

FAITH & FILM

Sundays, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Potluck Dinner begins at 6 p.m.

Films begin at 6:30 p.m.

All are edited for length and content and available for check-out from the Grace Library.

September 20

THE INN OF SIXTH HAPPINESS (1958)

What qualifies you to be a missionary? A young English woman wants to be a missionary to China, but she is rejected because of education. When she goes there on her own and cares for people in need, God uses her in extraordinary ways.

October 18

THE SOLOIST (2009)

What does Jesus mean when he says, "Love your neighbor as yourself"? A struggling reporter meets a former cello prodigy who is now living on the streets. By opening himself to another, the reporter risks his life and walks into the kingdom of God.

November 15

LOVE COMES SOFTLY (2003)

We prepare for Thanksgiving with a story of God's providence in difficult times. A young woman in the 1880's comes to the American frontier with great dreams. In the midst of hardship, she discovers a faithful God and an unexpected path of blessing.

Grace

Lutheran Church of LaGrange

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ADULT EDUCATION

at Grace Lutheran Church

September – December, 2009

*"Your word is a
lamp to my feet
and a light to my path."*

Psalm 119:105

This fall Grace will offer a host of opportunities for the Word of God to be a lamp and a light for our lives. From a Middle Eastern Bible study perspective, to an in-depth study of the book of Job, we will have many options for learning about the Word and experiencing Christian fellowship at the same time. Courses will be taught by **Pastor Saïd Ailabouni, Pastor Soren Flessen, Rev. Diane Casey, and Bill Scharnweber.** Forums on current issues and topics of interest will be led by talented Grace Lutheran Church members, guest speakers and church committees.

Come and learn.
Come and be refreshed,
Come and be inspired.

All classes and forums are open to all people.
Come by yourself or invite a friend.

BIBLE STUDY

HOW LUTHERANS INTERPRET THE BIBLE

The Lutheran tradition is founded on reading and interpreting the Bible. Today the Bible continues to guide our witness; but it is often misused for our own purposes. This series is part of the ELCA 'Book of Faith' Initiative and will explore key Lutheran insights for lively and faithful reading of the Bible.

Sundays, 10:00 a.m., September 13 – October 18

Leader: Rev. Diane Casey

and

Tuesdays, 6:45 a.m., September 15 – October 20

Leader: Rev. Soren Flessen

Both sessions will meet in Room 204

JESUS THROUGH MIDDLE EASTERN EYES

This year-long study is a series of short courses to help participants understand the significance of Jesus' treatment of women; the power of Jesus' parables; the birth narrative of Jesus; the Lord's Prayer; and an introduction to the Gospel of Luke and The Acts of the Apostles. Participants will gain new perspectives from the Eastern Christian tradition that have rarely been considered outside the Arabic-speaking world

**Text: *Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes,*
by Kenneth Bailey**

Leader: Rev. Saïd Ailabouni,

Mondays, 7:00 p.m. and

Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hall

STUDY OF JOB

The book of Job is one of the most provocative and unsettling books for modern readers in the Old Testament. Join this three-week review and discussion of Job and its powerful insights into God's nature and the nature of righteousness.

Leader: Bill Scharnweber

Sundays, 10:00 a.m., November 8, 15, 22

Kensington Room

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

YOUNG FAMILIES OF GRACE

Sundays, 10:00 a.m., Bernard Lounge

Come and join an exciting new program that will begin this fall. YOUNG FAMILIES OF GRACE has been launched to create an interconnectedness among families raising young children within our church. Opportunities for fellowship will be available through Sunday morning "Mixers", as well as through a YFG Internet community.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Introductory Mixer

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

Creating Spiritual Practices with your Children at Home

Speaker: Soren Flessen

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Making Time for...Your Marriage

Speaker: Paula Kasper Brown, Couple's Therapist

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Pre-Holiday Mixer

SUNDAY FORUMS AND EVENTS

This Fall, you are invited to many exciting events.

MINISTRY FAIR

September 6, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

MINISTRY FAIR AND RALLY DAY

September 13, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

WORK CAMP WITNESS

September 20, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room
Presenters: Kerrie Folisi & Youth and Family Ministry

Have you ever wondered what work camp really is or what takes place in work camp? This forum is a great opportunity to hear what really happens, what it means to serve, and why we continue to serve each year. Also, find out about next summer's opportunity in North Carolina.

CONFIRMATION RECEPTION

September 27, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

We gather to celebrate this meaningful day in the life of our congregation and offer personal blessings to those affirming their faith.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

October 4, 10:00 a.m. Kensington Room
Presenter: Deborah Barret, MD, MA, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, University of Chicago

We will view Healthcare Reform through the lens of our Christian Faith. Dr. Barret is a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Homewood, Illinois.

THE GOSPEL IN PRISON

October 11, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room
Presenter: Bill Young

Bill will share questions arising from prison ministry. Is conversion and new life possible for those guilty of serious crimes? Is there more Gospel for bad people and less Gospel for good people? Do missionaries bring the Gospel to the mission field or does the Gospel find us among people to whom we are called? Come to hear Bill's personal experiences.

FLU SHOTS

October 18, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., Kensington Room

Maxim Health Services will be sponsoring our annual flu shots. Each winter, millions of people suffer from the flu. Getting a flu shot may help you stay healthy. Cost of flu shots: \$30. Cost of pneumonia shots: \$45. Seniors remember to bring your Medicare cards.

LUTHERAN HERITAGE

October 25, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

We celebrate Reformation Sunday by highlighting early Lutheran teaching on the Bible and daily living. We will discover again the freedom we have in Christ Jesus. If you have a copy of Luther's Small Catechism, bring it!

GROWING IN GRACE UPDATE

November 1, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room
Presenter: Pastor Saïd Ailabouni

Come to hear a presentation on what God has been up to at Grace Lutheran Church of La Grange and help us to dream together of the future that God intends for us.

TELLING OUR STORY – LEGACIES OF GRACE

November 8, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room

Past and present members of Grace tell the stories of how grace — manifested through the members of this congregation — made a difference in their lives.

BETTY'S LOVE: THE NEW PARADIGM FOR ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT AND CARE

November 15, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room
Presenter: Maureen Gavan

Maureen founded Betty's Love Alzheimer's Charities in 2007 to honor the essence of her mother, Betty, who battled Alzheimer's for 20 years. Betty's Love embraces and empowers all who battle Alzheimer's, and their families, friends, and caregivers, with joy, love, and prayer.

PARTNER MINISTRY FOCUS – ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL

November 22, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room
Presenter: Rev. Daniel Rift, Director of the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Relief

An update on our shared ministry of caring for God's hungry and hurting people around the world.

HANDBELLS IN WORSHIP

November 29, 10:00 a.m.
Presenter: David Weck

Have you ever wondered who invented the handbell and how it made its way into our worship? David Weck, director of the world-renowned Agape Ringers, will give us historical background and relate his own journey with handbells.

WORSHIP INVITATION AND HOSPITALITY

December 6, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room
Presenters: Evangelism and Fellowship Committee Members

Ever think about being a first-time visitor in a congregation? Join your Evangelism Team and explore how Grace Lutheran Church can be more inviting, welcoming, and hospitable as we extend Jesus' invitation to "Come and see."

MUSICAL PROGRAM

December 13, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

CHRISTMAS THROUGH MIDDLE EASTERN EYES

December 20, 10:00 a.m., Kensington Room
Presenter: Pastor Saïd Ailabouni

This Forum will help us read the Christmas story through Middle Eastern eyes and daily experiences.

SONGS AND STORIES OF THE SEASON

December 27, 10:00 a.m.