



# Good News of Grace

## APRIL 2011

Grace Lutheran Church  
330 Green Bay Road  
Thiensville, WI 53092

***“Reaching out to all people as Disciples of Christ, we serve God, proclaim our faith and care for all creation.”***

www.grace53092.org  
262-242-1174 FAX: 262-242-0009

### Easter Morning—Sunday, April 24

On Sunday, April 24, bring family, friends, neighbors and strangers to a celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord. We will gather for worship at 8am and 10:30am.



Both services will be enriched with brass, musical support provided by all our music ensembles, the unburying of the Alleluias (buried since Transfiguration on March 6), and the telling of the greatest story ever told—the story of the empty tomb.

Between services, all are welcome to a festive Easter breakfast prepared by the Men of Grace. Adults: \$6 in advance, \$7 at the door; Children: (7-10) \$4 in advance, \$5 at the door. (*Children 6 and under – no charge*).

Also between services, beginning at 10am, all children are invited to participate in the annual Easter Egg Hunt, with treats supplied by the Shalom Circle and a special appearance by the Easter Bunny!

See pages 3-4 for more information on the rest of the Lent and Holy Week services.

### Confession and Reconciliation

Throughout the year, the pastors are available for individual confession and forgiveness, sometimes called “reconciliation.” The season of Lent—and especially Holy Week—are particularly traditional and appropriate times for this meaningful rite. Contact either pastor if you would like to set up a time for individual confession during this season or throughout the year.

### Worship and Education Schedule

#### Fall/Winter Worship Schedule

Sunday—8am & 10:30am  
1st and 3rd Saturday—5pm



#### Education Sunday School & Adult

Forum:

Sundays—9:15am

Youth Group/Confirmation:  
Wednesdays—6pm

Brown Bag Bible Study:  
Thursdays—12pm

### From the Pastor...

### “This is the Night”: From Death to Life

On Saturday, April 23, we will gather at 6pm for an incredible evening of worship. The Vigil of Easter is one of the most ancient worship traditions in the Christian church—but only recently have Lutheran churches begun to recover this incredible liturgy. I am grateful that we are reviving this tradition at Grace, not only because it is a wonderful night of worship—but more importantly, because it marks the most important movement in the Christian life, the movement that we revisit throughout the year and throughout the baptized journey.

The evening begins outdoors around a fire pit, where we light the “new fire” - a sign of the light that Christ shines into the darkness of our

*(continued on page 2)*

## From the Pastor

(continued from page 1)

broken world. We then light the paschal candle—the big candle that sits by the baptismal font—and we share that light with each other (the same way we do on Christmas Eve). We process into the darkened sanctuary, holding our candles and each other as we prepare to witness again the miracle of resurrection.

One of the high points of the service is a long, beautiful chant which tells the story of God's amazing love for this dying world. Throughout the chant, the cantor and the assembly repeat the phrase "This is the Night" several times. *This is the night...* when God broke the chains of death. *This is the night...* when God delivered Israel from slavery and the angel of death... and on and on.

"This is the night" is not just a song of remembrance, it is a bold claim that *in every night*, God pierces the shadows and shines light on those whom God loves. "This is the night" when God declared once and for all that death and sin could never claim the final victory. Jesus has, once and for all, opened the door to abundant life and closed the door on the powers of darkness.

In every moment of our lives as Christian people, we are held in the promise of "this night." "This is the night" we return to when God washes someone into the family of Christ in the waters of baptism (indeed, in the ancient church, Holy Baptism only occurred at the Vigil of Easter). "This is the night" we return to when we gather to feast on Grace at the Table of Holy Communion. "This is the night" we return to when we gather around hospital beds to pray for healing and wholeness. And "this is the night" we return to when we gather to carry a fellow pilgrim on the last mile of her baptismal journey—to the grave, with singing.

The rest of the service is just as rich and powerful—and, in our case, very fun! We tell ancient stories of God's deliverance, singing

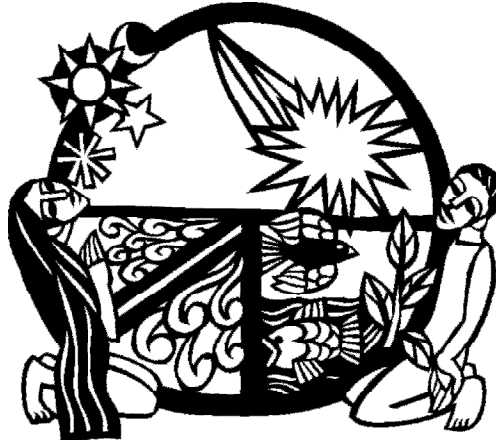
silly songs as we join our children in laughing at death. We celebrate the gift of Baptism. We ring bells and turn on the lights as we sing the glorious Easter hymn. We celebrate Holy Communion—and then we eat ice cream.

I strongly encourage and invite you to join us for this wonderful opportunity to celebrate all the ways God carries us from death into life. But even if you can't make it, I invite you to light a candle at home and pray for us as we gather around the fire and rejoice in God's triumph over darkness and death.

We are a people who journey through the dark of the night, clinging to the light of Christ and singing the glories of God's amazing love for all of creation.

Clinging to that hope, we can finally say: "Alleluia! Thanks be to God!"

Peace,  
Pr Jay



### Grace Lutheran Staff

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Website: [www.grace53092.org](http://www.grace53092.org)

#### Pr. Jay McDivitt

Cell: 262-397-7082

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#### Pr. Ann Williams

Cell: 262-397-7083

E-mail: [pastorann@grace53092.org](mailto:pastorann@grace53092.org)

#### Administrative Assistant: Sandy Luetzgen

Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-2pm

#### Music Coordinator: Brian Dearing

#### Youth/Family Coordinator: Brooke Obregon

#### Nursery Attendant: Shonda Schaff

#### Custodians: Bill and Mary Murray

# “Growing in Grace”: Walking with a Hungry World

## What is God Growing in You?

From Pr Ann



Some of the seedlings we've planted here at the church have begun to sprout. Because all of the seeds are different, each one is a surprise. As I was watering them today, I

caught myself saying out loud, “I wonder what you will be?” If you took a seedling home to tend during these forty days, maybe you're asking yourself the same question and looking forward to discovering the answer with some real anticipation.

On Ash Wednesday, we heard about how we are not “dust” but “soil” and “*to soil we shall return*”. The soil that now fills the baptismal font is a constant reminder of our good, rich, fertile, identity. As you see the soil in the font, as you tend your seedling, pray or keep any other Lenten discipline, I invite you to think about the ways in which God is growing in you. What new thing is about to spring forth in your life? In your family? In your faith? In the world? Where is God in the midst of that? Picture God tending to you, watering you, and hoping not just for your survival but for a full, thriving life the way a farmer might tend to a field with devotion and gentleness. If we are soil then God is the gardener. Look forward to growth with some real anticipation—expect it to happen! Then... tell us about it. Let's see what God is growing at Grace.

You are also invited to check out the “What is God Growing in You?” art project in the narthex—on the tables where the soil and seeds were set up in March. Help us piece together a rich and beautiful celebration of all that God is growing in our lives, our congregation, and our world.

## Special Worship Happenings During Lent

### Wednesday Lenten Evening Prayer

**Wednesdays, April 6 and April 13**

Holden Evening Prayer, Holy Communion, and reflections on some of the Easter Vigil Stories.



### Healing Rite

**Saturday, April 2—5pm and Sunday, April 3—8am and 10:30am**

A service of laying on of hands, anointing, and prayers for healing.

### Holy Week

**Sunday, April 17—Sunday, April 24**

Palm/Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Morning. (See page 4 for more information.)

### World Hunger Giving

Our youth and children will be saving up all during Lent for a generous offering to the World Hunger Appeal. Adults in the congregation are invited to **match** their giving—100%, 10%, 200%. Whatever you think is possible for you. The opportunity to commit to this match will be included in the bulletins during the first weeks of Lent. Contact the office if you'd like to join in!

On Easter Sunday, we will take a **second offering** for the World Hunger in which all are welcome to give generously to this worthy cause. Then we'll let the kids decide which water and agriculture projects to support with all the money raised. Last year, we raised over \$6,000 for World Hunger during Lent. Let's see if we can beat it this year!



# “Growing in Grace”: Walking with a Hungry World

## Wednesday Evenings During Lent April 6 and 13

Join us for an evening of growth in faith and life together for all ages:

**5pm**—Saved By Grace Band practice (newcomers always welcome!)

**5:45pm**—Free Food for All!  
(Free will offerings will support World Hunger)

**6:30pm**—Educational opportunities (see below)

**7:15pm**—Holden Evening Prayer worship

**Note: The Nursery will also be open and staffed from 6:30pm—8pm on Wednesdays**

## Wednesday Educational Opportunities

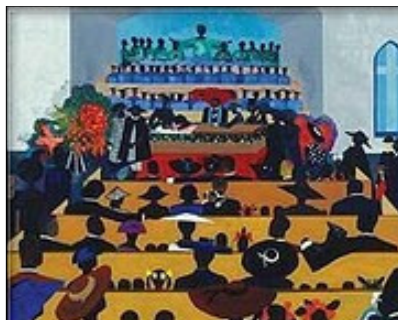
### Planted and Watered, Nourished to Grow: Baptism and Holy Communion



**All kids**—especially, but not exclusively, those who would like to take Holy Communion for the first time on Maundy Thursday (**April 21**)—are invited to join Pr Ann for a fun and interactive exploration of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion (including baking bread together!). **Parents** of children preparing for First Communion are especially invited to attend, and the **Confirmation students** will be helping teach the class. Little ones are welcome to join—or hang out in the Nursery.

### “All of Us Go Down to the Dust”: Wednesday Adult Education

How we die tells us a lot about how we live. Pr Jay will lead a conversation about what Christians believe about death and dying, especially ancient and contemporary funeral practices.



## Holy Week—April 17-24

Mark your calendars and invite your friends to a week of interactive and thoughtful worship:

### Palm/Passion Sunday—April 17 8am and 10:30am



A mixture of praise-filled and haunting music, we gather for a **palm processional** (led by the children) and end with our eyes looking toward Calvary and the Cross. At both services, some of our youth will be acting out the story of Christ’s Passion.

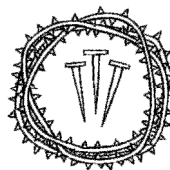
### Maundy Thursday—April 21 7pm

We hear the assurance of forgiveness for the first time since Ash Wednesday, accented by **individual absolution** at the communion rail; our pastors, children and youth will help us **wash each other’s feet**; we will celebrate **Holy Communion** (some of us for the first time!); and we will **strip the altar** in preparation for Good Friday.



### Good Friday—April 22 2pm and 7pm

A simple service at 2pm is followed by an evening service with the **Passion according to John**, a beautiful **prayer for the whole world**, and the **procession and adoration of the cross**.



### Easter Vigil—Saturday, April 23 6pm

We gather around a **fire** to light the Easter candle and process into the church with **candles**; we hear ancient **stories** of deliverance (some acted out by our youth and children); we celebrate **Holy Baptism**; we ring **bells** (led by the kids) and proclaim the resurrection; and we celebrate **Holy Communion**. And then—we have a party afterward!



**See page 1 for information about Easter Morning Celebrations!**

# El Salvador Update /News and Notes



One of the initiatives Grace began supporting last year with its annual El Salvador Sunday contribution is a scholarship program for young adults in Pastor Julio's congregations in Usulután. This year, our contributions have been able to provide scholarships to three young men and women, and over the coming months, we'll get to know each of them better.

This month, we feature Luis Alejandro Alcántar, a member of Pastor Julio's ministry team and a familiar face to those who have seen pictures of the team in the past.

Alejandro is 19 and joined El Buen Pastor, Pastor Julio's main church in Usulután, in 2001. Then 9, he attended a Bible class led by Juan Carlos, Grace's primary contact in Puerto Parada, and Edwin Ortez, eventually joining them on the ministry team.

Alejandro has taught Bible class since 2006 at all three of Pastor Julio's churches, including Grace's sister church in Puerto Parada, Mi Buen Jesús. His goals and dreams for the future include preaching in the communities, for which he has received tutoring from Pastor Julio and co-pastors Edwin and Juan Carlos.

Alejandro attended Cantón los Zelaya grade school, Roberto El Mundo Canessa junior high, and National Institute of Santa Elena high school for his college prep. He currently studies at a school that specializes in engineering, ITCA FEPADE, in La Unión. He is studying for a career in port administration and operations, which includes management of national and international ports and airports.

Alejandro's family includes his dad, his mom, and three older brothers. He currently lives with his parents.



## Guest House Sandwiches



We are again providing simple sandwiches to be handed out to people in need by the Guest House. All are welcome to gather at 8:30am on Wednesday, April 20, to help assemble these sandwiches. We are going to be making sandwiches once a month to begin with— with the opportunity to expand at a later date if we are able.

## Food Drive for All Peoples'

On or before April 13, you are invited to bring non-perishable food items to help stock the shelves at All Peoples' food pantry!

Please leave donations at the collection bins on the south side of the narthex, near the door to the Luther Room.



## St Ben's Lettuce Shredders Needed

Every fourth Thursday of the month, people gather at Grace at 2pm to shred lettuce for the community meal at St Ben's downtown. We need more shredders! If you are able to help out, we would very much appreciate it. Contact Dorene Achterberg (242 0241) if you have any questions.

## Fair Trade Chocolate

Celebrate Easter while helping farmers in Ghana make a living wage! Fair trade chocolate bunnies and eggs will be on sale after worship throughout April.

# News and Notes

## "Over 55" News: Lake Monona Boat Cruise

Join us for a boat cruise on Lake Monona in Madison on June 15. An opportunity to see Madison from the water. Our luncheon buffet will include the following:

Clam chowder, shrimp cocktail, California sushi rolls, smoked salmon display, Nau-Ti-Gal seafood salad, fruit salad, Wisconsin cheese display, vegetarian variety platter, killer shrimp, Canadian walleye, prime rib, grilled chicken, mixed greens medley, assorted desserts, and chocolate-dipped strawberries.

After our two hour cruise, we will take a quick trip to the Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison. We will probably leave the church before ten o'clock and return before five. The approximate cost will be \$65.00 (we're still working on transportation costs) and will include the boat trip, food, tax and tip, and transportation. Sign up will start in mid-April. If you have any questions, give Karen or Gordy Petersen a call.

Sign up will start in mid-April. You are welcome to invite your friends for this event as we will have a big bus and will be able to handle fifty people.

## Grace Outing at Miller Park

### **Sunday, June 26—1:05pm Game**

Baseball season is almost here, and the Men of Grace are again sponsoring an outing to Miller Park. We are trying something new this year by selecting a Sunday afternoon game.

This year's game will be on **Sunday, June 26**, against the Minnesota Twins with a 1:05pm game time. Come and enjoy a great baseball game, fellowship, food, beverages, and a bus ride to and from the game. Tickets will go on sale in April, so please save the date.



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## Lutheran A Cappella Choir

The Lutheran A Cappella Choir of Milwaukee will present its Spring Concert, "What Wondrous Love", on Friday, April 15th at 7:30PM at First Immanuel Lutheran Church, W67 N622 Evergreen Blvd., Cedarburg, WI 53012, and on Sunday, April 17th at 3:00PM at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 1615 Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213. The concert will feature music of Holy Week, and include works by Bach, Durufle, Weelkes, Gibbons, Lotti and Stroepe.



The featured work on the first half of the program is the St. John Passion by John Ferguson, which includes the reading of the Passion narrative combined with hymns and anthems reflecting on the text. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults, \$12.00 for students and seniors, and can be obtained at the door, online at [www.lutheranacappella.org](http://www.lutheranacappella.org), by calling 262-521-4545.

## Thank You!

...to all the people who helped pull off the Augsburg Choir event, hosting students in their homes and providing a wonderful dinner beforehand: Patty and Karl Ayer, Christa Buchweitz, Jim and Judy Button, Donna Eigel, Paul and Mary Gieschen, JoAnn Holdmann, Matt and Veronica Junker, Jerry Karthaus, Neal and Rita Karthaus, Steve and Cindy Karthaus, Walter and Holly Kremmel, Bill and Dawn Luebke, Alice Neitzel, Lynne Nemcek, Gordy and Karen Petersen, and Dorothy Sage. Special thanks to Mary Karthaus for coordinating this event!

...to the Karthaus greenhouse for donating the soil, and to Karen Larsen for donating the seeds and pots for the "Ashes to Ashes, Soil to Soil" project during Lent.

# News and Notes

## Stories to Tell. Gifts to Share

During worship on Sunday, April 10, Pr Jay will lead the congregation in a “storytelling” event. As we prepare for the spring stewardship emphasis, we are focusing on what it means to connect the dots of God’s grace in our life stories—to see and to tell others about how much God has done for us. Connecting our story with God’s story—and the story of Grace—will help us identify God’s grace in our lives and to respond with grateful and generous lives. We all have stories to tell and gifts to share... bring them to the Table!

## Finding A Home In Grace New Members

Have you been visiting for a while? Looking for a church to call "home"? Think you may have found it here? We'd love to welcome you and invite you more fully into our life together! We will be welcoming new members into the Grace community on May 1, 8, or 15, depending on the consensus of the folks who are joining. If you are interested, or if you just have questions about what we're up to here at Grace, please contact Pr Jay (pastorjay@grace53092.org or 262 397 7082).

## Let's Crow About Our Kids

Ellie Bettridge and Craig Koch had parts in Homestead’s musical, “The Pajama Game.” Bryanna Hathaway, Valerie Gilhams and Alex Lewandowski were in the pit orchestra.

Benjamin Stauss, grandson of Jeanne Stauss, had high honors at Cedarburg High School.

Holly Dooge, 6<sup>th</sup> grade, won first place for the annual Delta Kappa Gamma-Chi teacher literary sorority book contest, which was entered by children throughout Ozaukee County.



## APRIL Birthdays!

Name	Date
Donna Deutschmann	1
Curtis Umhoefer	1
Diane Omdahl	2
Ethan Tock	2
John Walch	2
Melissa Decker	3
Kathleen Young	3
Patty Ayer	5
Kathy Ranallo	6
Michael Slamann	8
James O'connor	9
John Grasse	10
Kim Lohr	10
David Sampe	10
Makenna Kison	11
Steven Nanke	11
Dorothy Sage	11
Esther Engle	12
Doreen Goniu	13
Barbara Gehrke	14
Reid Liegeois	16
Joan Lorenz	16
Dennis Ellner	20
Mary Scheig	20
Arthur Habermann	23
Jackson Names	28
Jane Hausinger	29
Rita Karthaus	29
Kelsey Wagner	30



*If you have a birthday this month and your name is not listed, we apologize. Please call the church office so that we may update our records.*

*Thank you!*

## Church Financial Update—FYTD

(October 1, 2010 through Mar. 31, 2011)

Budgeted Expenses:	\$ 118,914
Actual Income:	\$ 124,060
Actual Expenses:	\$ 110,952
Difference: Inc. less Exp.:	\$ 13,108

Thank you for continuing respond to God’s call to give generously to our ministry together!

Please remember: Requests for reimbursements **must be** signed by either the chair of the related Board or a Pastor connected to that ministry. Unauthorized expenses cannot be reimbursed. Please contact Steven Names or Pr Jay if you have any questions. Thanks!

Grace Lutheran Church  
303 Green Bay Road  
Thiensville, WI 53092

APRIL 2011  
GOOD NEWS OF GRACE

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**Worship:**

Worship with Holy Communion

Sundays: 8 & 10:30am

1st and 3rd Saturdays: 5pm

**Education:**

Sunday School for All Ages: 9:15 am

Youth Night—Wednesdays: 6pm-8pm

Bible Study—Thursdays: 12pm



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

***Look Inside...***

***Easter Morning (page 1)***

***From the Pastor: This is the Night: From Death to Life (pages 1-2)***

***"Growing in Grace": Walking with a Hungry World (pages 3-4)***

***El Salvador Update, Guest House Sandwiches, Food Drive for All Peoples', St. Ben's Lettuce Shredders, Fair Trade Chocolate (page 5)***

***"Over 55" News, Lutheran A Cappella Choir, Thank You!, Stories to Tell. Gifts to Share, Finding a Home In Grace New Members, Let's Crow About Our Kids, Birthdays, and Financial Update (pages 6-7)***

***April Calendar (Insert)***

# APRIL WORSHIP LEADERS

## GREETERS

8:00		10:30 a.m.
3	Kathy Ranallo	Donna Eigel
10	Alice Neitzel	Betty Thompson
17	Viola Sachse	Tews Family
24		

## ASSISTANT MINISTERS

8:00		10:30 a.m.
3	None Needed	None Needed
10		Cindy Karthausen
17	Paul Gieschen	Fran Grant
24	Leila Chambers	Paul Gieschen

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:00		10:30 a.m.
3	None Needed	None Needed
10	1 Karen Larsen 2 Kathy Ranallo	1 Karen Petersen 2 Gordy Petersen
17	1 Walter Kremmel 2 Holly Grassin-Kremmel	1 Debbie Tews 2
24	1 Dan Umhoeffer 2 Theresa Umhoeffer	1 2

## ACOLYTES

8:00		10:30 a.m.
3	USHER	Maddie Gehr
10	USHER	
17	USHER	Sarah Karmarainen
24	USHER	Maddie Gehr

## READERS

8:00		10:30 a.m.
3	JoAnn Holdmann	Roy Tock
10	Holly Grassin-Kremmel	Mary Gieschen
17	Karen Petersen	Jim Button
24	Wendy Arneson	Jerry Karthausen

## COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

3	Mary Gieschen
10	Kathy Young
17	
24	None needed

*(SEE DIANE UMHOEFER TO SIGN UP FOR COMM. SET-UP)*

**COMMUNION SET-UP**    8:00 a.m.                      10:30 a.m.

April 3	None needed	None Needed
Lent 4/6	Theresa Umhoefer	
April 10	Elsbeth Bruhnke	Holly Grassin-Kremmel
Lent 4/13	Angela Thom	
April 17	Karen Larsen	Shirley Warber
Maudy Thursday	Karen Petersen	
April 24	JoAnn Holdmann	JoAnn Holdmann

## FLOWERS

### USHERS

**8:00 a.m.**    Glenn Guetzke ©, Brandon Guetzke, Red Benson  
**10:30 a.m.**    Ralph Buchweitz ©, Bill Luebke, Shirley Warber, Frank Wolf

### COUNTERS

**April 4**            Ralph\* and Christa Buchweitz  
**April 11**            Marven\* and Marcia Seehusen  
**April 18**            Martin Panning\* and John Walch  
**April 25**            Walter Kremmel\* and Holly Grassin-Kremmel

### Wednesday Lent Communion Assistants:

4/6            Helga Ickert and Elsbeth Bruhnke

4/13

PEWS: Christa Buchweitz

## Help us Serve!

**Please help us out in the office by signing up well in advance to be a worship volunteer. Sign-up sheets are on the Communication Desk. Try something new! We'll get you trained and ready to go!**

# APRIL 2011

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**303 GREEN BAY ROAD, THIENSVILLE**  
**262-242-1174**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
						5pm Worship/ Healing Rite
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:00 am Worship/Healing 9:15 am Sunday School/ Forum 9:15 am Women's Choir Reh 10:30 am Worship/Healing. 11:30 am Men's Choir Reh		7 pm Community Life Meeting	5:00 pm SBG 5:45 Lenten Supper 6:30 pm Education 7:15 pm Worship	9:30 am Bridge 12:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Grace Reh. 8:00 pm Bells		8 am Men's Bible Study
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:00 am WORSHIP/COM. 9:15 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School / Forum 10:30 am WORSHIP/COM.	7 pm Social Concerns Meeting		5 pm SBG Reh. 5:45 pm Lent Supper 6:30 pm Education 7:15 pm Worship	12:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Grace Reh. 8:00 pm Bells		No Saturday Worship Service
						<b>Youth Lock-in</b>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY 8:00 am WORSHIP/COM. 9:15 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School / Forum 10:30 am WOSHIP/COM.  11:30 am Bd of Education		7 pm Shalom	8:30 am Guest House Sandwiches	Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm Worship	GOOD FRIDAY 2:00 PM Worship 7:00 pm Worship	HOLY SATURDAY 9 am SBG 9:30 am Women 10:00 am Men Reh. 10:30 am Chancel 11:00 Bells 11:30 Grace Choir 6:00 pm Easter Vigil
<b>Youth Lock-in</b>						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
EASTER 8:00 am WORSHIP/COM. 9:15 am Easter Breakfast 10:30 am WORSHIP/COM.		7 pm Council	6 pm Youth Night	12:00 pm Bible Study 2:00 pm Lettuce 5:00 pm St. Bens 6:30 pm Grace Reh. 8:00 pm Bells		