

# GRACE YOUTH MINISTRY

## Ministry Highlights from Last Month

- Thanks to all who supported our January Second Sunday Lunch and the Grace Art Show last month! We had a wonderful High School overnight last month. Thanks to Ayman Kaddouri for chaperoning!

## **ATTENTION ALL ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING PARTICIPANTS!**

Next July Grace will send 25 Youth and 8 adult representatives to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. These participants will have a special “Saints” meeting required for the Gathering on Sunday, February 5 from 12:30-2:30. A sandwich lunch will be provided for this group after the 11:15am service.

## February Schedule



### **Sunday February 5:**

*Morning:* Our annual “SOUPER BOWL” collection. Please help with collecting canned goods and money donations this morning after our worship services.

*After lunch:* “Saints” lunch and meeting after worship for NYG participants.

### **Sunday, February 12:**

Second Sunday Lunch---All youth need to help serve at Second Sunday Lunch after the 11:15 worship service. Reminder this lunch is how we keep costs down on our retreats and events that you participate in.

### **Sunday, February, 19:**

Youth Sunday Practice--Musicians meet to practice at 5:00pm, all other youth need to be here at 6:00pm. Snack is provided. We will practice until 7:00pm.

## **GRACE YOUTH HEAD TO LYO ASSEMBLY!**

**February 24-26:** NC Lutheran Youth Organization Retreat in Greensboro, NC. Please pray for our 32 Youth and 7 Adult Chaperones attending this fun weekend of fellowship with other Lutheran teens in our state and staying in the Embassy Suite Hotel. Participants—we will leave Grace on Friday after school and return early Sunday afternoon.

## **Confirmation News (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade youth)**

### **Wednesday nights—February 1, 8, 15**

Join us on Wednesday evenings with a meal and our regular confirmation classes. This month we will be learning about Baptism. Meet in the Youth Room from 5:30-7:30 for our class and dinner is at Oasis beforehand. Parents—we invite you to our class for the “Final 15” from 7:15-7:30pm for prayer and our “topic question” of the week.

- **Wednesday February 1:** Confirmation Small Group Outing night!

## 30 Day Faith Affirmation Challenge



### Ideas:

**OASIS DINNERS** Dinner is served at 4:45pm. Please sign up for Oasis Dinners at the Sign-up Window by 3pm on Mondays.

**Feb 1**—Kids' Meal: Pizza  
Tilapia with lemon butter, baked potato, tossed salad, carrots, banana pudding.

**Feb 8**—Kids' Meal: same  
BBQ, pinto beans, coleslaw, peach cobbler

**Feb 15**—Kids' Meal: same  
Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, fruit salad, green beans, ice cream

**Feb 22**—ASH WEDNESDAY--NO OASIS

**Feb 29**—Lenten meals begin  
Kids' Meal: same  
Chicken noodle soup or vegetarian vegetable, salad, cookies

- ✚ Say the Lord's Prayer before bed.
- ✚ Attend Hannah Circle for young woman at Grace and be uplifted by friends. (check bulletin)
- ✚ Invite a family to join you for lunch after service.
- ✚ Say a prayer together on the way to school.
- ✚ Come to playgroup for fun and fellowship. (check bulletin)
- ✚ Discus highs and lows at the dinner table. (Little ones like to call them brownies & frownies)
- ✚ Make cookies for a neighbor.
- ✚ Join Grace Supper Club.
- ✚ Pray for your friends, family, church, and teachers.
- ✚ Read a small devotion before bed or at dinner. (many resources in the Children's library downstairs)
- ✚ Come to family events at church. (check bulletin)
- ✚ Leave the quarter on the cart at Aldi.
- ✚ Hold the door open for the person behind you
- ✚ Call a friend you haven't spoken to in a while
- ✚ Thank the men and women in uniform
- ✚ Share your umbrella with someone who doesn't have one.
- ✚ Volunteer in your community (hospital, soup kitchen, animal shelter)
- ✚ Practice gratitude everyday and simply be kind
- ✚ Write a letter to a child who could use some extra attention. Kids love getting mail.
- ✚ Offer to pick up groceries for an elderly neighbor, especially in extreme weather.
- ✚ Give a homeless person your doggie bag.
- ✚ Collect all your families change and fill a bank for World Hunger.
- ✚ Bring your assistant, co worker, or friend coffee.
- ✚ Say "please" and "thank you"—and really mean it.
- ✚ Offer to baby-sit for a single mom.
- ✚ Listen with all your senses.
- ✚ Simply say "I'm sorry" when you're wrong.
- ✚ Throw away your trash—and someone else's—after a movie, picnic or visit to a park.
- ✚ Volunteer to take care of a friend's dog while he is vacationing.





*To view our monthly church calendar, go to the calendar link on the church homepage at*

*[www.gracelutherannc.com](http://www.gracelutherannc.com)*

*The church calendar is also available from the office.*

# Upcoming Activities for Families & Children

Director of Children & Family Ministries  
Mary Mujica gracedcfm@bellsouth.net

February 2012

Thank you for all the baby items given on Christmas Eve. We were able to donate 4 heaping black trash bags to the Children & Family Resource Center. They were so appreciative and will disperse all the items to the young moms and families in need they assist.

The children created over 30 hand written notes and cards for the Valentine Soldier Care Packages. We filled and shipped 10 boxes. May you be blessed for all your donations and prayers for our troops. The holidays and time away with family flew by. I know that many of the children have jumped back into full swing with school, spring sports, and after school activities. All these things are important in the development of self esteem and responsibility. It seems hard to fit in church and exercises that strengthen your children's faith; which ironically is the one most important choice we can make in life. Believing in God and helping others learn that peace and love is our reason for existence. Here is a list of small things every busy schedule has room to squeeze in daily. Grace would like to challenge you to try a few or create your own ways. We would love if you could write a small paragraph and take a picture for us to put up representing your family sharing God's love to one another or others. Please put them in Mary Mujica's mailbox

## Play dates in February

**Fri 2/3** - Playgroup at STJs Inflation Station.  
11:45am - 2:00pm. Bring a sack lunch.

**Thurs 2/23** - Preschool Play Date at the Health Adventure. Lunch nearby after. Contact Cindy Simons. A Planning Meeting for the upcoming Preschool Book & Puzzle Swap: 2/16 9-10am The Home of Cindy Simons. Call Cindy for information and directions. 891-4373

## Ez Child ID – February 19th during all services.

Sign up when you drop your child off at Sunday school! All ages can participate. Free of charge; will take about 5 minutes – Each child will get reprintable ID cards, digital photo & video, digital fingerprints, used by law enforcement.  
(Sponsored by Thrivent Financial)

## February Parent Club Coffee Hour:

**Fri. Feb 17, 2012, 8:40–10 am,  
Grace Lutheran Church Rm. 221**

Betsy Burnett, Parent Educator with Parents as Teachers, will be presenting on the importance of play in child development, specifically for children ages 18 months to 5 years. Betsy will also introduce activities using household items that parents can do at home with their children to encourage language, social emotional, motor and intellectual development. Betsy and Noreen Quinn, Early Learning Center Coordinator, will also give more information about the services offered at the Children & Family Resource Center. Childcare is not provided, but children are welcome to attend under your supervision.

**February 5th**, a camp counselor from Lutheridge is coming to children's Sunday school, to share the fun and importance of camp. Scholarships are available at Grace and Lutheridge, so do not let cost be a factor in sending your child to camp.

**Musical** - We have begun practicing Daniel and the Lion's Den Wednesday evenings in Children's Choir. The performance date is April 29th at 6pm in Stull Hall. All children who can come to practice on Wednesdays from 6 to 7pm are welcome to be a part of the Musical; there are no auditions, but the children who come regularly will have speaking parts.



## Tuesday, Feb 21st - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Cross generational devotional intro to Lent- The children's Ministry parents will be preparing the pancakes, so if anyone would like to volunteer to be in the kitchen crew, let me know. All members of the congregation are invited. Our pastors will share a devotion on the importance of understanding Lent as a family. There is a take home children's devotional chain each family will make. Please sign up so we know how much food to prepare. We will take up a free will offering to cover the cost.

**February 11th –Sneakers (K-2) & Squeakers (3rd-5th) Outing** – Team Eco on Main Street, Hendersonville (meet at GLC at 1pm, we will return at 3pm; the children will tour the aquarium, and enjoy an interactive class on turtles. We will get ice cream at Kilwin's. Cost is \$5 a child with a \$10 max per family.