



# Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

## Grace Notes

Volume 13, Issue 1

January 1, 2012

### TRUST

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. It will be a healing for your flesh and refreshment for your body.*

Proverbs 3:5-8

A favorite story of mine comes from the book of Jeremiah. The situation is that Judah, southern tribe of Israel, is about to be sent into exile. The people are being rounded up to make the journey to Babylon (modern day Iraq). As they are about to leave God commands Jeremiah to buy a piece of land. This was to be a sign of hope, that one-day they would return to their home. What makes this a sign of hope is what God has done in the past. Whenever a promise was given, God fulfilled that promise. God had been a faithful God. That faithfulness developed a deep trust, a trust that Jeremiah had towards God. In that trust Jeremiah bought the land, and did so in the hope that they would return. This is trust!

As we enter a new year, with it comes anxiety as to whether or not that in which we hope will come to pass and that what we fear will not come to pass. With this anxiety is the need to try to control our lives, hedge our bets, try to put the odds in our favor so we might expect the best possible outcome for the new year. I believe that instead of trying to do this on our own that we are better off to trust in God win all our heart and not to rely on our own abilities, efforts, or insight. This is easier said than done.

But maybe, as we face the possibilities of the new-year, as we remember the challenges of the last year, just maybe, by remembering the faithfulness of God we can use that memory to help us to trust God when our anxiety rises, our fears increase, and our insecurity gets the better of us. Just maybe, in our own way, as we enter into the unknown future we trust that God is with us and will bring us home.

May God bless us all as we enter in the unknown land called the year of our Lord, 2012.

Pastor Greg

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## For Your Information

The closing data on the comparative financial position from December 31 and proposed budget will be published by email by Sunday, January 8. On that day between services (9:30 to 10:30 am) , members of the Board will be available in the Sanctuary to answer questions about the financial statements – one week in advance of the Annual Meeting. Members are invited to come.

**Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church  
Notice of Meeting and Agenda  
Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
Sunday, January 15, 2012  
12:15 pm, Church Sanctuary**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Opening Devotion**
- 3. Review of Agenda**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
  - a. Annual Meeting, January 16, 2011**
  - b. Special Meeting, October 2, 2011**
- 5. Senior Pastor's Report**
- 6. President's Report**
- 7. Reports of Deacons & Committees**
- 8. Treasurer's Report**
- 9. Approval of 2012 Budget**
- 10. Unfinished Business**
  - a. Approval to wind up and dissolve the State of California corporation, Grace Christian Academy**
- 11. New Business**
  - a. Approval of the continuing resolution on communion practices, acted upon by the Board of Deacons on July 12, 2011, as a bylaw, per Chapter \*C18.01.01.**
    - i. "The communion practices of this congregation shall follow the guidelines set forth in 'The Use of the Means of Grace: A Statement on the Practice of Word and Sacrament' by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America."**
- 12. Election of Officers & Deacons**
- 13. Closing Prayer & Adjournment**



# *Girl's Night Out*

Tuesday, Jan 17, at 7pm

Congregation A le House

300 S. Raymond Pasadena

CA 91105

626-403-2337



## Men's Breakfast

Tuesday, Jan 24

6:45am

Fresco's

STEWARDSHIP NEWS  
JANUARY 2012

**“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away, behold the new has come.” II Corinthians 5:17**

**Happy New Year! I do not like New Year’s Eve but I really love New Year’s Day.** We have a new opportunity to make things better, more connected, and more effective. That is true in the everyday world, but that’s also true in our church.

I particularly love our new giving envelopes that focus on the bible verse of the cheerful giver and our need to give as Christian people. Our need to give **is not tied to money but rather as a response to God’s abundant blessings** that He has bestowed upon us.

I would like to focus on the extreme, almost incomprehensible, generosity of our God. Our God is a generous God. For those who like apples, there are approximately 7500 different varieties of apples. That is clearly way more than one would need to enjoy a bite of an apple. For those who like birds, there are approximately 10,000 different species of birds. That is, again, clearly more than is necessary to enjoy or appreciate birds. For those who enjoy watching butterflies or creating gardens that will entice butterflies ~ there are more than 20,000 varieties of butterflies. That is WAY MORE than needed to enjoy the flight of a graceful butterfly. Our Lord is so incredibly generous to us in so many ways every day.

We would hope that throughout this year, we will focus on the extreme generosity of our God and our appropriate response.

Blessings on your spiritual journey,

Terri Matteo

# Epiphany Celebration

Hear Bell Choirs



Hear Voice Choirs

Eat Epiphany Cake



Crown T hree Kings

On Saturday January 7th

2:00pm- 5:00pm

At

T rinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

977 East Walnut Avenue

Pasadena, Ca 91106

(626)792-1212



## Service of Healing

The congregation is invited to attend a service of healing on Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. Anyone who is seeking physical, emotional, or spiritual healing is welcome to kneel around the altar and to receive the laying on of hands and prayer by Pastor Greg and fellow members.

“Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow,  
Give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.”

## Giving's & Attendance

	Giving's	Attendance	
		<i>Early</i>	<i>Late</i>
December 4	\$ 7,535	38	70
December 11	\$ 4,279	46	70
December 18	\$ 6,997	46	83
December 24	\$ 6,958	228	30

# Altar Guild Training Classes



**When:** Saturday, January 21st at 9:00 am

**Where:** Sanctuary

**Who:** Current and perspective altar guild members, individuals and families are welcome!

**What:** Learn about duties of the altar guild, setting up the church for Sunday services, and the seasons of the church year.



We are once again **parking cars for the Rose Parade** - this year on January 2! All proceeds benefit HAGL youth traveling to New Orleans this summer for the National Youth Gathering. A few more adult volunteers are needed! Please show up in *warm clothing* between 4:00am and 6:00am on Jan. 2. Free coffee and a light breakfast will be available! Some youth and parents will be staying overnight in the Youth Room on Jan. 1 arriving at 9:00pm. For those in 8th grade and up!

## Winter Retreats at El Camino Pines



Senior High youth, we are going to camp Feb. 24-26! Middle School youth (6th-8th graders), we are going to camp March 9-11! Matt needs at least one extra adult on each trip in order to go. We also need at least three youth per event in order to attend. The cost is \$140 (which includes a ride to/from camp). A \$50 deposit (checks made to HAGL) is needed by January 29 for the Senior High retreat and January 15 for the Middle School retreat.

# January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  One service 10am	2	3  Jackie's place @ 11:30 am	4  7:30 Choir	5  7:00 GPS	6	7 Epiphany celebration @ Trinity 10-12 Food Shelf
8 8:30 Worship 9:30 S. School 10:45 Worship	9	10 Healing Service-6:30 7:00 pm Board of Deacons Jackie's place @ 11:30 am	11  7:30 Choir	12  7:00 GPS	13 10:00 Prayers & Squares	14 10-12 Food Shelf
15 8:30 Worship 9:30 S. School 10:45 Worship Annual Meeting	16	17  Girl's Night Out 7 pm	18  7:30 Choir	19  7:00 GPS	20	21 10-12 Food Shelf
22 8:30 Worship 9:30 10:45 Worship	23 Bad Weather Shelter 6-9 pm	24 Men's Breakfast 6:45 am Jackie's place @ 11:30 am	25  7:30 Choir	26  7:00 GPS	27 10:00 Prayers & Squares	28 10-12 Food Shelf
29 8:30 Worship 9:30 S. School 10:45 Worship	30	31  4:00 Worship & Music Mtg.				



O God of health and wholeness...

...bring comfort and peace to those who experience  
infirmity of mind, body, or soul.

...we pray for our homebound: Gerry Jung , Evelyn Miraldi, Barbie Biles,  
Helen Thorpe, Collis Woodward

...we pray for friends of our congregation: Ken Ross,Ruth Trinkle ; Marion  
Farrell; Kym Feidler (pronounced with a long I); Carol Calabresse , Pam  
Badik; Edna Crawford; Caitlyn,J.B.; and Jessica; for the family of **Gary Kent  
Barrios** ;Pam, Kelly and Daughter Sierra ,we pray for those who are grieving the loss  
of loved ones and give them strength to carry on.

...we pray for those in need of our prayers: Gayle Riley; Audrey Rasch; Eve-  
lyn Miraldi; and Carl Berni.

.... We pray for the members of our congregation: Mike Farrel; Bob Johnson; Anita  
Mork, Charlotte Packard; Linda Koci

# January Birthdays

Donald Aldridge	1/3	Nancy Sciarra	1/20
Mark Menzies	1/10	Noah Sisson	1/20
Gabriel Pizarro	1/10	Desiree' Velasquez	1/25
Rachel Ewen	1/12	Jean Haworth	1/25
Harold Mills	1/13	Diana Clarke	1/26
Glenda Christensen	1/14	Alexander Blakely	1/27
Marilyn Pyle	1/19	Joy Berni	1/30
Stephanie Neuvirth	1/19	Miriam Hernandez	1/31
		Andrew Lembke	1/31



We're on the WEB!  
www.haglc.org

Phone: 626.792.4169  
Fax: 626.577.6857  
Email: haglc@sbcglobal.net

91106  
Pasadena, CA  
73 N Hill Avenue

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran

- Jan. 2            Rose Parade parking begins at 4:00am  
Jan. 10           Board of Deacons; 7:30pm  
Jan. 10           Healing Service ;7:00 pm  
Jan 13& 27       Prayers & Squares; 10:00am  
**Jan. 15           Annual Meeting of the Congregation; 12:15 noon**  
Jan. 17           Girls Night Out; 7:00pm  
Jan 21           Altar Guild Training Class  
Jan. 24           Men's Breakfast ; 6:45 am  
                      Worship & Music @ 4:30pm

Food Shelf Open Every Saturday 10am -12 pm



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