

AMAZING GRACE

April 2010

www.grace99.org

PAID IN
FULL

Easter in full bloom at Grace

By now, you've mailed your impact card, you've signed up for a station at the Egg Hunt, you've planned to participate in the prayer walk on Good Friday, and you're anticipating the great breakfast the men of Grace are preparing on Easter morning. Never before has Easter at Grace been such a large outreach. We are mobilized, we are trained, and we are covered by prayer. Let's look for the exciting things God will do through us!

Good Friday
Experience Christ's Passion Prayer
Walk

7:00 p.m. Grace Fellowship Auditorium

Saturday, April 3
Community Wide Egg Hunt

10:30 am @ Library Park

Power Surge Puppets

Egg hunts, face painting, cookie
decorating,

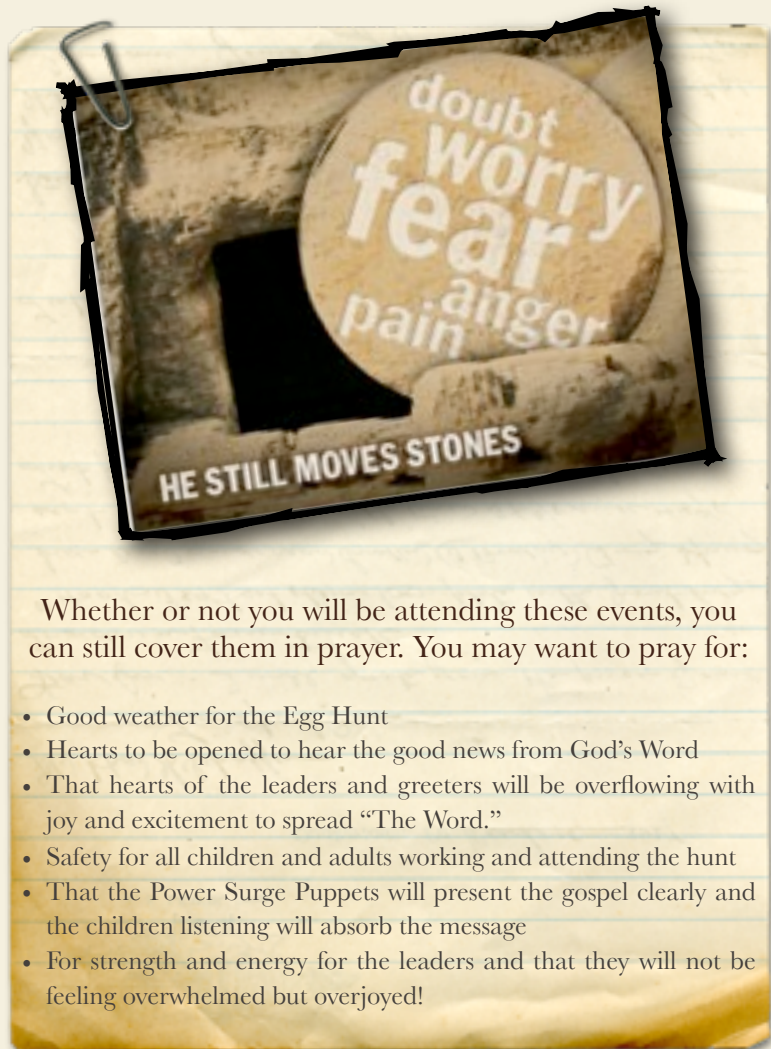
free hot dogs and more!

Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. Breakfast

10:15 Worship - "The Power of the
Cross."

Jesus paid it all, all
to Him I owe;
Sin had left a
crimson stain,
He washed it white
as snow.



Whether or not you will be attending these events, you can still cover them in prayer. You may want to pray for:

- Good weather for the Egg Hunt
- Hearts to be opened to hear the good news from God's Word
- That hearts of the leaders and greeters will be overflowing with joy and excitement to spread "The Word."
- Safety for all children and adults working and attending the hunt
- That the Power Surge Puppets will present the gospel clearly and the children listening will absorb the message
- For strength and energy for the leaders and that they will not be feeling overwhelmed but overjoyed!



New Prayer Room opens Easter weekend at Grace

WHEN JESUS COMES INTO OUR HEARTS

BY BONNIE HAAS

Most of you probably know my husband, Frank, but for those of you who don't, he's a busy man. He has been going to college for 6 years, he works full-time, and also farms.

One year in particular was very difficult for him. Just about everything that could go wrong did go wrong, and among all the other "normal" things, he was to write a final paper for his college class. He was getting so upset he just could not focus.

I wanted to help him so much.

I asked two wonderful men from our church to come to our house and pray with Frank. Yes, I could have prayed with him that day, but there was just something different about having the men come to pray together.

Frank cried a lot of tears that day. We could see that Jesus had touched his heart.

I am so glad the two men were willing to come and pray with Frank, and in case you are wondering, Frank got an A on his final paper.

For this reason, and many others, the Lord has laid it on my heart to design a prayer room at Grace. This is not in anyway to replace the prayer chain. But when a person's heart has been touched by a certain sermon and tears start to flow, it would be nice to have a place to pray in private or even just a place to talk with a friend.

It is my hope that this prayer room will help us to shut out the busy-ness of the world. I hope it will help us to be still and

hear God's still small voice in the clamor of this crazy world.

The prayer room can be as quiet as you want it. Or, if you would like music or certain sounds, there will be a radio that has the ability to play music or make the sounds of a waterfall, rain, or the ocean.

There are three crosses on the west wall. The center cross is for your prayer requests. You will see index cards clipped to it. When you feel the prayer has been answered, get in touch with me. I will take the request down and record it in a book. Then, we can look back and see just how much work The Lord has done. There will be others who will see your request and they can pray for you too.

If you wish for your prayers to be kept private, there will be a drop box in the room. Slip your request into the box and I will pray for you.

God really does want a one-on-one relationship with us through prayer. Scripture tells us so.

Someday, I would like to do a 24/7 prayer vigil for everyone in our church and community. If you would like to be a part of this, please let me know.

I will be available to pray with anyone at anytime. Please call if you need prayer or if you have any ideas about the prayer room. My number is 527-5071. You will get an answer machine, but please leave a message. Thank you so much. I hope you enjoy the room.



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GRACE PRAYS FOR SOLDIERS

Recently, I received the following message regarding an area soldier. It is written by his father, Dick Tibbs.

I want to share with all a Saturday morning phone call I don't want again. At 0745 I received a call from a Gunnery Sgt. Linck that my son Sean had been involved in an incident in Afghanistan. He told me immediately that Sean was alright but had suffered some injuries; lacerations of the right leg, grade 2 concussion, bloody nose and bruising of the torso. He was being taken back to Camp Dwyer, his home base south of Camp Leatherneck and would be medically evaluated there. It was a 6 hour trip. He was running

security in a MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle on a re-supply convoy in the Marjah vicinity of Helmand province, the marines' latest big push in Afghanistan. He was on top of the vehicle manning the turret, which is about 12-15' about the ground. He believes that they ran over an IED (Improvised Explosive Device) and it blew him off/out of the turret to the ground. The lacerations, as far as we know, were the result of shrapnel but they were not too serious. I asked him how deep they were and he didn't know that as they had drugged him up. This information was made known to us after we talked to him Saturday afternoon after his return to base. He was hospitalized for overnight

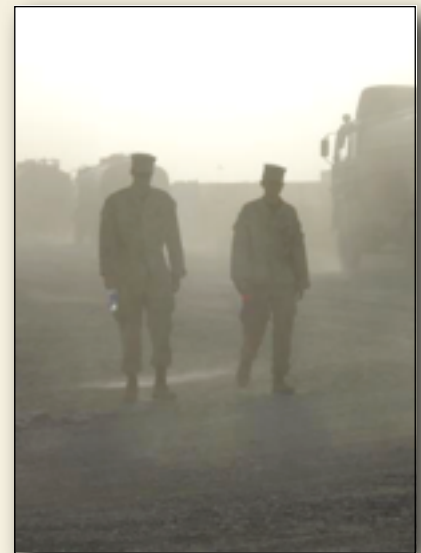
observation. My wife and I have not heard from him since that time but expect to in the next few days. I will keep you informed of what I know in the future. When talking to him he said he was alright, but just got some bumps and bruises.

Editor's note: Today, Sean is fine and already back out on his unit. This overwhelming event serves as a reminder to keep our servicemen in our prayers.

...For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways... Psalm 91:11

Kathy Armstrong will be preparing packages to be mailed to our troops on Tuesday, April 6 at 12:30. If you would like to help, come on by Grace!

In the meantime, donations are being accepted. Ideas include unscented baby wipes, medicated foot powder, cotton undershirts, beef jerky, powdered drink mixes (i.e. iced tea, raspberry tea, instant coffee, hot chocolate), unscented baby powder, real, soft toilet paper, anti bacterial gel, CamelBak Cleaning tablets (available at Dick's Sporting Goods), recent magazines, movies, music CDs, catsup, mustard in small restaurant size packs, popped pop corn (ship alone) personal care kits (the kind with mini scissors, nail clippers, nail file, etc.), games, shampoo, soap, candy/gum, letters and cards, medicated face wipes hand lotion.





Ahoy Maties! Climb aboard! Summer VBS is coming!



Our 4th Sunday meal on April 25th will be supporting this summer's VBS "High Seas Adventure." We will be cooking Islands and Logs on a bun, Seaweed Salad, Cannon Blasters, and much more. Please plan on staying and participating in the annual silent pie auction! **If you would like to donate a pie, see Donna Haas.** Bring your change during the months of May and June and fill the net! Also, mark your calendars for May 4th, and plan on dining at Monical's. They will donate 20% of each ticket accompanied with our flyer to our Vacation Bible School. If all of our fundraising efforts earn \$1000 again this year, Pastor Dan has graciously agreed to be Seaweed Slimed! \$1 for a cup of slime to pour on Captain Dan! OR place a secret (amount will not be disclosed) bid, highest paid bidder gets a gallon of slime for the

DID YOU KNOW.....

GRACE FELLOWSHIP BUILDING IS CERTIFIED AS DISASTER RELIEF SHELTER

Ever since its construction in 1999, the Grace Fellowship church building has been designated and certified as an American Red Cross disaster relief shelter. Persons needing emergency shelter resulting from a fire, flood, windstorm, tornado or other natural or human-caused disasters can seek shelter at Grace. In the near future it would be advantageous to all to have a plan in place should such an event occur. If you are interested in helping form a plan, please contact one of your elders.

good faring Captain of our Ship! Watch for more details! The money raised for VBS tremendously helps offset the cost of this important outreach and allows us to do many "extras" that wouldn't normally be allowed. Please be in prayer on how God would like to use you during VBS week! There is a job for everyone!

Current Needs:

Bible Voyage Leader: I have several people who have shown interest in helping in this area. I just need someone to organize each night.

Publicity Leader: I need someone to organize the publicizing of VBS... putting up flyers around town, putting an ad in the newspaper, organize a community outreach to try to reach new unchurched kids!

Meal Organizer: One of the gifts we give to all of our "Deck Hands" is to give them a meal before VBS each night. I need someone to organize these meals and find willing chefs to work in the "galley" each night from 5-6.



OUR SURPRISING MEDIA!

A 30 second television ad has been spotted recently during "Dancing with the Stars" and "American Idol"! Imagine, prime time TV promoting Christianity!

The commercial features testimonials of hope, purpose, peace, and life. Even the ear catching phrase "I am not talking about "religion", but about a personal relationship with Jesus Christ" is included.

This message can be seen at www.findithere.com It is presented as a message from the Southern Baptists.

**PRAYERS FOR OUR
MEDIA ARE POWERFUL!**



YOUTH NEWS

JR. HIGH

Due to baby Whitcomb's impending arrival in April, there will be parent volunteers filling in for Junior High Youth Group while Mark is away attending to the needs of his growing family.

April 4 - NO YOUTH GROUP - Easter Sunday

April 11 - Youth Group meets as usual. Kipp's last day.

April 18- NO YOUTH GROUP - Believe Conference

April 25th- Pam Finck leads

May 2- Joe & Angela Gardner lead

May 9- NO YOUTH GROUP - Mother's Day

May 16- Donna Haas leads

May 23- Mark returns to Youth Group!

May 30- NO YOUTH GROUP - Memorial Day Holiday

If Junior High Youth Group members would like to know the current balance of their "Rent-A-Teen" account, they can see Mark.

JR. HIGHERS TAKE OFF FOR ANDERSON INDIANA

April 17th and 18th Jr. High Youth will take part in a high-energy worship, biblical teaching, and one-on-one interaction. There will be three main sessions "The Messiah was more," "The Messiah saw more", and "The Messiah has more," as well as performances by 321 Improv Comedy, Foundation Red, and Untitled Skateboards.

Joel Valentine would like to express his heartfelt thanks to all those who have prayed for him and not given up on him both before and after he became a Christian. He is also grateful for those who have come along side him and helped him grow and mature in his Christian walk.

SENIOR HIGH

MCDONALD'S MOVING DAY IS FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH. IF YOU CAN HELP LOAD A MOVING VAN, SHOW UP AT 153 N. ELM AT 3:00 P.M.

Wednesday night Senior High Youth Group is now meeting in the newly decorated Youth Room. Joel and Jaime Valentine will be taking over the lead of this group after April 11th. Testimonies by Grace adults will be dispersed throughout the spring, and Dan Giese as agreed to talk to the group about dating.

Other Youth Pastor duties will be covered in the interim by various people. Kerry Leonard will be leading High School Sunday School. Children's Church has rotating leaders and Mark Whitcomb will cover Jr. High Youth Group.

YOUTH PASTOR SEARCH

Presently, the elders of Grace Fellowship are searching for someone to fill the youth pastor position as a summer intern. If the person selected matches the needs and expectations of Grace, then the person may be asked to stay on during weekends in the fall. Dan Giese has at least one interesting candidate and others have contacted us recently. We will keep you informed of the search as we get more news.

Kipp and Colleen's Farewell Party April 11th

Kipp and Colleen's favorite foods are ham loaf, mashed potatoes, and green bean casserole...not to mention Gladys' cherry pie. There will be a sign-up sheet on "The Table" in the foyer. We need 3 or 4 people who are willing to bring these specific items. Gladys has willingly furnished her ham loaf recipe, but if you have one you love, you can use your own. Besides the ham loaf, there will be pulled pork sandwiches and peanut butter and jelly available. We will need a couple batches of mashed potatoes, two or three green bean casseroles, and some assorted vegetable and fruit salads and desserts. Please be sure to sign the list on "The Table."

**There will be a box at the celebration for collecting cards.
Let's shower Kipp and Colleen with love!**

NOTE: We are aware that this is also the date of the EPG Show Choir dessert performance at 3:00. For this reason, we will be including much of the farewell celebration in Sunday Worship, so be sure to be there at 10:15. Everyone is welcome!



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