

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



... Do Your Best, He'll Do the Rest?

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

August 31, 2014





Our mission at Grace is to teach the inspired and inerrant Word of God, to proclaim that Jesus Christ is the crucified and risen Savior of the world and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service.

We are very pleased that you have joined us for worship today at Grace-Tucson! We pray that this time will be a blessing for you as God comes to you with his Word and promises and as you offer him your thanks and praise.

Worship Notes

The **order of service** we follow is printed out in this worship folder. You'll notice that the service is a dialogue between God and us, his people. The pastor speaks to God along with the congregation and also speaks the Word of God to the people.

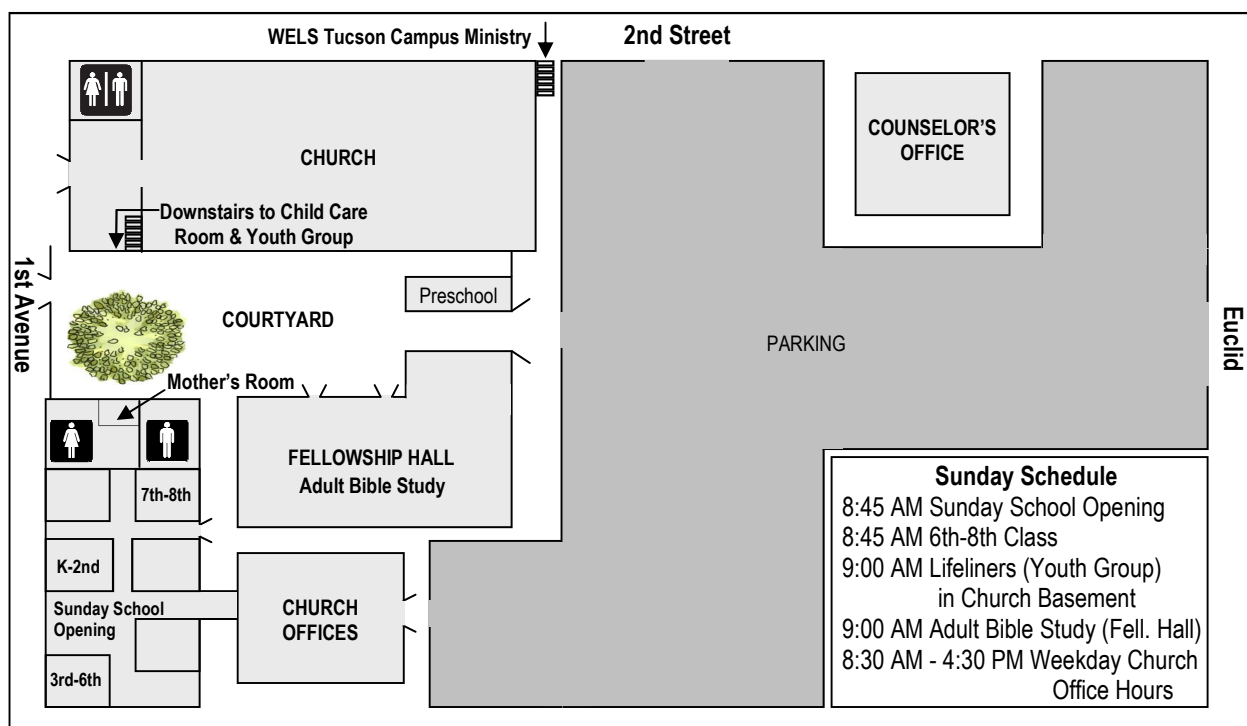
Hymns are found in our hymnal, *Christian Worship*, which is the red book in the pew rack in front of you.

Large print hymn sheets are available in the entryway. You may also ask an usher or greeter to get one for you.

We believe that many blessings come from having families worship together and we love to have **children in worship!** If you need to calm a restless child, you may:

- stand for a few moments in the entryway, sometimes that's all that's needed
- go down the stairs to the left in the entryway—they will lead down to the Child Care Room where you will still be able to hear the service
- visit the private Mother's Room across the courtyard in the women's restroom—you will be able to hear the service there also

Printed copies of the sermon are available in the entryway. CDs of the entire worship service will be made upon request from the sound technician in the balcony. It only takes a few minutes to copy. You may also find sermons and services in print, audio and video on our website: www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org



SERVICE OF THE WORD

Christian Worship

PRESERVICE MUSIC

For Grace We Thank You, Lord

Text: Ronald G. Koehler III

Tune, Setting: Kathy Parra

Violin: Maya Parra

This hymn was written in 2011 for the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Grace Lutheran Church. It celebrates God's free and faithful grace to us.

1. For grace we thank you, Lord
For glorious grace so freely given,
Through the One you love
Set apart from birth, called by mercy,
We praise Your grace!

Refrain:

*From your fullness we've received
grace upon grace and blessing after blessing
Lord, we praise your name!*

2. For grace in Christ, your Son
Sent by your love, for sins forgiven,
For our redemption
For the blessings of life eternal,
Only by grace!

Refrain

3. For grace that comes to us,
Grace in your Word, your Sacraments,
So undeserved you come
Make us holy by your Spirit
All by your grace!

Refrain

WELCOME

HYMN

Grace Has a Thrilling Sound

Christian Worship #381

Please stand

Minister: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

We come before the true God only because of his mercy and not because we deserve to come. We confess our unworthiness and rejoice to hear the assurance of forgiveness.

*In response to God's
mercy and
forgiveness,
Christians praise
God and proclaim
his goodness. This
song is comprised of
two Bible passages:
Psalm 34:8 and
Psalm 119:89.*

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -

ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith-ful-ness con -

tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

Please be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is

Deuteronomy 7:7-11 (NIV)

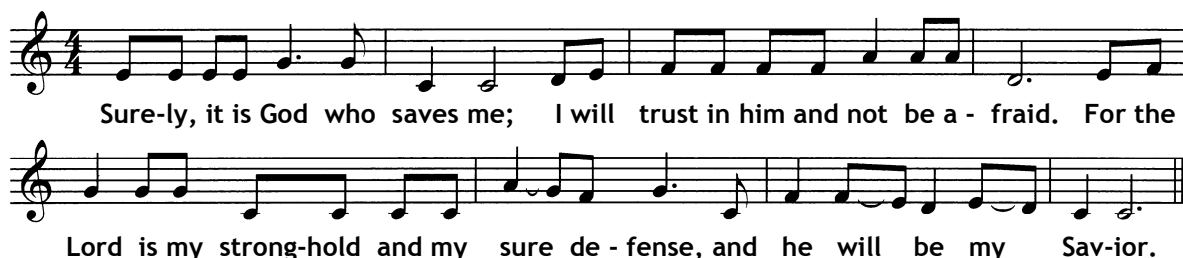
God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands. But those who hate him he will repay to their face by destruction; he will not be slow to repay to their face those who hate him. Therefore, take care to follow the commands, decrees and laws I give you today.

The First Lesson is frequently a reading from the Old Testament. It shares a common theme with the Second Lesson (often from one of the epistles) and the Gospel.

PSALM OF THE DAY

PSALM 31

Refrain



Psalm Tone



1. In you, O LORD, I have taken / refuge;* deliver me in your / righteousness.
2. Be my rock of / refuge,* a strong fortress to / save me.
3. Into your hands I commit my / spirit;* redeem me, O LORD, the / God of truth.

Refrain

4. My times are / in your hands;* save me in your un- / failing love.
5. How great is your / goodness,* which you have stored up for those who / fear you.
6. You heard my cry for / mercy* when I called to / you for help.
7. Glory be to the Father and / to the Son* and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,* is now, and will be forever. / Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 2:1-10 (NIV)

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is

by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

VERSE OF THE DAY

The Verse of the Day is a familiar or significant Scripture text framed with alleluias.

C: A - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! These words are
writ - ten that we may be - lieve that Je - sus is the Christ, the
Son of God. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Please stand

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:28-32 (NIV)

“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ ‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,”

they answered. Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

C: Praise — be to you, O Christ!

The congregation stands out of respect for the words of Christ our King.

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

By Grace I'm Saved
Christian Worship #384

SERMON

Ephesians 2:1-10
Did God Really Say: Do Your Best, He'll Do the Rest?

Please stand

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed developed in the Early Christian Church as a personal confession of faith. It is so named because it confesses the faith taught by the Apostles of Jesus.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the row and pass it along. Thank You!

Please stand



If you prefer, use your smart phone to give online by scanning this QR code.

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

7:45 AM—
Amazing Grace
Arr. by Cindy Berry

10:00 AM—
Grace Medley
Arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

C: **We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

C: **We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

C: **Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

C: **Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

C: **We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated

HYMN

Blessed Are They, Forever Blest
Christian Worship #383

*Hymn 383 is based
on the first two
verses of Psalm 32:
"Blessed is he whose
transgressions are
forgiven, whose sins
are covered.
Blessed is the man
whose sin the LORD
does not count
against him and in
whose spirit is no
deceit."*

Please stand

PRAYER

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Please be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound
Christian Worship #379

(10:00 AM) The soloist will sing stanza 1.

The congregation may join to sing stanzas 2-4.

THOSE ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher Pastor Nathan Kassulke
Worship Leader Pastor Sam Clemons (10:00 AM)
Accompanists..... Kathy Parra (7:45 AM), Teri Guenther (10:00 AM)
Violin..... Maya Parra
Ushers Vic Thornton, Vernon Neal (7:45 AM)
Dave Breitreitz, Ed Ethington, Dylan Guenther (10:00 AM)
Ferdie Kramm, James Pauley, Josiah Weinstein (10:00 AM)
Sound & Recording Tech Jeremy Snively (10:00 AM)

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So I will put my name on [them], and I will bless them." Numbers 6:27

POSTLUDE:

7:45 AM—
Doxology
Arr. by Victor Labenske

10:00 AM—
God of Grace and
God of Glory
Arr. by Jerry Westenkuehler

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**Grace is one congregation
at TWO places!**

**Enjoy worship, Bible study
and activities at both
Grace-Tucson and Grace-Vail.**



This Week at Grace • Aug 31-Sept 7

*Unless otherwise noted, calendar events take place at Grace-Tucson. Grace-Vail events are shown in red.

TODAY

Worship Services 7:45 & 10:00a
Coffee Fellowship following both services
Children's Sunday School 8:45a
Youth Confirmation Class 8:45a
Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study* 9:00a
Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):
• *WELS Worship Conference Presentation* 9:00a
• *Grow in Grace Class (Office) Non-Members Only* 9:00a
Grace-Vail Bible Study at Esmond Station 9:00a
Grace-Vail Sunday School at Esmond Station 9:00a
Grace-Vail Worship at Esmond Station 10:00a
NO WELS TCM—Labor Day Weekend

Monday **LABOR DAY**

Church Office Closed
NO Vail Bible Study

Tuesday

Precious Lambs at the Rieke's 9:30-11:30a
Vail Worship Planning Meeting 6:00p

Wednesday

Midweek Bible Study: *Creation & Modern Science* 10:00a
Bible Study at the Priggies: Jonah 6:00p
Midweek Bible Study: *Creation & Modern Science* 7:00p

Thursday

Women's Bible Study: *The Narrow Lutheran Middle* 9:00a
Worship Choir Practice 6:30p

Friday

ALA NFL Ribbon Cutting and Varsity Football Game .. 6:00p

Sunday

Worship Services/Communion 7:45 & 10:00a
Coffee Fellowship following both services
Children's Sunday School 8:45a
Youth Confirmation Class 8:45a
Lifeliners (High School Group): *Bible Study* 9:00a
Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall):
• *The Life of Christ: Jesus' Last Days* 9:00a
• *Grow in Grace Class (Office) Non-Members Only* 9:00a
Grace-Vail Bible Study at Esmond Station 9:00a
Grace-Vail Sunday School at Esmond Station 9:00a
Grace-Vail Worship at Esmond Station 10:00a
WELS Tucson Campus Ministry: *Christian & Alcohol* 7:00p

Check out the GRACE WEBSITE at www.GraceLutheranSAZ.org!

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Music Coordinator

**Beth Kassulke
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Phone 293-2935**

Welcome Grace Guests!

If you are a guest at Grace today, we are very happy to have you worship with us! If you would like more information about Grace or have questions about becoming a member of our congregation, please visit the Welcome Table in the courtyard. If this is your first time at Grace, please stop there to pick up a gift just for being our guest this morning.

You Are Invited

You are invited to a coffee fellowship this morning in the courtyard following both services. Fellowship after 10:00 AM worship is hosted by Bill & Lisa Toben. We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity to greet your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pastor Koehler is preaching at Peace Lutheran Church in Sahuarita, AZ this morning.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next week's Scripture Lessons for Devotional Reading this Week

Joshua 2:8-21
Romans 11:13-15, 28-32
Matthew 15:21-28

Sermon Text & Theme

Matthew 15:21-28
Do You Have Great Faith?

WELS Online Bible Study – Jonah

On Wednesday evenings during September, join us at Eric and Julie Prigge's house (5391 S. Black Falls Dr, 85747) as we participate in the WELS Interactive Faith Bible Study on Jonah. The study will be led by Pastor Michael Quandt. There will also be time for discussion as we ponder "God's Grace to Runaways." The live streaming will begin promptly at 6 PM, so feel free to come a little bit early to settle in. If you are unable to make it to a class, log in with other Christians at: <http://www.wels.net/interactivefaith>.

Wednesday Bible Studies

Join us this Wednesday, September 3 at 10:00 AM or 7:00 PM for our first video based Bible study regarding creation and modern science, "Does Biology Make Sense Without Darwin?" We'll meet in the Grace-Tucson Fellowship Hall.

Merger News

In a Special Voters' Meeting on Saturday, August 23, Grace officially approved documents for our merger with Peace Lutheran Church in Sahuarita. The members of Peace will be voting on September 7, and if they approve the same documents, the two congregations can be officially merged. In anticipation of calling a pastor to serve at Grace-Sahuarita, a Pre-Call Meeting has been set for Sunday, September 14 at 3:00 PM in the church at Grace-Tucson. All members are encouraged to pick up a Pre-Call survey from the church or fellowship hall and to bring it along to the meeting.

Vail Ministry Center

The voters also approved leasing a 1050 square foot retail space to serve as a Grace-Vail Ministry Center. The Ministry Center will be used for meetings, private counseling, Bible studies, and as an office or study for Pastor Rieke outside of his home. The approval of this lease was based on the commitments Grace members made by using the commitment boards in February. The additional offerings that were committed are sufficient to cover the cost of the lease. If you have made a financial commitment or would like to, simply add it to your regular offerings.

Worship Choir

Worship Choir is beginning this Thursday, September 4 at 6:30 PM in the Grace-Tucson basement. All are welcome to join!

Handbell Choir

The Grace Handbell Choir is starting back up very soon! The first practice will be on Tuesday, September 9 at 5:30 PM in the Grace-Tucson basement. If you are even a little bit curious about handbells come to the first practice and check it out (you are not required to join if you show up)! If you are interested in playing, please contact Beth Kassulke at 293-2935 or music@gracetucsonwels.com.

Friday, September 5— Big Night for the ALA Coyote Family!



Arizona Lutheran Academy (ALA), invites you to the debut of their brand new football field, which was funded by an NFL Foundation Grassroots Grant. The celebration kicks off with a carnival at 6:00 PM (\$8 for access to inflatables and a rock climbing wall). The official ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 6:40 PM and is followed by the varsity football game at 7:00 (game tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, and kids up through 8th grade are free for this game).

The Zoo is Coming to Grace!

Two small animal handlers/educators from Reid Park Zoo will be at Grace-Tucson for a hands on presentation on Saturday, September 13 at 10:00 AM. Snacks will be provided. Adults and children of all ages are welcome to this event co-sponsored by the Christian Fellowship Group and the Lutheran Pioneers.



80th Birthday Celebration

The Grace congregation is invited to an open house for Geri Derosa's 80th birthday on Friday, September 26 from 4:00-6:00 PM at the clubhouse of Cinda Drescher & Geri DeRosa (the clubhouse is at the end of the street just south of their home, 5716 N. Camino De Las Estrellas). There is also parking at the end of the next street, Camino Noche. No gifts, please.

Silent Auction FOR Financial Aid

"Friends of Redeemer," an organization committed to the promotion and support of Christian Education, is holding their first annual silent auction on September 27 from 5-7 PM at Redeemer Lutheran Church. This event is to raise funds for Financial Aid and to enjoy Christian Fellowship with friends. We are seeking donations of all types to be auctioned off. You can donate items, services, events and experiences. Please see our website for a list of ideas: www.FriendsofRedeemer.com. Contact Ben Weinstein to donate 331-8714. Donation deadline is September 22.

LWMS 2014 Fall Retreat!

The Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Grand Canyon Circuits East & West will be having a combined 2014 Fall Retreat October 17-19 at COD Ranch in Oracle, AZ (www.codranch.com).

More information and registration forms are available online at www.grandcanyonlwms.org or from Diane Kramm or Cindi Breitreitz. The registration deadline and payment is due by September 29 and needs to be mailed in by each registrant. **We have the opportunity to choose our room configuration and roommate preferences if we register early enough!** If you have questions please contact Diane Kramm (440-8564).