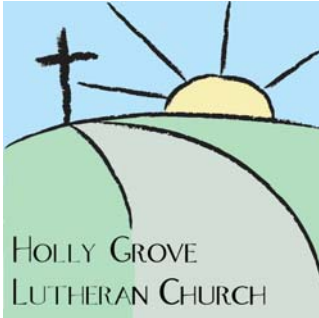


Holly Grove Lutheran

February 2011



GROWING TO SERVE!

The Holly Leaf

Invite Worship
 Give
 Study
 Encourage
 Pray
 Serve

Congregational Meeting in February

A congregational meeting will be held Sunday, February 20 after worship. Annual Reports from 2010 will be presented to the congregation. The 2011 Membership Directory will be presented to the congregation.

125th Anniversary Celebration a Huge Success!

Although delayed one week by weather, the 125th Celebration held at HGLC on Sunday, January 2 and was a rousing success! The sanctuary was filled with folks who gave witness to their faith through the years and celebrated church founders with a worship service that featured service elements from hymnals that



were used at HGLC over the years. A highlight of the service was the Anthem performed by the HGLC Senior Choir and accompanied by trumpets and trombones! It was spectacular!

See more on pages 5 & 10! Photos by Joyce Suggs

Inside this issue:

Calendar
 Worship Servers
 Senior News
 From the Pastor
 Birthdays & Anniversaries

• **Daily Prayers, links, to ELCA , sermons, The Holly Leaf, events & more on our website:**

www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org

• **February Basket Offering: Youth Ministry**

• **Newsletter Team**

Caroline Mocko

Pastor John Mocko, Editor

Contributing: Minnie Conrad

Choir Prac-
tice
Wednesdays
7:30PM

February 2011

Weight Watchers
Thursdays 530PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7PM Steward- ship	2	3 7PM Mutual Ministry	4	5 10AM Acolyte Training
6 915AM SS 1030AM Wor- ship <i>Audits</i> <i>performed</i>	7 7PM Keeping the Promise Campaign Committee- OC 7PM CHICK	8	9 AWE Fellowship Hall 545PM Meal 630PM Worship	10	11	12
13 915AM SS 1030AM Wor- ship 8AM Coun- cil Leader- ship Team meets	14 Valentine's Day  7PM Coun-	15	16 1030AM Seniors AWE Fellowship Hall 545PM Meal	17	18	19 FH Re- served 1PM-5PM
20 915AM SS 1030AM Wor- ship Congrega- tional Meeting after Worship	21 630PM Agape	22	23 AWE Fellowship Hall 545PM Meal 630PM Wor- ship	24 Holly Leaf deadline	25	26
27 915AM SS 1030AM Wor- ship	28 7PM LMIM					

Dear friends in Christ,

The Power of One. One church, even one small church like Holly Grove Lutheran can make a huge difference.

Consider our history. Holly Grove Academy to provide education for the children of this community was part of the original vision for Holly Grove Lutheran. What a bold, risky step for Lutherans to take in order to make life better for the people who lived here. One church made a big difference in many families.

It may be hard for us to believe, but there was a time in church life when there was no such thing as Sunday School. The Sunday School movement was a new innovation in the 1700's and became popular in the late 1800's in America. Holly Grove Lutheran Church was the first church in the Lexington area to have a Sunday School where people could learn reading and writing at the same time that they learned the ABC's of faith. People from other Lutheran churches would come to this grove and learn about the Lord. One church took a risk, stepped out in faith, and made a big difference.

A couple of years ago, in partnership with local school leaders, Holly Grove once again took a bold, risky step to support education in our community. One of the things we decided to do was to fill and send backpacks for children who needed good nourishment. What began with a conversation around the table in our Office Complex has now evolved into something much larger. Kim Hendrick, Social Worker at Davis Townsend, tells the story of the impact of the seed we have sown on other churches. Now she has five churches doing something similar for the families she serves. She told her co-workers in other schools what we did, and now two other schools have churches who provide food for hungry children. The power of one has become, by the amazing grace of God, something much bigger, much better than any of us might have imagined in our Office Complex a few years ago. Thanks be to God. Glory to God in the highest, and blessings to his people on earth.

Sometimes, especially when the problems we face seem overwhelming, it is hard to imagine that one church or one person can make any difference. When Jesus wanted the disciples to feed the 5000, Andrew said, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. ***But what are they among so many?***" Yes!! That is our question too.

Jesus invites us to step out beyond the question, to plant a seed, to water it, to till the ground around it, and then to allow God to make the seed grow. God will provide. What we are called to do is act - one person, one church at a time. The One God will intervene to bring blessings beyond expectation.

Living in faith and hope,

Pastor John



125th Anniversary Celebration

Kim & John Payne dressed "for the past" as did Carolina Conrad, Cornelia Conrad, and Carol Varner.

AWE-some!

Don't miss it!

A W E

*Awesome
Worship
Experience*

Meal at 5:45PM
Worship
6:30-7:30PM

It is different!

Try it, you
may just like it!

It's about God!
It's about Prayer!
It's about Love!

AWE

Come as you are!
At Holly Grove Lu-
theran Church

All are Welcome!
Come as you are!



Kim & Cornelia



Mary
Ellen
made the
cake(s)
then
helped
PJ cut it!
Yummy!
And so
pretty!

Youth Hand Bell Choir
Performs the Prelude



A Letter from Pastor John

One of the earliest names for Christianity is “The Way” (Acts 9:2). I like that name for the faith we hold. Jesus said to his disciples, “I am the way and the truth and the life.” (John 14:6) As a child of God, I try to live my life in the kind of way that Jesus lived, the kind of way that Jesus taught is possible. Furthermore, I believe with every thought I have, that the way of Jesus is the best possible way to live.

I do not believe for a second that I have an irrational or blind faith. I look with open eyes into the world and seek to live according to Jesus.

I am convinced that forgiving people is a better way to live than carrying around bitterness.

I am convinced that being generous is a better way to live than to live without generosity.

I am convinced that having compassion is better than living with hardness in my heart.

I am convinced that being humble delivers great blessings as opposed to living a prideful life.

I am convinced that being merciful leads to a much fuller life than holding someone else’s feet to the fire.

I am convinced that hunger and thirst for righteousness brings satisfaction beyond compare.

I am convinced that being a peacemaker establishes relationships that last.

I am convinced that praying with devotion to God centers my life in a place of peace that this world cannot give to me.

I am convinced that being pure in heart puts me in closer touch with the living God.

I am convinced that hearing God’s word with others helps me to see things I might not have seen on my own.

I am convinced that being honest with others, speaking the truth in love, deepens relationships for the long haul.

I am convinced of these things because I have been taught them and I have found as I have lived out my life that they work. I don’t think I am odd or unusual for holding such beliefs. Everybody follows some way. I am trying to follow Jesus. The more I follow Jesus, the more I realize that his way is the best way to live, rooted in the way God designed us to be as human creatures. My life works better and I am more at peace when I follow Jesus.

I wish I were better at following Jesus. I wish I were better because I would have more peace. I would have more love. I would have more hope. And the life of everyone around me would be better, too, if I were but more faithful.

So I ask for God’s forgiveness. I seek the Lord’s face. I pray, “Lord, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me a sinner.” I confess to the Lord, “I believe. Help my unbelief.”

And I get back up on my feet, forgiven, to walk again in the way of Jesus. And I discover again life at its best.

I am persuaded that one of the great things about a congregation happens when we encourage one another with grace and love, with truth and forgiveness, with hope and understanding to walk with Jesus, to follow the Way he has given us.

Happy Birthday in Febru-

James Palmer	
1	
Joanne Black	
2	
Meagan Carroll	3
Alex Queen	7
Karen Beck	8
Myra Beck	9
Herbert Frank	
9	
Carol Conrad	11
Kara Lohr	11
David Clark	13
Tina Hedrick	13
Claire Conrad	
15	
Etta Lee Conrad	18
Taylor Gabriel	19
Chuck Smith	19
Michael Byerly	24
James Beck	25
Bonnie Hedrick	26

Happy Anniversary in Febru-

Chip & Ann Blower	26
Scott & Donna Parks	27



Vergie Lucille Monteith
 Don Sanford
 Sue Anderson
 Edna Conrad
 Maxine Conrad
 Barbara Conrad
 Larry Vaughn
 Beverly Harrison

All are listed in your directory. Please remember them with a call or a card.

Update! Our new phone tree! The phone tree has been purchased for a total cost of \$1411.29 AND we are sending in for a \$150 discount for a net total of \$1261.29!

No budgeted monies were used in the purchase of the phone tree, fundraisers and donations made this purchase possible, all in an effort to better communicate with our members.

Prior to using the phone tree system, you will be asked to let the office know if you would like to receive calls. If you do not give your permission to received calls, you will not be part of the HGLC PhoneTree. More details to follow!

Next Month! Tuesday, March 8

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Prepared & Served by

CHICK (Connecting Hearts in Christ's Kingdom)

Serving begins at 5PM in Fellowship Hall

Love Offering

All are welcome! Come as you are!



Seniors

by Minnie Conrad

Holly Grove Senior Citizens met Wednesday, January 19th with 21 present. The Fellowship Hall was decorated with a centerpiece of gerber daisies. President Virginia White welcomed everyone and brought us up to date on the ones who weren't present. Gail James was a visitor.

Myra Beck read a devotion about Faith. Faith means trust or unquestioning belief. Moses had faith when he accepted God's call to lead Israel out of bondage in Egypt. She closed with a song that Exit 9 sang at our Grace Awakening. Part of it says "God says Moses, you gotta go and Moses says, I don't wanta go." We know that Moses did go. Many others have had only their faith to rely on.

Myra had the group play Bingo, then led us in exercises. Then we enjoyed a delicious meal of salad, vegetable beef soup and assorted sandwiches. Desert consisted of cream cake, peaches and raw apple cake.

We would love to have you join us at Mt. Tabor each third Wednesday at 10:30.

An Opportunity for YOU!

If God has a perfect vision for our lives, why does spiritual growth seem so difficult? Pastor and author John Ortberg has some intriguing answers to that question in his book:

[The Me I Want To Be: Becoming God's Best Version of You.](#)

Join me as we learn to gauge our spiritual health and measure the gap between where we are now and where God intends us to be. This class will begin on February 13th at 9:15 am in the parlor. The cost of the book is \$13.59.

Please let Tina Hofer know if you want to order a book. This book could change your life!

We are starting into our fourth year with the backpacks for Hungry Kids Program . twenty five backpacks of nutritional food are packed, once a month & sent to local school kids in need through a local social worker, . average cost of monthly backpacks have risen to 310.00. there are ten to twelve full meals per back pack, with 250 meals per month total. In a years time, in ten months of school, 2500 meals will have been delivered . Thank you for your prayers, support, food & money. The Backpack program is totally surviving on your contributions. No money is taken from the General Fund for the backpacks. It is through your generous donations of food & money , along with the congregation fundraisers & money from trivent that we have been able to continue providing the monthly backpacks. Thank You again , Barry

How to Pray! 10 Simple Ideas!

1. Pray where you are; God is present everywhere & ready to listen!
2. Pray, when possible, in a quiet place where you can be alone. It is well to fix your mind deliberately on God, away from confusing distractions.
3. Pray to God simply & naturally-as to a friend. Tell Him what is on your mind. Get help from the prayers of others.
4. Pray, remembering the good things God has done for you. Reckon up your blessings from time to time, and give thanks for them.
5. Pray for God's forgiveness for the unworthy things that you have done. He cherishes a
6. humble and contrite heart.
7. Pray for the things you need, especially those that will make your life finer & more Christlike.
8. Pray for others, remembering the situations they confront & the help they need.
9. Pray for the world in its need, asking God to bring better things and offering your help to all in need.
10. Pray above everything else that God's will may be done in you & in the world. His purposes are deeper & wiser than anything we can imagine.
11. Pray, and then let God use you in answering your prayer.



Lots of good food (from Southern Lunch) and fond memories were shared by all.

Prayers were written and tied to 125 balloons that were released as the final act of celebration for the 125th Anniversary of HGLC!

Congratulations to Paula Hedrick and Tina Heitman for a year's full of good work!
We appreciate you both!

125th Anniversary Luncheon
at Beck's Lutheran Church

We need adults who love children to lead
our elementary school -age youth group.
See Pastor John if you are willing!



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The Reverend John Mocko, Pastor
www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org
email: pastorjohn@hollygrovelutheranchurch.org
office: hglc@hollygrovelutheranchurch.org

PRAY FOR OUR

MILITARY

Sundays

915AM Sunday School

1030AM Worship

Wednesdays

5:45PM Meal 6:30PM-7:30PM Worship

AWE Awesome Worship Experience

Food + Fellowship + Prayer + Music



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