohls/Glenn Meyer/Ricky Reaves/Michael Thalheim

### Altar Guild

July 3	
10	
17	
24	
31	

### Scripture Readers

July 3	Bonnie Dupre
10	Joe Deane
17	<b>Youth Group</b>
24	Mona LaCour
31	Jeannie Thalheim

### Offering Stewards

July 3	Joe and Cindy Deane
10	Burt and Marilyn Beach
17	Donna Boger & Glenn Meyer
24	Rana DaSilva and Brigitte Kinsella
31	Joe and Cindy Deane

### Greeters

July 3	Dennis & Lynda Kelley
10	Dennis & Gwen Armstrong
17	<b>Youth Group</b>
24	Gordon & Jerrie Fitzgerald
31	Mary Lou Johnston



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