

Grace Vine

Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA

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September 2019

Mission Statement: We believe that God in Christ is central to all life and we WORSHIP him through TELLING his story, GROWING in faith, SUPPORTING each other, and CARING for his world.

Purpose: Transforming Lives Through Christ.

THE JOY OF SERVING

Serving In Small Ways



My name is Johanna Dokter, born and raised in the Netherlands. From birth I was a member of the Gereformeerde Kerk (similar to the Christian Reformed Church). Besides being an elder or deacon or a Sunday school teacher, not many volunteer positions were available in those days in our church.

This changed when my husband, Jan Dokter and I with our two daughters moved to the United States in 1980. In our new church volunteer opportunities were varied and many, from helping with Vacation Bible School, to hosting the coffee social after church, driving church members to church when

they were not able to do so, and many more.

In the almost 40 odd years after 1980, we moved many times between the United States and the Netherlands and even lived in Germany for a while. Everywhere possibilities to serve in small ways popped up, though not always in or for our church. From organizing a library in an retirement home, to being an adult "candy striper", from working for a Christian radio program to working as an administrative assistant for a mental health organization, there were many, many opportunities which I enjoyed being involved in. My husband worked long hours in those days which kept him mostly from participating.

In 2006 my husband and I sold our business and retired. What a change that was. At first we really were not sure what would happen, where we would live and, especially, what we would have to keep ourselves busy and out of trouble. Not to worry, soon we were working as a Wednesday Warrior (a group of older men building houses on Wednesdays for Habitat for Humanity) and a Meals on Wheels food driver, HOA treasurer and tax-aide for AARP. All this in Marion and Morganton in NC. We attended Calvary Lutheran Church in Morganton and there we helped out with their Habitat days and Blood Drives.

Several reasons made us seek another place to live and that turned out to be Hendersonville. Grace Lutheran became our church and volunteer jobs were available by the dozens, in and out of church. My husband soon found a new place where he could help out people by building and repairing homes at Housing Assistance Corporation and Habitat for Humanity. He enjoys what he does. In the winter he spends a lot of his time making wooden home decorations (mostly from scrap wood) which are sold at the Burk Christian Ministry Christmas Store, Morganton as a fund raiser. And he cooks and/or serves at the Boys and Girl Club Feed the Kids program and at the Rescue Mission. I am again part of the tax-aid program of AARP, deliver food for Meals on Wheels, deliver flowers once a month to home-bound or hospitalized members of Grace Church. Posting and keeping track of the flower program payments are

another job. My favorite volunteer job though is tutoring Anthony. He never learned to read in school, cannot write except his name and is so determined to learn to read, he spends 3 mornings a week at the Blue Ridge College Literacy Council on the computer. No one knows if he will ever learn to read, but he sure could give all of us a lesson in patience and perseverance. Besides that, he is a great young (forties?) man.

Sounds like a lot, right? Well, read Matthew 25, verses 35-46 where Jesus says: I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was naked and you clothed me, I was a stranger and you took me in, I was in prison and you came to me.

We come not even close to fulfilling those requirements. We can only hope that the things we do are a blessing to others as much as they are a great blessing to us.

Jan and Johanna Dokter

How does God work through you? Share your story!

Email jherman@gracehendersonville.com

Reflections from Pastor Alfredo Oviedo

Pastor Alfredo Oviedo – aoviedo@gracehendersonville.com / 828-693-4890 x331

Vision 20/20: Life Changing Learning

39 “You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. 40 Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. John 5:39-40

As I reflect on current events in our society and the life of our congregation, I can't avoid a little sadness mixed with serenity and a sense of hope inspired by Jesus' words in the text quoted above. There is a thread that connects scriptures to life and to Jesus, followed by a rejection that tangles the thread and defeats the original purpose of studying scriptures in order to find eternal life.

It is very sad to hear news of mass shootings like the one recently in El Paso, TX, triggered by a false narrative and fueled by the hateful rhetoric of white supremacy in civilized countries like ours. It is even more sad to find out that church members across Christian denominations, who regularly “study” scriptures, profess and confess Jesus as Lord are swallowed up into that self-destructive path.

Emanuel Kant, the XVIII Century AD German moral philosopher stated that, “by a lie, a man... annihilates his dignity as a man,” in today's virtual world of “alternative truths,” I wonder what happened to human dignity and our Christian doctrine of all humans created in God's image.

I was distressed when driving home two weeks ago. I noticed a huge local fire department crane lifting a very large size American flag beside the steeple and the cross of a local church. It is not that I am not an American - for I am, it is that any religious nationalism brings back memories of history and contemporary acts of human cruelty in the name of God. (Remember Lutherans in Hitler's time in Germany.) How could this happened to civilized people who profess Jesus as Lord?

Jesus' words in our quote today may help us to answer that question. Jesus is making an observation and gives us a reflection. Jesus observes his contemporary fellow Jews studying scriptures, by the way this does not refer just to sacred documents but any written literature; there was no Bible as we know it in Jesus time. Jesus' reflection concludes that scriptures are like



markers to him and people missed those markers...thus people do not experience the life they said they are seeking; Jesus said in John 14:6 "I am the way and the truth and the life."

Therefore, without Jesus, seeking life by means of studying scripture is futile and open to all kind of lies and indoctrination, usually disguised as religious piety and patriotism. This is why we read and interpret scriptures, curriculum choices, and personal engagement in Bible study is crucial for our wellbeing. By Jesus I mean God becoming human in Jesus of Nazareth, his baptism, his life's example, teachings, death, resurrection, ascension, and sending of the Holy Spirit; calling and empowering us to become and live as God's people for the sake of the world.

Finally, let me share the Grace Faith Formation theme and goals for the next three years:

The general theme is: Vision 20/20: Life Changing Learning. Every Bible study available on campus and off campus at Grace will aim to invite and guide us to seek, see, and follow Jesus...so we may have abundant life right now and forever.

Goals: (1) Increase Bible literacy, (2) Provide Christ-centered, Holy Spirit-led, and healthy Bible interpretation tools. (3) Connecting Bible study to prayer, worship, daily life, and service. (4) Increase Christian heritage knowledge and appreciation in the context of World Religions and Society. (5) Introduce and reinforce Lutheran heritage and perspective, including our full communion ecumenical family. (6) Increase commitment to ELCA vision, mission, and ministries. (7) And, building an intentional community of mutual care by means of prayer, sharing joys and concerns in every small group.

Come to our educational kick-off day celebration on Sept. 8! Register for lunch, served at 11:30 a.m.

(Thanks to Grace members Bill and Patti O'Neil for their assistance with articulating Grace Faith Formation theme, planning, and implementation strategy).

Thanks & Blessings in the love of Christ,

Pastor Alfredo

Music Ministry

Director of Music: Burton Bumgarner – bbumgarner@gracehendersonville.com / 828-693-4890 x306

**Leading the Church's Song:
Doing Common Things Uncommonly Well
Association of Lutheran Church Musicians Conference, 2019**



From June 23-27, Cathy and I attended the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians Conference on the campus of Concordia University in Portland, Oregon. This is the fifth conference I've attended since being on the staff at Grace. Conferences are held every other year in a different region of the country. The conferences feature outstanding workshops, lectures, worship experiences, concerts and awards ceremonies. Lutheran musicians and pastors from both ELCA and Missouri Synod churches participate in these conferences. Concordia University, Portland, is the first time a Missouri Synod school has hosted an ALCM conference. The small campus is tucked away in a trendy northeast Portland neighborhood.

St. Michael's Lutheran Church is located on the campus and was the central location for worship, concerts and the awards ceremony. Cathy and I decided to stay in one of the university dormitories. It was ... well ... a dormitory ... and it hadn't been updated in a while. It was an adventure. We loved roaming the beautiful neighborhood and discovering an amazing Middle Eastern restaurant that everyone on the campus recommended.

I chose to take a 6-hour Finale Music Technology class. Finale is the program most churches use for music writing and printing. Each participant in the class brought his or her own laptop with the software already downloaded. The class was taught by Mavis Kallestad, an expert teacher who walked us through most of the ways we would use Finale in the church. I was amazed at how easily she switched between Mac and PC and how she knew all of the answers and all of the shortcuts. It was quite intensive and thorough and truly worthwhile. It was also exhausting.

There were workshops on worship planning, choral readings, singing the psalms, handbells, liturgy, and worship resources from both ELCA and MS publishers. On Tuesday we boarded busses and traveled downtown to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral for a very traditional Anglican Evensong. The service featured two new anthems written by student composers which had won the ALCM awards for young composers. With around 450 Lutheran musicians present, the congregational singing was amazing.

On Wednesday evening we again boarded buses and traveled into downtown Portland for a "Movable Hymn Sing". We started out at Zion Lutheran Church and sang for 30 minutes, then boarded the buses and traveled to St. Mary's Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for 30 more minutes of hymn singing. Then buses transported us to Temple Beth Israel for the final 30 minutes of the hymn sing and a catered dinner. At each of the locations, we sang Carolyn Jennings' beautiful hymn "Voices Raised to You" (No. 845 in our hymnal), a hymn she wrote in 1996 for the ALCM. Dr. Jennings, a retired music professor from St. Olaf College, was at the conference.

Lifetime Achievement awards went to Susan Palo Cherwein, hymn writer and poet (we use many of her hymn texts in worship and her devotional texts in our contemplative services), and Charles Ore, organist and composer. We use a lot of his music in worship.

Preachers included Susan Briehl, Robert Farlee and Samuel Torvend. Everything about the conference was outstanding. Each time I attend I come away with ideas for strengthening our worship at Grace. I see many old friends and meet new friends. We share ideas and stories from our experiences working in this great vocation. I thank God every day for my position at Grace.

Burton Bumgarner

Cross+Generational Service Projects

Living Waters



Recently a Grace Cross+Generational group traveled to Living Waters Lutheran in Cherokee, NC to learn about Cherokee culture/traditions and serve in the community food pantry. The group learned from Pastor Jack and Bob and served with Lisa and volunteers in their food pantry assisting over 175 clients for the day. Here are some reflections from various members that attended:

Joan Nyitrai (volunteer): *"It was an awesome experience! I served with Rick in produce who has been serving there for a long time. He said, "It is amazing how, from the generosity of so*

many, the ministry has grown from loaves and fishes to what it is today."

Elise Trexler (senior Youth): *"I enjoyed getting to talk to the people I was serving and learning more about the Cherokee culture and history."*

Heather Wiggins (parent): *"Although we came to help distribute food to brothers & sisters in need, I was fed. I was nourished by the love, laughter, and dedication to community shown by all involved at Living Waters."*

Lilly and Tony Cruz (volunteers): *"It was a very rewarding and humbling experience. God's blessings to Pastor Jack, his wife and staff for all that they do. A heartwarming thank you."*

Christina Welch (parent): *"The Pantry was very impressive. They were efficient and effective in a very small space. A testimony to a lot that can be done with little when passion is applied. My highlight was having Abbagail work with people that are different from her, experiencing "Divine" joy which comes from lifting others up, and realizing how good her own life is."*

Linda Bowman (volunteer): *"Pastor Jack brings such uniqueness to Living Waters Lutheran Church. Always such interesting insights and his ability to merge cultural backgrounds with the church. And Lisa is a wonderful helpmate to this ministry."*

Thank you to Living Waters for hosting us for the day and amazing work you do for your community. We are grateful for our partnership and friendship!

We look forward to having Pastor Jack at Grace on Sept. 8 for worship!

Lutheran World Relief

Each August the Grace Quilters host Grace Youth Ministry for an annual service project together for Lutheran World Relief. The youth and quilters spend time with each other, assist with making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, and have lunch together. These quilts go to displaced refugee families around the world. Freshman Jenna Patterson said: *"I enjoyed being able to work with the other youth members and some of the quilters, and it goes to a great cause!"* Janet Harms shared: *"It is a great opportunity for the Grace Quilters to get to know our youth. Youth learn about the quilts we made for Lutheran World Relief and other group. It is an enjoyable time to be with them annually."*



Grace Campus Ministry

Grace College students gather together for lunch when in the Hendersonville area during school breaks. Our college students also help to serve in worship services and assist with weekend community service opportunities when in town. In November we will be asking for volunteers to assist with our annual care packages project - contact Anne to assist. Kimberly Juarez, a junior at Blue Ridge Community College shares: *"I enjoy catching up and seeing everyone."* Kameron Kaddouri, a sophomore at NC State University said: *"Sakura was delicious. I'm looking forward to Red Lobster at the end of the semester."* Our next college student lunch is Monday, Dec. 16 at Red Lobster. Ayman will be driving the bus departing Grace at 11:45 a.m.



August 2019 Grace College Student Lunch at Sakura



Connecting volunteers to meaningful ministries.

Want to volunteer or have a need? See Delia to help make meaningful connections. Submit volunteer needs by email before noon on Monday for the next Sunday bulletin. **Thank you for your Service ...**

Traveling and Finding Ourselves

How many of us have ever wondered how and who we really are? How many of us have been challenged by science, spirituality, philosophy, psychology, religion or by someone close to us about our particular nature and way of being? How many times have you been in front of a mirror trying to reach that deep world that seems to be behind our eyes? I've been there and more than once.

Since we were children, this question about ourselves was also finding partial answers which surely shaped our own vision about ourselves. The biggest part of those answers was given by our parents, teachers or other adults that were often in charge of telling us who and how we are supposed to be.

Other moments that give us answers or definitions about ourselves may arrive at the time of choosing or giving up a career, profession or life pathway, after an intense discussion with our parents or loved ones about our behavior or decisions or in the midst of failure or a critical moment. We all know from the biological and social sciences that we are the result of the memory of our cells – genetic - and by the influence of the environment, experiences and people around us. However, being honest, we are captivated and pressured the most part of the time by the idea of being somebody else instead of discovering our real nature.

There's always a chance to fly over or go deep in our personality traits, behaviors, gifts and passions that that help us to have a definition of ourselves but also about others and our congregation has the privilege of having a tool and resources to initiate a journey of inquiring and discerning within ourselves.

The YOUnique workshop is not a space to find definitive answers but an opportunity to start to ask the correct questions about ourselves and others. It is a moment where we can realize that the lenses to understand ourselves and others are maybe inaccurate and must be constantly cleaned and adjusted. It is never too late to turn our eyes to our inside. It is never too late to learn and unlearn, accept and reject, forgive and forgive ourselves and even heal.

Finally, I want to share to you all a verse of a Spanish song that I learned when I was a child and is inspired by Jeremiah 18:6: *"My beloved Lord, I want to be as the clay in the hands of the potter. Take my life, do it again, I want to be, I want to be a new vessel"*.

Keep in mind the idea of being clay is a reminder that we are not prefabricated or finished. Our qualities and gifts are built, reproduced and polished day by day, regardless our age. Knowing ourselves better is also another opportunity to connect with the immensity of our Creator.

Spotlight on Social Ministry

Homes For Youth

In the summer of 2014, three Henderson County residents, Kathleen Lambert, Jim Heidebrect, and Judy Frame, recognized an area of growing concern – homelessness among the county's youth. Their research revealed the lack of any group homes for children in Henderson County, as well as the need to significantly increase the number of foster homes here. From this research, a concept took shape, and this month Homes For Youth is marking five years of helping provide homes and hope for homeless youth. Working directly with the Henderson County Department of Social Services, Homes For Youth has assisted in the recruiting of prospective foster parents and supporting the required training classes, resulting in an increase in the number of foster homes in the county from 37 to nearly 70.

Taking the next step in its long-range plan, in 2017 Homes For Youth purchased a single-family home in Hendersonville which is now occupied by two experienced foster parents and five previously homeless girls, ranging in age from 11 to 17. In the past 2½ years, 18 girls have resided in this house at one time or another, some for short periods of time, a few for almost two years. In addition to providing a stable environment with loving, caring foster parents, this enables the girls to remain in school rather than being relocated to a group home outside the county.

Recently, two girls were temporarily placed in our house by DSS because their single father was hospitalized with what turned out to be a terminal illness. They stayed in our house for a few weeks until their aunt could relocate from South Carolina to take them in and subsequently assume guardianship pending adoption. Another girl who came to our house at age nine and lived there for 16 months has now been adopted by her grandmother and is living with her.

Homes For Youth is very appreciative of the ongoing prayers and support from Grace Lutheran Church and for the support of many individuals in the congregation and in the community. On Thursday evening, Sept. 26, Homes For Youth will be holding its second annual silent auction fundraiser at 305 Lounge and Eatery, 305 North Main Street. We hope to see you then.



Social Ministry

Henderson County Hunger Coalition – Hunger Walk

Saturday, Sept. 21

Have you noticed the number of opportunities we at Grace have to help fight hunger? We are blessed with an abundance that not everyone has. We do what we can, and we are happy about it. For many years, more than I can count, Jack Fitzgerald has reminded us that when Jesus comes in his glory, he will say to the sheep, come with me, for when I was hungry you gave me food, thirsty you gave me drink (Matthew 25:31-46) and then asked us to help support the Henderson County Hunger Coalitions' Hunger Walk by either walking on the day of the event or by financially supporting someone who does walk.

Your contributions help Henderson County organizations provide food-related resources to those in need. The organizations that have benefited from your support include: Interfaith Assistance Ministries (IAM), Henderson County Rescue Mission, Meals on Wheels, The Salvation Army, The Store House, Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry, Western Carolina Community Action, Calvary Episcopal Food Pantry, Feed the Kids Foundation, Blue Ridge Health Center and Safelight.

I am asking you again this year to consider participating in the walk or providing financial support. We will have sign-up sheets and will accept donations starting the last week in August. Look for reminders in the Grace weekly email.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

To our Grace family,

We wanted to thank everyone for your prayers, as well as your financial support. You have all been so generous and it warms our hearts. We are not usually on this side of the giving tree, but we are grateful to have each of you on this journey with us.

The Lord has bigger plans for us, we are not done yet.

Love, The Kaddouri family

Your generosity provided the Kaddori family with over \$10,000 to help. Thank you!



Connecting faith & finances for good.™

By directing designated Choice Dollars (\$M) through Thrivent Choice, eligible members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars.

Grace Lutheran Church

Barbara Fountain
Joseph Stancar

Thank you for designating Grace for your Thrivent Choice dollars!

Memorials –

Dorwin Larsen Memorial

Reverend and Mrs. Edgar
Trexler

Robert Andersen Memorial

Dianne Sellers
Kenneth and Chris Ring
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Carland

Thank you!

“For All The Faithful Women”

Vicki Marthaler, President

My Mom, who just celebrated her 87th birthday, moved into an assisted living center this month. The gift to me and my two sisters is that she moved willingly. My Mom has macular degeneration and her world has become smaller and darker. For the past nine years she has lived with my still-working sister who has graciously watched over Mom, gradually taking on more and more of caregiving responsibilities. As time has marched on, Mom is feeling the heaviness of isolation during the day when my sister is at work, the disorientation of living in darkness and the limited options to be involved in life. Mom forgets to eat. She has mixed up medications. She has fallen. She has experienced times of confusion. She has been upset with others as well as with herself. And that, my friends, is not my Mom.

My Mom is who we sing about in the first verse of Hymn 419 in our hymnal, “For All the Faithful Women.” (This hymn is part of the Women’s Bible Study of Esther for July/August of the Gather Magazine.)

*For all the faithful women who served in days of old.
To You shall thanks be given; to all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness in tasks Your wisdom gave.
To You their lives bore witness, proclaimed Your pow’r to save.*

My Mom may think that her story is over, but it is not. She continues to be a witness of perseverance and grace in the face of life’s many miserable challenges. Mom was born during the hardship of the Great Depression. Her parents lost the farm. The love of her parents and their faith in the Lord brought them through many trying times. Her beloved mother died when Mom was 20 years old. Her beloved husband (my dad) died when she was 40. Mom worked two jobs to pay the bills. Mom eventually married again and after a few happy years, he developed severe health issues and soon Mom was widowed once more. Then the diagnosis of macular began to shape her life.

In spite of life’s challenges, Mom has been a witness to us of strength and gladness. Her faith in Jesus has remained unshaken. She finds hope in His Word and believes that as the Good Shepherd Jesus will continue to lead her through changes that come her way. He will provide. He will be present to her and hear her every prayer.

Mom’s story isn’t over yet. As she acclimates to the assisted living community, as she continues to embrace her ever darkening world, as she faithfully prays for Jesus to help her (even though she reminds Him that she hasn’t intended to live this long), her story continues. She is a witness to faith and trust and love. She is one of the Faithful Women in my life.

Who are the faithful witnesses in your life? As Women of the ELCA we are called, gathered and enlightened to live our faith and share Jesus. We are called, gathered and enlightened to serve with strength and gladness, to bear witness to the power of God and to give thanks for Jesus’ stories found in those around us. Tell the story of Jesus and His Love.

Tell it. Tell it today.

For additional information about this and other ministries of the Women of the ELCA, see the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or contact our president, Vicki Marthaler (218-849-5683).

Birthdays



Roger Arndt	9/2	Rebecca Janowiak		Sandy Jardot	9/20
Cricket Crigler	9/2	Adam	9/8	Osias Salgado	9/20
Miriam Oviedo-Clark	9/2	Anna Moroni	9/8	Sharon Wohlt	9/20
Kathleen Purdy	9/2	Richard Robinson	9/8	Barbara Pytel	9/21
Marjorie Jones	9/3	Joy Kiefer	9/9	Henry Schwenk	9/23
Bill Battermann	9/4	Carol Miley	9/9	John Simons	9/23
Linda Finster	9/4	Jacqueline Siverly	9/9	Linda Smith Rymer	9/23
Jimmie Morrison	9/4	Anita Slagle	9/10	Amparo Acosta	9/24
William Schmidt	9/4	Karen Kniffen	9/11	Shirley Gray	9/24
Christine Smith	9/4	John Korner	9/11	Richard Jackson	9/24
Shirley Bell	9/5	Patricia Murtha	9/11	James Reinhard	9/24
Nancy Chiarenza	9/5	Heather Wiggins	9/11	Vicky Rhol	9/24
Kyndall Danner	9/5	Gerald Davis	9/12	Jan Dokter	9/25
Patrick McCarthy	9/5	Avery Simons	9/12	Frederick Jonischus	9/25
Jeffery Miller	9/5	Norma Wegman	9/13	Kyle Kaddouri	9/25
Deanna Plowman	9/5	Syedi Acosta-Oviedo	9/14	Patricia Robinson	9/25
Rick Rehn	9/5	Nyles Clark	9/14	Madden Stallings	9/26
Wayne Forsythe	9/6	Jane Henderson	9/14	Robert Dahm	9/27
Richard Pemble	9/6	Duane Geiler	9/16	Bruce Foster	9/27
George Banta	9/7	Jill Ann Kaddouri	9/16	Sage Klingensmith	9/27
David Blatecky	9/7	Edgar Trexler	9/17	Marc Shockley	9/28
Aileen Flax	9/7	Cathy Bumgarner	9/18	Linda Daleure	9/30
Beatriz Funk	9/7	Carl McKenzie	9/19		
Robert Funk	9/7	Beck Miller	9/19		
Ladson Hart	9/7	Brian Davis	9/20		

Anniversaries



Rick & Charlotte Nelson	9/1/1967	Dick & Rheta Luy	9/17/1955
Larry & Gerri Schwake	9/2/1962	Richard & JoAnne Mummert	9/17/1972
Jim & Shirley Howard	9/3/1955	George & Suzanne Celtrick	9/18/2004
Brian & Thelma Williams	9/3/1994	Richard & Donna Christensen	9/18/1976
Philip & Vicki Safriet	9/4/1987	Horst & Lynne Wenz	9/19/1970
Dick & Carlene Belanger	9/9/1967	Dan & Jill Wingard	9/19/1998
Tim & Pat Chambers	9/9/1972	Ladson & Jeanny Hart	9/20/1969
Martin & Anne Geyer	9/9/1958	Bob & Mary Seby	9/20/2008
George & Cathy Banta	9/10/2016	Andrew & Sara Schmidt	9/22/2018
Doug & Cathy Wilder	9/11/2010	Chuck & Cheryl Fangmann	9/23/1990
Peter & Amy Knight	9/12/2003	Peter & Karen Eve Gollup	9/24/2017
Josh & Becca Adam-Janowiak	9/16/2017	Jim & Kathy Reinhard	9/24/2011
Tony & Linda Pezzimenti	9/16/2000	Glen & Lily Bonetti	9/25/1982
Tony & Ann Yannuzzi	9/16/2000	Bill & Marie Mortensen	9/27/1986
Bob & Mary Jones	9/17/1966	Darrell & Marcia Kruse	9/29/1984



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

1245 6th Ave W
Hendersonville NC 28739
*****Return Service Requested*****

Women of the ELCA
September Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 28, 10 a.m.

The Women of Grace welcome all women of Grace to attend their September WELCA meeting.

Plan to attend! Cindy Quinlan, International Director of "On Eagles' Wings Ministry" will be our speaker. Her program will be about human trafficking and the nationally accredited safe house for girls ages 12-21 who have been rescued from the life of trafficking. We often think that human trafficking occurs only in poor countries. However, every day we see news articles about human trafficking here in the U.S. Sadly, North Carolina is becoming quite noted for the robust human trafficking it is experiencing in the state.

Cindy Quinlan will not mince words. She will expose the ugly truth and then give invitation to become involved through proven, caring ways.

The safe house for girls in the state of North Carolina is a first in the nation. It is a beacon of hope and a "best practice" for other states to duplicate.

The safe house is a new beginning for young girls who have fallen victim to the traffickers. One of the unique opportunities in the safe home is the girls planning, preparing and eating meals together each day. "The Favorite Family Recipe Program" was developed so outsiders could help in concrete ways to support the home and the girls. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall about "My Favorite Family Recipe." On September 28, we would like to gift Cindy Quinlan with recipes, supplies and means to support the girls in this good way. The Women of Grace have received a Thrivent grant to purchase non-perishable ingredients to help with this endeavor. Please check the WELCA bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for all the details.

Bring a friend. It is so important that we rally TOGETHER and stand for those who are in need. We can provide HOPE through our presence, our prayers, our recipes and our gifts.

*Submitted by Barbara Koch, Mission Growth Committee/
Vicki Marthaler, President of the Women of Grace*