

## EMAIL UPDATE

From: Pastor Scott Distler

Date: 06/09/08

### SUPER PASTOR

Yes, it is true. I dressed up in full Superman wardrobe...tights, cape and all this past Sunday for the kickoff to the **Super Men** part of our current **Super Heroes** series. If you missed it, the video of the message ought to be up on-line by about Tuesday of this week ([www.lgbc.org](http://www.lgbc.org))

### UPDATE FROM THE PHILADELPHIA HOPE CRUSADE (written by David Rice)

*“Thanks for the opportunity my wife and I had to represent Grace Church at the Hope Crusade in Philly last Saturday. The weather forecast for the day was to be a washout, especially around the scheduled time for the Crusade Event. As Pastor Shawn Kidder expressed a few times, Satan was very busy trying to disrupt and discourage the Crusade from even taking place because of some of the last minute back outs and unexpected financial expenses incurred. But in answer to the prayers of many, when it came time for the Crusade to begin the rain stopped and the clouds broke. Blue sky appeared. The sun shined bright. The weather warmed up. And a small breeze came to be effective enough to dry off the soaked stadium seats and walkways. All many of us could do was just say, ‘PRAISE GOD!’ Although Pastor Shawn’s hope was for a large turnout and seeing many lost come forward in a spiritual revival, Shawn mentioned that it was clear that God’s plan was to draw the local churches together in that area for an even greater work next year and in the future. Outside of the great bands and great messages, a highlight to me was the spiritual dance group from one of the local churches which was really uplifting.”*

### JERRY FALWELL, LARRY FLYNT AND TED KENNEDY

Be sure to read my blog each day this week. Monday begins with some “*adorable*” pictures of our own Worship Arts Director in an entry entitled, “**SuperMAN or SuperMATT**” while Tuesday deals with the unlikely trio of “**Jerry Falwell, Larry Flynt and Ted Kennedy.**” You can access my blog directly at [www.folkslisten.blogspot.com](http://www.folkslisten.blogspot.com) or through [www.lgbc.org](http://www.lgbc.org)

### SUPER MAN CONTINUES

This Sunday the Super Man part of our Super Heroes series continues through the book of Philemon. Take time to prayerfully think through these questions to be better prepared for our time in the Word this Sunday:

*1. How does Paul reveal his confidence in Philemon’s character to forgive in v4?*

2. *What kind of character is revealed in v5 that is needed in order to forgive?*
3. *What kind of character is revealed in v6 that is needed in order to forgive?*
4. *What type of character is revealed in v7 that is needed in order to forgive?*

## **FATHER'S DAY BAPTISM**

This Sunday will be a special day here at Grace Church. In honor of Father's Day, there will be complimentary Dosie Dough coffee available to all as you enter and exit the services this Sunday. This Sunday we will also have the thrill of seeing several people follow the Lord in water baptism. This is a Sunday you simply don't want to miss.

## **BUDGET APPROVAL**

Last Thursday evening the Elder Board here at Grace Church approved the 2008/2009 fiscal year budget that runs July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. All that is left now is for our congregation to approve the budget as well. We will be handling this vote differently this year. Instead of an evening Business Meeting attended by just a few, we will be taking a ballot vote on the budget as part of the Sunday morning worship services on Sunday, June 29. A packet explaining the budget will be available beginning this Sunday, June 15, in the lobby and at the church office window. There will be no time given for discussion on the morning of June 29. Instead, our Business Manager, Andrew Norton, will be explaining the budget and taking time to answer questions during both ABF hours on Sunday, June 22. You may also contact Andrew anytime at the church with questions as well. Any member or regular attendee of Grace Church who is at least 16 years of age is welcome to vote on this budget. It is our hope that this will make the budget approval process simpler and will allow more people to be aware of our financial goals for the new fiscal year. We will also be reelecting some Elders on that morning as well.

## **SMALL GROUPS UPDATE**

Our Small Group training continues to take place. This training will run through June and then pick back up again in September with our goal of launching our first wave of small groups this October. Why is this so crucial? Currently only 20% of the adults that attend our Sunday worship are also involved in an Adult Bible Fellowship class. This means that 80% of the adults who attend Grace have no connection outside of Sunday morning. Our Elder Board here at Grace Church has unanimously set the direction for our church to become a church of small groups where people can better connect to God and each other. At the same time, we are continuing our search for a Pastor of Connections who will lead our small group effort. Later this month, my wife and I will be making two trips to meet and spend some time with two potential candidates for this position. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement as we continue to move forward in this vital area for the effectiveness of our church.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NOW ON-LINE

SonWorld Adventure Park Vacation Bible School will be held the evenings of **June 23-27** from 6:45-8:45 here at Grace Church for ages 4 through 5th Grade. The VBS website pages for Children's registration and volunteer sign up is now up and going! Sign your child up for all the fun and excitement while you sign up to be a worker by going to our church website at [www.lgbc.org](http://www.lgbc.org). Contact our Children's Director, **Susan Auld**, ([seauld@lgbc.org](mailto:seauld@lgbc.org)) if you have any questions or need more information. On our 3rd night of Vacation Bible School (June 25), we are in need of 100 men to help our kids with crafts. That evening the kids will be making "Prayer Stools" and lots of extra hands and hammers are needed!!! This is an awesome opportunity to get to know some of our children. If you are interested in helping this one particular evening, please contact Susan Auld at [seauld@lgbc.org](mailto:seauld@lgbc.org) or 626-2155.

## PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION HONORING OUR NATION

A community Patriotic Celebration will be held at Grace Church on Sunday July 6, 2008. Please join us as we celebrate our freedom and honor those who serve our country. We will recognize community police officers, firefighters, public safety workers and military men and women who are currently serving our nation, as well as those who have served in the past. We encourage you to wear your uniforms as we will recognize and honor all service men and women. WWII veterans will receive special recognition with a gift. Please contact Crissy Reedy at Grace Church (626-2155) if you are a WWII veteran and plan to attend.

The celebration will include two identical services at **9:30am and 11:00am** and will feature many patriotic music selections. The Grace Church Worship Choir and Worship Team will be performing special numbers, "Sing the Stars & Stripes" and "I Salute You". Soloist Jason Dearborn will be singing, "Letters from War". Childcare and classes will be provided during both services for children ages infant through 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

Immediately following both services there will be outdoor activities for the whole family. A cook-out style lunch will be provided free of charge to everyone. Other activities include inflatable castles and games, a dunk tank, face-painting and a special Army camp with military vehicles set up for the event. This free event will be held at Grace Church, 501 W. Lincoln Ave, Lititz. All activities will take place rain or shine. For more information visit [www.lgbc.org](http://www.lgbc.org) or call 626-2155.

## SUMMER COMMUNION

My favorite communion service of the year is always our summer communion service which is led by our teenagers and held outside. This summer our Outdoor, Youth Led Communion Service will take place on Sunday night, **August 3**.

## IMPROVE YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Each summer we take many of our Staff and Elders to the Leadership Summit put on by Bill Hybels and the Willow Creek Association held via satellite at LCBC right here in our own backyard. This is absolutely the best conference on leadership you will ever attend. If you are a leader in any walk of life, you would greatly benefit by attending this 2-day conference. This summer the conference will be held on Thursday and Friday, **August 7-8**. We would love to see a large group from Grace Church sharpen their leadership abilities in their homes, where they work and in our church by being part of the Leadership Summit. If you were to attend this conference live in Chicago by the time you paid your registration fee, travel, food and lodging you would spend over \$1,500.00. If you register through our church to this live simulcast at LCBC, your cost is only \$145.00 plus your lunch for those two days. To register, contact **Sheri Sell** at the church office (626-2155 or [lsell@lgbc.org](mailto:lsell@lgbc.org)).

*Have a great week!*  
*Scott*

