

J A N U A R Y 2 0 1 0

AMAZING GRACE

NEWS BY AND FOR GRACE FELLOWSHIP - EL PASO, ILLINOIS

Happy New Year!!

Coming Soon!

4th Sunday Meal

January 24th

Join us right after church for lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Sometimes these meals are potluck, sometimes a group sponsors and prepares the food in order to raise funds for a Grace organization or cause. Whatever the focus, you can be sure the food and fellowship will be great!

All Church Mystery Dinner

February 6th

Watch for sign up sheets for this fun and fabulous Fellowship Night. This family oriented event will be centered around the theme "love."

Amazing Super Bowl Party

February 7th

*Football on the big screen and food!
More details coming soon!*

As we look forward to 2010, we know that God specializes in clean slates and fresh starts. Let's join together and look at ways to make this year, and the rest of our lives, the best they can be.

FAMILY EUCHRE NIGHT!

JANUARY 30

6:30 - 10:30

PLEASE BRING A SNACK AND A 2 LITER BOTTLE OF DRINK.

AND YOUR CARD PLAYING FRIENDS!

SEE DONNA HAAS IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS...

RSVP...SEE THE SIGN UP SHEET IN THE FOYER.

VBS 2010 planning begins!



Donna Haas is getting in gear for the 2010 VBS to take place this summer. Would YOU like to help plan this year's VBS? Watch your Sunday bulletin for the first planning meeting coming up SOON. On the agenda will be a discussion about the curriculum we want to use. Donna would like to hear from former leaders, Gladys Carr, Pam Finck, Jennifer Lindsey, Connie Armstrong, Colleen McDonald, Amy Kent, Vivian Giese, and Kim Duncan. Are you are willing to serve in the same area again this year?

Jr. High to host 4th Sunday meal in February

On Sunday, Feb. 28th the Junior High Youth group will be hosting the 4th Sunday meal. Any donations received will be used towards future Junior High Youth Group projects and events. The menu will be announced at a later date.

**WATCH FUTURE
NEWSLETTERS AND
BULLETINS FOR PLANS
FOR A JUNIOR HIGH LOCK-
IN IN FEBRUARY OR
MARCH!**

High School Youth Group looks forward to several events planned for early 2010

Ski Trip REMINDER - January 16 - The group will be leaving at 6:00 a.m! Dress warm, bring money for food, and dry clothes for the ride home.

High School Girls' Retreat to Wilderness Waterpark in Wisconsin Dells! All High School girls are welcome. The group will leave February 26th at 10:00 a.m., and return February 27th (late). The cost is \$60/person. Money is DUE February 6th. See Kipp or Colleen for details.

Habitat for Humanity March 21-27, in Pontotoc, Mississippi. This event is for all mission minded High School students. The group will be building, finishing, and cleaning homes. The cost for the week long trip is \$100. Please see Kipp McDonald, Youth Minister by MARCH 3rd.

Christmas Eve service combines worship, song, and fellowship

This snowy Christmas Eve, the auditorium at Grace Fellowship was filled with over 150 worshippers as Grace families and visitors alike celebrated the coming of Christ as an infant. This year, the new Grace creative team was involved in planning the service. As we entered, the praise band “wowed” us with their new sound by offering “Joy to the World.” Next, we heard from Grace’s adult choir featuring Angie Dent as soloist, then we all worshipped in song together. A short,



movie clip turned our thoughts to God’s presence...instead of presents, then we were touched by a humorous skit in which Kerry Leonard and Don Sweeney played the lead roles. The M & M Singers sang “Rejoice!”, then Dan Giese gave the young children a “hands on” experience unwrapping gifts while teaching about the gifts the wise men brought to the young Jesus. During his devotion, Dan reminded us that Christ is “The Gift.” Lastly, worshippers formed a circle of light and sang traditional carols lead by Velda Faulk on the piano. We ended with the Grace tradition of “Silent Night.” Many people continued their fellowship after the service by staying for cookies and punch in the Fellowship Hall.

Archeological discoveries collaborate biblical events

Did you know that a severe drought in 1985-86 brought the Sea of Galilee to unusually low levels, exposing large areas of the lakebed along the shoreline. It was there two brothers discovered the remains of a 2,000 year old boat. The planks of the hull were edge-joined with mortise and tendon joints held together by wooden pegs and it measured approximately 30 feet long and 8 feet wide making it capable of accommodating four oarsmen and one helmsman, plus as many as fifteen passengers. Pottery fragments found in the boat were identifiable as similar to fragments found in other Galilean excavation sites. In addition, carbon 14 dating gave corroborating dates between 120 BC and AD 40. Although no one has claimed this to be the exact boat Jesus traveled in, it is similar the ones he and his twelve disciples used in Matt 8:18, 23-27, 9:1, 14:13- 14, 22-32, 15:39, 16:5; Mark 4:35-41, 5:18, 21, 6:32-34, 45-51, 8:9-10, 13-14; Luke 6:1, 8:22-25, 37, 40; John 6:16-21). The preserved boat has a permanent home in a specially constructed exhibit hall at Kibbutz Ginnosar. It has become a highlight for tourists visiting the Holy Land.



Galilee Boat

2 0 1 0 J A N U A R Y E D I T I O N



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Grace Fellowship Groups – Choose one and JOIN!

Senior High Youth Group

Students 9th - 12th grades

Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.

Kipp McDonald, Youth Pastor

Belong! Build trustworthy relationships.

Junior High Youth Group

Students 6th - 8th grades

Sunday - 6:30 p.m.

Kipp McDonald

Mark & Jen Whitcomb,

*Worship and fun with kids
your age. Grow!*

Ladies' Bible Study

*For adult women in all stages of
their walk with Christ*

Thursdays - 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Form Friendships

Investigate God's word

Pray!

Mens' Bible Study

*For adult men in all stages of their
walk with Christ*

Thursdays - 6:00 - 7:00 a.m.

Support!