

Reminders

Assisting Next Sunday, February 14, 2010

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| Greeters | Gertrude Bensch and Gertrude Kanwischer |
| Music | Dale Eberhardt and Chad Thompson |
| Acolyte | Tyler Colbert |
| Readers | Rebecca Lewis and Jayden McAdams |
| Prayer Deacon | Barbara Ruhe |
| Communion Deacons | Wendy Colbert and Barbara Van Fleet |
| "Second Hour" Hospitality | Phyllis and Chad Thompson |
| Counters | Brian and Donna Phelan |

Happy Birthday!

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|------------|-----------------|
| February 7 | Sally Nolen |
| 9 | Nina Kretschmer |
| 11 | Melissa Brown |



If we have missed a birthday, we apologize.
Please call the office, 527-7792, so we can correct our records.

PRAYER LISTS are available in regular and large type on the table at the back of the church. Many of our brothers and sisters request that we remember them or their loved ones in prayer. Concerns and programs of the congregation are printed on one side of the list, and of the ELCA and our global partners are on the other side. Please pick up a copy to use as part of your own prayers during the week.

We pray for one another. If you would like to request prayer on behalf of yourself or others, please fill out this form. Fold and tear off the bottom portion of this sheet and place it in the offering plate. Your request will be forwarded to our pastor and prayer deacons. Thank you.

Please pray for _____
(Insert name of individual)

Please pray about _____

Please include this prayer until (insert date) _____ or further notice.

Requested by _____ (This information is not required.)

This Week at Grace

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| TODAY, 2/7 | FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY |
| 9:30 a.m. | SERVICE OF HEALING AND HOLY COMMUNION |
| 11:a.m. | 'Second Hour" Hospitality: Tom Schauer, Camp Calumet/Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Christian Education |
| 12 noon | <i>Build Us Up, Lord!</i> Informational Gathering, Forum Room |
| TUESDAY, 2/9 | |
| 7:00 P.M. | Women's Bible Study Home of Emma Coleman-Carr. 19-B Woodland Avenue, Bloomfield |
| WEDNESDAY, 2/10 | |
| 7:30 a.m. | Conference Clergy Reading Group |
| 9:30 a.m. | Handbell Choir |
| 3 p.m. | Finance Committee |
| THURSDAY, 2/11 | |
| 12 Noon | Alcoholics Anonymous |
| 7 p.m. | Visioning Task Group |
| FRIDAY, 2/12 | |
| 7 p.m. | <i>Build Us Up, Lord!</i> Informational Gathering Home of Ted and Eva Steege, 70 Cone Street, 860-216-5106 |
| SATURDAY, 2/13 | |
| 8:30 a.m. | Congregation Council |
| SUNDAY, 2/14 | TRANSFIGURATION |
| 9:30 a.m. | HOLY COMMUNION |
| 11:a.m. | The Rev. Daniel Carlson, LSS, Guest Preacher Annual Congregational Meeting for the Budget |
| MONDAY, 2/15 | Reminder—GRACE NOTES DEADLINE |

Second Hour Hospitality Today



Join us downstairs following worship for our "Second Hour" to welcome **Tom Schauer**, who will tell us more about **Calumet Lutheran Ministries**. Please come downstairs, grab a cup of Fair Trade coffee, and find out more about this important component of our building fund campaign's tithe to the wider church.



Lenten Book Discussion *The Shack*

You are invited to participate in a study of *The Shack*, by William P. Young, on Thursday evenings during Lent.

In a world where religion seems to grow increasingly irrelevant, "The Shack" wrestles with the timeless question, "Where is God in a world so filled with unspeakable pain?" The answers may astound you and even transform you.

The doctrine of the Trinity is a way for the Church to try to get its arms around the wonder, majesty, and mystery of our "great big God." Lent provides an occasion and *The Shack* perhaps offers a point of entry.

The conversations will be held beginning **Thursday, February 18 at 7:30 p.m. at**

**Gail and Carl Lindstrom's
76 Woodmere Road
West Hartford CT 06119**

Gail Lindstrom and Pastor Steege will facilitate the conversation using material developed by the New England Synod's Trinitarian Theology Task Force.

It is a good idea to read through the book, or at least the first few chapters, before the first meeting. The book is available in paperback at various prices, all under \$10, at Target, Wal-Mart, and other local outlets.

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to join us. Please notify Gail or Pastor Steege that you plan to come, and if you are bringing anyone with you.

An invitation to a

Prayer Vigil

Saturday, February 20
9 a.m.—5 p.m.

The Prayer Vigil on Saturday, February 20, will be a time for our community of faith to come before God to acknowledge that we are the body of Christ, and to ask for God's guidance and presence that evening and the next morning as we complete our commitments to the **Build Us Up, Lord!** Campaign.

You are invited to sign up on the board in the Narthex for a half-hour to spend in the Sanctuary. Although you may be alone in the sanctuary (there will be other people in the building), it will be a community time because this prayer vigil is an act of our entire congregation.

Our goal is to have at least one person in the sanctuary praying throughout the vigil, while other people are welcome to come at any time and stay as long as they wish.

Copies of a guide with some Bible texts for reflection and some possible subjects to pray about for your self and for the congregation as a whole are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. As we spend time in prayer, we can thank God for all that God has done for us and for our congregation, and ask for God's guidance in our own lives and in the life of the congregation of Grace.

Information Inspiration Invitation

To learn more about the **Build Us Up, Lord!** campaign, hear the call of the Spirit toward a new future for Grace, and share fellowship and an invitation to respond in love, **members and friends of Grace have been invited to several gatherings** this month. One gathering remains:

• **Friday, Feb 12, 7 p.m.** Hosted by Eva & Ted Steege with Gail Lindstrom at 70 Cone St, Hartford. For directions, call 850-216-5106.

If you missed the previous gatherings, please come to this one! To help us plan refreshments, RSVP to the office, 860-527-7792, and also let us know if you would like to carpool.



Reminder—**GRACE NOTES** deadline is a week from tomorrow, Monday, February 15. Please send your material to Sally Nolen, sallynolen@live.com by this date.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOR THE BUDGET NEXT SUNDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2010, 11 A.M.

- Opening Devotions
- Presentation of the Budget for 2010
- Election of the Nominating Committee
- Closing with the Lord's Prayer

Reports are available today in the Narthex and in the Community Room downstairs

Time for a new Parish Directory

I have made three (3) copies of the current directory - one is placed in the Narthex and two are downstairs on the round table in the Community Room. Please take a moment to review them for correctness, and call me in the office, 860-527-7792, with any changes. Thank you!

Cathy Tomlinson

Worship Note

Ash Wednesday

Lent begins on February 17 with an Ash Wednesday service at 7:30 p.m. that will include the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. The season begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we will hear in the readings on Ash Wednesday, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord.